COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 7.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 94, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1891.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., or
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
88 and 90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1891.

[C.—6269.-6.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
73	Western Australia	1888
74	Gold Coast	"
75	Sierra Leone	"
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	"
77	Hong Kong	"
78	Ceylon	"
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
118	St. Helena	"

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	"
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90

No. 7.

ST. VINCENT.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 94, Old Series.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Grenada, March 18, 1891.

Forwarded.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
March 16, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for 1890.

2. The Blue Book itself will follow by next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

The only change to be noted under this head is that effected under "The Charcoal Ordinance, 1890," No. 13, viz.:—

For every license to make charcoal, the sum of two shillings and sixpence.

For every general license to sell charcoal the sum of fifteen shillings.

For every shop license to sell or expose for sale charcoal when the license is issued for a shop in the town of

Kingstown or within one mile of the said town, the sum of twenty shillings; and when the license is issued for a shop not within one mile of the said town, the sum of ten shillings.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Colony for the year amounted to 27,046*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, and that of 1889 to 27,522*l.* 6*s.*

The decrease of 475*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* is more than accounted for in the decrease of Excise duty (591*l.* 15*s.*), the receipts from this source in 1889 yielding 4,394*l.* 8*s.* as against 3,802*l.* 13*s.* for this year.

To judge by the increased revenue from liquor licenses issued in 1890 (104*l.*, or 7·9 per cent.) the revenue from Excise should have shown a proportionate increase, say of about 900*l.* more than was collected.

The only ground on which the deficient Excise revenue can be accounted for is illicit traffic carried on through the Grenadine Islands, which are believed to be employed as a basis for smuggling spirits into the Colony. A recent single seizure of rum, representing about 293*l.* of Excise duty, fully supports this theory. Arrangements are in contemplation which it is considered will check effectually this illicit traffic, or at least reduce it to a minimum.

Beyond the Excise there have been the usual fluctuations in the revenue, but to no unusual extent.

The noticeable increases are of Customs.

	£	s.	d.
Import duties - - - -	217	0	0
To this, for a correct comparison, should be added a sum of 263*l.*, abated under the new and improved system of accounts, as "drawback" from the total amount of duties received, which was not so abated in 1889, but was charged as an item of expenditure; thus the actual increase of import duties was 480*l.*			
Export duties - - - -	47	0	0
Licences:—			
Liquor - - - - -	104	0	0
The increase under this head is considered to be due to extended liquor trade.			
Stills - - - - -	59	0	0
Due to the increased price of rum; and			
Post Office - - - -	56	0	0
Attributed to an artificial demand during the year for postage stamps by collectors. The only decrease of revenue as compared with the year 1889 worthy of notice is—			

	£	s.	d.
Fines, &c. - - - -	98	0	0
Due to the salutary effect of the prosecutions in 1889 for not taking out licenses in due time.			
The estimate of revenue for 1890 fixed the total at - - - -	24,885	0	0
Whilst there was actually collected - -	27,046	6	6
Being an excess of - - -	2,161	6	6

The following table will show the receipts of the year under the respective heads, and also those under the same heads in the previous year, 1889 :—

Details.	Revenue, 1889.	Revenue, 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Customs:					
Import duties -	13,719 13 1	13,936 17 5	217 4 4	—	Continued revival of trade.
Export duties -	1,268 2 10	1,314 18 3	46 15 5	—	
Tonnage dues -	1,139 8 0	1,087 2 6	—	52 5 6	
Harbour dues -	237 4 0	222 3 0	—	15 1 0	
Excise:					
Duty on rum - -	4,394 8 0	3,802 13 0	—	591 15 0	Due to illicit trade in spirits.
Warehouse rent -	47 2 8	50 10 1	3 7 5	—	
Stamps:					
Revenue - -	456 2 8	434 13 0	—	21 9 8	
Taxes:					
Income - -	415 0 5	428 9 8	13 9 3	—	
Land - - -	1,268 1 11	1,254 9 9	—	13 12 2	
Licenses by treasurer:					
Liquor - -	756 10 0	861 0 0	104 10 0	—	Extended liquor trade.
Stills - - -	116 0 0	175 0 0	59 0 0	—	Due to increased price of rum.
Auctioneers, &c. -	20 0 0	29 9 6	9 9 6	—	
Transient traders -	10 0 0	—	—	10 0 0	
Porters - -	3 15 0	—	—	3 15 0	Included under item Auctioneers, &c.
Passage boats -	5 2 6	—	—	5 2 6	Do.
Licenses by magistrates:					
Boats - -	Returned as a total sum of—	103 14 11	—	—	
Droghers - -		46 3 3	—	—	
Guns - -		33 15 0	—	—	
Dogs - -		248 13 9	—	—	
Horses, &c. -		509 15 0	—	—	
Carriages, &c. -		75 7 6	—	—	
	1,033 14 3	1,017 9 5	—	16 4 10	
Charcoal - -	55 14 0	56 17 6	1 3 6	—	
Postage:					
Sale of stamps -	890 10 1	946 9 3	55 19 2	—	

Details.	Revenue, 1889.	Revenue, 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Fines, &c. - -	564 6 4	466 5 8	—	98 0 8	
Fees of office:					
Registrar - -	164 12 2	174 13 7	10 1 5	—	
Police magistrates -	331 14 0	281 9 0	—	50 5 0	
Reimbursements in aid:					
Hospital - -	133 13 7	248 17 3	115 3 8	—	
Cemetery - -	41 19 0	98 7 0	56 8 0	—	
Miscellaneous - -	449 11 6	158 11 8	—	290 19 10	
Total - -	27,522 6 0	27,046 6 6	692 11 8	1,168 11 2	

The estimate of expenditure, 24,422*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, was subsequently increased by special votes amounting to 2,960*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, making 27,383*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

The actual expenditure during the year, however, was 25,950*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, being less than the amount authorised by 1,432*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* This saving is to a certain extent due to the non-commencement or non-completion of certain works provided for.

In consequence of the total change in the description of all accounts under the estimates of the past year it has been found impracticable to furnish the usual comparative return of expenditure.

Public Debt.

At the close of the year the public debt of the Colony was 12,270*l.*, or 1,510*l.* less than at the end of 1889. It is satisfactory to note that no loans were negotiated during the year, the general revenue being in a position to and having advanced on account of the following services the amounts set opposite:—

	£
Kingstown new water works - -	2,712
Crown lands account - - -	732

The balance of public debt at end of 1890 is made up as under:—

	£
Government House loan - - -	2,000
Immigration loan - - - -	4,250
Public buildings loan - - -	1,000
Crown lands loan - - -	920
Public debt loan - - - -	2,900
Kingstown water works loan - -	1,200
	12,270

Public Works.

The total expenditure on public works during the year was 1,509*l.*, or 758*l.* more than in the previous year.

Of the authorised vote of 1,150*l.* for roads and bridges only 1,062*l.* was spent.

The following is a list of some of the principal works undertaken and completed during 1890 :—

1. New line of highway, Arnos Vale.
2. New line of roadway, Lowman's Village.
3. Fireproof room at Registrar's office.
4. Repairs to Court-house.
5. Clearing Mesopotamia river bed.

In addition to the foregoing, several repairs were effected to the various Government buildings throughout the Colony, and two cemeteries were established at Barrenallie and Mesopotamia. Several other works were taken in hand (though not completed) during the year, notably, the opening of a new line of highway at Overland Village, the former road having been carried away by a landslip in September last.

Legislation.

Sixteen Ordinances were passed in 1890, the most important of which were the following :—

No. 1. To provide for the better recovery of rent.

No. 5. To amend "the Public Officers' Security Ordinance, 1880."

No. 7. To amend "the Crown Lands Boundaries Commission Ordinance, 1887."

No. 11. To abolish the existing office of auditor and the present system of audit, and to enable other provision to be made in lieu thereof.

No. 13. To amend "the Charcoal Ordinance, 1888."

COUNCILS.

Executive Council.

Mr. Wm. E. Hughes, a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, resigned his seats on the 31st March, and Mr. George Smith, Q.C., a member of the Legislative Council, who was appointed to the Executive Council, was sworn on the 15th June.

Mr. Henry A. Hazell was absent on leave from 6th August to 6th November.

Legislative Council.

In the Legislative Council Mr. G. Van Heyningen, Police Magistrate of the Kingstown district, died on 5th October.

St. Vincent.

Mr. Henry A. Hazell, as above mentioned, was absent on leave from 6th August to 6th November, and Mr. D. A. MacDonald was appointed to act during his absence, when he was appointed to the seat vacated by Mr. Hughes.

Mr. C. J. Simmons was absent on leave from 17th July to 17th September.

Civil Establishment.

The changes in offices during 1890 were as under:—

Mr. Henry Powell, from the Royal Gardens, Kew, was appointed curator of the Botanic Garden.

Dr. Wiltshire Stanton Bruce Austin was appointed a medical officer in the room of Dr. J. Vance Young promoted to Cyprus.

Mr. C. Ormond Hazell was appointed to act as Police Magistrate of the Kingstown district, vice Mr. G. Van Heyningen, deceased.

Dr. G. W. Paterson was appointed to act as a medical officer vice Dr. Kirkpatrick resigned, and Mr. T. A. Emett was appointed second landing waiter.

Officers who have given security for the discharge of their duties.

The validity of the sureties of the several officers (six in number) was duly inquired into, and found to be satisfactory.

Foreign Consuls.

No new consulates were established in the Colony during 1890.

Pensions.

No pensions were granted during the year.

The pension list has, however, been relieved by the death of two pensioners, who drew 35*l.*

Population.

The births in the year, exclusive of still-births, numbered 1,652, and the deaths, exclusive of still-born, 1,359, giving a natural increase of 293.

The still-births were 110.

The infant mortality during the past year was unusually high and is attributable to the cause given by the health officer in his report under "Public Health."

229 marriages were performed during the year, or 77 in excess of the previous year.

The total population of the Colony at the end of the year under report is estimated at 47,933.

Education.

There were 41 schools in operation under the Board of Education with an average attendance of 3,229 scholars as against 42 in 1889, with an attendance of 2,966 scholars; the annual expenditure of the past year was 1,393*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* compared with 1,448*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* in 1889.

A further sum of 100*l.* was granted in aid of a Grammar School with an attendance of 40 pupils.

The following comparative statement shows the expenditure on the elementary schools during the years mentioned:—

—	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government grant based on average -	661 8 8	594 11 10
Payments by results - - -	732 13 3	723 6 0
Payments to pupil-teachers - - -	54 0 0	76 0 0
Total - - -	1,448 1 11	1,393 17 10

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

Savings Bank.

This was established in 1866, and the numbers making use of it yearly increase.

The following table gives the number of depositors, the amounts deposited, the amounts withdrawn, and the sums at credit of depositors in each of the three years mentioned:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At credit of Depositors on 31st December.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 -	833	3,516 4 5	3,035 10 0	10,318 6 2
1889 -	920	3,865 10 3	6,019 15 11	8,640 2 7
1890 -	956	4,607 8 11	4,224 16 2	8,797 1 4

Friendly Societies.

The proceedings of friendly societies are regulated by the provisions of Act No. 49 of 1843. There are 13 of these societies at present registered, and during the past year their operations have considerably extended.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports during 1890 was almost identical with that of the preceding year, being 97,808*l.* as against 98,212*l.* in 1889, a difference of only 404*l.* There were, however, numerous fluctuations in the several items, of which the total was made up thus: In food stuffs—bread, butter, cheese, flour, fish, meats, rice, refined sugar, fine salt and tea, show an increase (fish notably, 2,425*l.*); whilst coffee, meal, lard, crystalized and muscovado sugar show a decrease. Of household stuffs, candles, matches and soap show an increase, kerosine oil a decrease. Cloths, furniture, hardware, &c., and other things liable to 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, fell off 2,977*l.* Metals increased as to iron, copper, &c., but decreased as to galvanised iron. Building materials varied greatly, for, whilst paints decreased 67*l.*, paint oils increased 276*l.* Again, soft shingles increased 328*l.*, and hard shingles decreased 236*l.* Also soft woods increased 1,320*l.* and hard woods decreased 1,057*l*, but, taken altogether, building materials increased 612*l.* Plantation supplies completely decreased 2,410*l.*, of which stores show 1,647*l.* and manure 727*l.* Horses and mules also decreased 963*l.* All spirits increased together 212*l.*; so also did tobacco 203*l.*; Government supplies increased 674*l.*; cordage decreased 476*l.*, machinery increased 310*l.*

All the imports are, however, satisfactory, and most of the decreases are due to an unfavourable comparison with a year (1889) in which many items, as the import of *ad valorem* goods, hard woods, manures, horses and mules, were abnormally stimulated in that year by the state of the sugar market. Staves, &c., are imported near the close of one year or the commencement of another and usually in large shipments, thus making comparisons of one year's imports with another of little use. The increase of Government supplies was in connexion with the construction of waterworks. No reason can be given for the decrease in cordage or increase in machinery unless it be attributed to fitful causes.

Exports.

Compared with 1889 the value of exports in 1890 decreased 19,842*l.*; the value of exports in 1889 having been 124,587*l.*, and in 1890 104,745*l.* The decrease may be attributed entirely to the reduced value of sugar and molasses. Indeed—

	£
Sugar decreased - - - -	25,494
and Molasses - - - -	2,649
	28,142

On the other hand, rum increased 2,285*l.*, due to a sudden rise of price, which stimulated its export trade. The value of cocoa exported shows a decrease of 397*l.*; but it is probable that the decrease is unreal, due partly to an over value being placed on this item in 1889, and partly to decrease in price, for the quantity exported was more than in the preceding year. Arrowroot increased in value of export 6,179*l.*, whilst cassava starch decreased 386*l.* The following tables of quantities exported (reduced to the common standards) will show that the productiveness of the Colony in 1890 was everything that could be desired :—

Sundry Exports in 1889–90.

Sugar :	Hhds.	Hhds.
1890 - - - -	6,078	
1889 - - - -	5,820	
Increase in 1890 - - -		258
Molasses :	Puns.	Puns.
1890 - - - -	1,951	
1889 - - - -	2,833	
Decrease in 1890 - - -		882
Rum :		
1890 - - - -	550	
1889 - - - -	238	
Increase in 1890 - - -		312
Arrowroot :	Barrels.	Barrels.
1890 - - - -	20,846	
1889 - - - -	16,732	
Increase in 1890 - - -		4,114
Cassava starch :		
1890 - - - -	196	
1889 - - - -	507	
Decrease in 1890 - - -		311
Cocoa :	lbs.	lbs.
1890 - - - -	102,771	
1889 - - - -	89,329	
Increase in 1890 - - -		13,442
Cotton :	Bales.	Bales.
1890 - - - -	91	
1889 - - - -	53	
Increase in 1890 - - -		38

Cotton seed:	Bags.	Bags.
1890 - - - -	588	
1889 - - - -	271	
Increase in 1890 - -	-	31
Ground nuts:	Barrels.	Barrels.
1890 - - - -	655	
1889 - - - -	481	
Increase in 1890 - -	-	174
Whale oil:		
1890 - - - -	587	
1889 - - - -	481	
Increase in 1890 - -	-	106
Pigeon peas:	Barrels.	
1890 - - - -	514	
1889 - - - -	221	
Increase in 1890 - -	-	293

The decrease in the export of molasses was mainly due to the retention in the Colony of that product for manufacture into rum. The decrease of export of cassava starch is not easy to account for, as the product is that of a permanent and steady industry of the labouring population. The export of 507 barrels in 1889 was abnormally large.

Shipping.

The total tonnage entered and cleared during the past year was 300,222 as against 266,123 in the previous year.

The subjoined abstract of the shipping returns for 1888, 1889, and 1890 will show the rate of increase and also the extent to which sailing vessels are being replaced by steamers in the shipping trade of the Colony:—

Description of Vessel.	No. of Vessels entered and Cleared.			Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Sailing - -	733	716	693	31,941	36,955	30,504
Steam - -	180	202	238	207,416	229,168	269,718
Total -	913	918	931	239,357	266,123	300,222

The number of British sailing vessels entered and cleared in 1890 was 613, and their tonnage 23,314; of foreign sailing vessels

the number was 80 and the tonnage 8,190. The number of British steamers entered and cleared was 238 and their tonnage 269,718. No foreign steamers entered or cleared at St. Vincent in 1890.

Prison and Prisoners.

The number of persons committed in 1890 was 170, namely, 109 men, 51 women, and 10 juveniles, or 22 less than in the preceding year.

At the close of the year there were only 21 males and five females in prison. There was only one death in the prison during the year—cause, heart disease; whilst the admissions to hospital only numbered two during the year, the daily average on the sick list being three. The medical officer of the prison attributes the satisfactory state of health maintained in the prison to the sanitary arrangements having been all that could be desired throughout the year, and to the close attention paid by the authorities of the prison to cleanliness, drainage, and ventilation.

Criminal Statistics.

Police Reports.

The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 1,552, a decrease of 489 compared with the number reported in 1889.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

The manner in which the cases brought before the magistrate's courts were disposed of was as follows :—

—	1889.	1890.
Convicted - - - - -	1,140	657
Discharged - - - - -	249	247
Acquitted - - - - -	643	610
Sent on to higher courts - -	9	19
Undecided at close of year - - -	—	19
	2,041	1,552

Convictions.

The total number of summary convictions in the magistrates' courts was 657 as compared with 1,140 in the preceding year and 780 in 1888, while in the Supreme Court there were 14 convictions

St. Vincent.

as compared with six in 1889 and six in 1888. There was in 1890 a marked decrease in the number of offences against property as compared with 1888 and 1889, as the table following will show:—

——	1888.	1889.	1890.
Offences against property other than malicious injuries to property.	94	119	84

Punishments.

The punishments inflicted in the magistrates' courts in 1889 and 1890 are shown under:—

Punishment.	1889.	1890.
Fine - - - - - - -	967	532
Peremptory imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety.	119	65
Peremptory imprisonment - -	18	32
Whipping - - - - - -	28	19
Bound over with or without sureties -	8	9
	1,140	657

Hospitals.

The number of patients in the Colonial hospital at the close of the year 1889 was 39, that is, 23 males and 16 females.

The admissions in 1890 were 412, of whom 246 were males and 166 females. There were therefore 451 patients treated during the year, the daily average being 48.

There were in all 41 operations performed during the year, of which, it is satisfactory to note, only one case succumbed.

The following table gives the number of cases treated under the classes stated, with the number of deaths as compared with 1889:—

Diseases treated.	No. of Cases, 1889.	No. of Deaths, 1889.	No. of Cases, 1890.	No. of Deaths, 1890.
General - - -	104	11	138	19
Local - - -	256	19	277	23
Injuries - - -	44	3	36	3
	404	33	451	45

The expenditure on this institution during 1890 amounted to 1,369*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* and the daily average cost of each patient treated was 1*s.* 6¾*d.*

Grants of Land.

The total number of grants of Crown land during 1890 was 24, giving an acreage of 279; 23 of these grants were for lots under 100 acres, and one grant above 100 acres.

As compared with the preceding year there was a slight falling off in the number of grants issued in 1890.

Public Health.

Reviewing the health of the Colony during the past year, the Colonial Surgeon and Health Officer states:—"In common with "other parts of the world, St. Vincent had its full share of the "influenza epidemic in 1890, chiefly during the first half year. "This was attended with and followed by pulmonary and "gastro-intestinal disorders, and, for a time, greatly disturbed the "health of the island throughout. The medical staff for many "months had their hands full with cases of 'pneumonia,' "'dysentery,' and 'gastro-enteritis,' which diseases sent the death "rate up to a higher per-centage than usual, especially among "children and those over 60; that at the hospital was 9·9 per "cent., mainly from pneumonia and gastro-enteritis, which, "though higher than for four years previous, nevertheless com- "pares favourably with the hospital returns of some neighbouring "islands. Apart from these diseases, the direct consequence "of an epidemic so widespread, it may safely be said that St. "Vincent has in no way departed from the proverbially high "standard of healthiness; inasmuch as the wet season, com- "mencing in June, and the fall of the year, the usual season "for the development of tropical endemic diseases, was not "attended with malarial disturbances of any gravity, tertian "intermittent fever of a very mild form and simple remittent "fever only being met with here and there, chiefly in marshy "districts, which fortunately are few and far between, and of "limited extent. Few or no deaths have resulted from this cause. "Beyond 'influenza' the island has not been visited for the year "by contagious or infectious disease of any kind."

General Remarks.

There are other subjects of interest which have not been mentioned in my report, namely, the construction of a botanical station on the site of the old botanical garden, established in 1764 and allowed to go to decay since 1828: the discovery of a valuable tract of land called the Upper Richmond Valley; the construction

St. Vincent. of the Kingstown new waterworks, and the Local Exhibition held in connexion with the Jamaica Exhibition, 1891.

The Botanic Station is beautifully situated in a small valley, immediately below Government House and within easy distance of the town. The area devoted to this purpose is about eight acres and the soil is admirably adapted for the culture of plants.

Mr. H. Powell, the curator, arrived here from Kew on the 14th May last, and on the following morning commenced work. His zeal and devotion to his work have already made the garden that was a wilderness a pleasant resort; he has introduced and planted many valuable and economic plants from all parts of this island, from the neighbouring Colonies as well as from Kew Gardens. With very few exceptions these plants are doing remarkably well. The paths are all planned and are being laid out as fast as funds will permit. Mr. Morris, the assistant director at Kew, visited this station in December last, and his valuable suggestions are being carried out as rapidly as possible. It is intended to build a small but ornamental house for the curator within the grounds. A suitable site has been selected, and the work will commence on the 9th instant.

With regard to the Upper Richmond Valley, the only difficulty that presents itself is to obtain an easy entrance into it, but a new track has recently been found, which is shorter, and presents far fewer obstacles than the one that was at first attempted. From its peculiarly fortunate situation the valley is specially adapted for the cultivation of cocoa and spices. It is sheltered, the soil is extremely rich, and the whole valley is well watered by the Richmond river. The area is estimated at between three and four square miles and is surrounded by high mountains.

I am looking forward to this valley being opened up, as I am convinced that it will before very long prove a source of great revenue to this Colony, should the scheme as suggested by his Excellency the Governor be carried out.

Since my report last year on the Blue Book, the Kingstown new waterworks have been commenced and satisfactory progress has been made. The total sum expended on this work to 31st December 1890 was 5,256*l.*, but only 1,996*l.* was spent on its construction, the remainder having been paid for awards to owners of land, for water rights, debentures and interest, and other fees and charges.

The exhibition was opened on the 29th October last, and proved to be the most varied and successful which was ever held in this Colony. The exhibits covered a space of little over 3,000 square feet. It was indeed surprising to observe the large variety of articles collected and the good taste and ingenuity displayed in their manufacture, and most gratifying to realise the very great interest shown by every class and the trouble taken to ensure the success of the exhibition. During the three days it was open to the public over 2,000 persons were admitted.

The selected articles were forwarded to Jamaica by the middle of December in charge of Mr. T. B. C. Musgrave. More exhibits

could have been sent if more space could have been obtained. Six Caribs (three pure and three half-bred) were also sent to work at their trade of basket making in one of the cottages set aside for them in the grounds of the exhibition building. There was an agricultural show held on the 30th October in connexion with the Local Exhibition, which also proved very successful and much helped to bring the object and knowledge of the exhibition prominently before the people in the country districts.

(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

St. Vincent,
6th March 1891

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 10.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 96, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1891.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
88 and 90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1891.

[C.—6269.-9.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	1888
77	Hong Kong	"
78	Ceylon	"
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guiana	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
118	St. Helena	"

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	"
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889

No. 10.

ST. LUCIA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 96, Old Series.]

Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson to Lord Knutsford

Grenada, April 17, 1891.

Forwarded.

(Signed) Walter Hely-Hutchinson.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

Government House, April 6, 1891.

I have the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book of St. Lucia for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. Knollys.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

Report on the Blue Book for 1890.

Taxation.

1. On the third day of the year an Ordinance was brought into force imposing a harbour due of 6*d.* a ton on coal discharged in the harbour of Castries.

2. The *ad valorem* Customs dues were reduced to a uniform rate of 10 per cent., excepting on some few articles, such as arms, ammunition, jewellery, wines, &c., which still continue to be liable to a duty of 20 per cent.

3. By resolution of the Legislative Council a general exemption was made in favour of the Local and Imperial Governments with regard to stamp duty.

o 67280. Wt. 18975.

ST. LUCIA.

Finance.

4. The revenue for the year was 50,232*l.*, the expenditure, 45,430*l.*; and the Colony having commenced the year with a balance of 4,899*l.*, closed its accounts with one of 9,701*l.*

5. The revenue and expenditure of the past five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1886 - - - -	39,823	44,114
1887 - - - -	39,967	43,598
1888 - - - -	42,248	43,175
1889 - - - -	47,510	46,086
1890 - - -	50,232	45,430

6. This statement shows that, though the expenditure of 1890 was higher than that of 1886 by 1,316*l.*, the revenue has increased during the same time by 10,409*l.*

7. The chief items of revenue for the last three years appear in the following table:—

Item.	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	21,514	23,540	23,442
Port dues - - - -	827	1,981	3,311
Rum duty - - - -	11,316	12,052	13,518
Licenses - - - -	2,004	2,087	2,286
Road tax - - - -	835	968	1,235
Fees of court and reimbursements in aid	3,820	4,983	3,789

8. The fluctuation in Customs was due to the increase of the duties in 1889 and their reduction in 1890.

9. A large increase is shown under port dues. In 1890 the sum of 811*l.* was raised under the new due of 6*d.* a ton on coal, and in the latter half of 1889, as also in 1890, the wharfage dues, which had till then been paid to the Castries Town Board, were carried to the credit of general revenue.

10. The steady influx of labourers attracted by the works on the harbour and military fortifications increased the revenue from rum duty.

Local Revenues.

11. The elected Castries Town Board has passed through its first year of existence. It started with an available balance of 722*l.* and closed the year with a surplus of 1,121*l.* Its revenue for the year was 3,062*l.*, obtained principally from property rates; its expenditure 2,212*l.*

12. The total revenue of the other towns and villages amounted to 1,139*l.*, and their total expenditure to 991*l.*

13. The audit system was this year entirely changed. Instead of a pre-audit conducted locally as hitherto, a system of post-audit was instituted under the Comptroller and Auditor General, Somerset House, with a local auditor for the government of the Windward Islands to make surprise surveys and personally inspect the books and accounts.

Debt.

14. The debt of the Colony stands as follows :—

	£
For central factory loans - - -	32,400
„ immigration purposes - -	14,000
„ harbour works - - -	70,000
„ public works - - -	17,300
	133,700

15. This was reduced by 2,400*l.* during the year. The debt charges (including this sum of 2,400*l.*) amounted to 6,814*l.*

Military Expenditure.

16. The amount spent by the Imperial Government on the pay and provisioning of the troops stationed in the Colony and for transport services was 12,446*l.* The defence works were actively proceeded with and large sums were spent on labour in this direction.

Post Office.

17. The business of the Post Office greatly increased. Mails were despatched by 206 steam vessels, and the receipts of the department exceeded the expenditure by 264*l.*

Public Works.

18. The sum of 15,965*l.* was spent on the public works of the Colony as follows :—

	£
Maintenance of roads - - -	3,467
Upkeep of public buildings - -	840
Improvement of roads - - -	3,431
Baron Asylum for the poor - -	2,233
New police barracks at Soufrière, Micoud, and Dennery - - -	820
Extension of Royal gaol - - -	1,096
Improved water supply for Castries -	848
Improvement to the harbour of Castries -	3,230
	15,965

19. The roads of the Colony are being improved by means of a small loan specially raised. The most important improvement is on the road from Castries to Dennery, which is being reconstructed with easier grades, and when it is completed it will be possible to drive a light vehicle over its entire length. An improved system for the upkeep of roads has been introduced during the last few years with marked success.

20. The Baron Asylum is a new asylum for the poor. Mr. J. S. Baron, a native of St. Lucia, left 2,160*l.* for this purpose, the expenditure of which has been entrusted to the Government. This sum has not proved sufficient to complete the buildings, which will be finished and afterwards maintained by the Government.

21. The present water supply of Castries is insufficient both in quality and quantity. The work now on hand is merely the renewal of the old main, which is absolutely necessary pending the adoption of a more extended scheme.

22. The dredging of the Castries harbour has proceeded steadily and nears completion. The material dredged has been utilized by making very valuable reclamations in various parts of the harbour. These reclamations not only furnish useful sites, but have also greatly improved the health of the town by filling up the swamps which formerly existed. The total amount spent on the harbour improvements to the end of the year was 95,981*l.*

Legislation.

23. Of the 14 Ordinances passed during the year the following may be noticed :—

24. The Shipping (Harbour of Castries) Dues Ordinance (No. 1) imposed a due of 6*d.* a ton on coal discharged in the harbour of Castries. It also imposed dues on steamers calling for or bringing coal and on sailing vessels, but these were shortly afterwards

abolished. This Ordinance has not yet received Her Majesty's assent.

25. The Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance (No. 2) reduced the 15 per cent. and the greater part of the 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duties to a rate of 10 per cent.

26. The Crown Lands Amendment Ordinance (No. 6) transferred all powers relating to Crown lands from the Colonial trustee to the Survey Department.

27. The Stamp Amendment Ordinance (No. 10) enabled a system to be introduced by which all fees of court are paid by means of stamps.

Councils.

28. There were no changes in the Executive or Legislative Councils.

Civil Establishment.

29. On the 26th September the Administrator, Mr. R. B. Llewelyn, C.M.G., went on leave. The Governor of the Windward Islands administered the Government from the 14th to the 23rd April, and from the 18th September to the 14th November; Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, Attorney-General, administered as senior member of the Executive Council from the 14th to the 24th November, and on the 25th November Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Barbados, assumed the Government under the authority of a warrant from the Governor.

30. Mr. A. Child was on the 2nd of October confirmed as Chief Justice, the duties of which office he had been performing since May 1889.

31. Mr. L. J. Bertram was, on the 1st January, appointed local auditor for the Windward Islands under the Comptroller and Auditor General, Somerset House.

32. Mr. F. B. G. Moore, B.A., was appointed Inspector of Schools on the 1st of January. This was a new office.

33. Mr. E. W. Lord, chief revenue officer, died on the 26th of December.

Pensions.

34. The pension list was reduced by deaths during the year by 136*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, and increased by new pensioners by 67*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* At the close of the year it amounted to 672*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* per annum.

Foreign Consuls.

35. Mr. William Peter was appointed Consular Agent for Germany in the place of Mr. J. D. Moffat, deceased.

Vital Statistics.

36. The registration returns show the population at the end of 1890 to have been 43,685, made up of 21,536 males and

ST. LUCIA.

22,149 females, as against a total in 1889 of 43,124, and in 1888 of 42,504.

Owing to the continual emigration and immigration of labourers these figures are not absolutely to be relied upon, and are probably below the mark. A census is to be taken in April 1891.

37. The living births numbered 1,574 (only two more than in 1889), males 840 and females 734. The deaths, exclusive of still-births, were 1,013. The still-births were 130. This gives, exclusive of still-births, a birth-rate of 3·65 per cent. of the population, against 3·70 in 1889, 3·40 in 1888, 3·46 in 1887, and 3·61 in 1886; and a death-rate of 2·35, against 2·24 in 1889, 2·14 in 1888, 2·22 in 1887, and 2·62 in 1886—the two rates being thus both above the averages for the four previous years of 3·54 and 2·30.

38. Of the total number of births, 594 were legitimate and 1,110 illegitimate, showing a per-centage of illegitimacy of 65, the same as in 1889, but 3·86 less than in 1888, 1·09 less than in 1887, and 6·32 less than in 1886.

39. Of the deaths half occurred under the age of five years and 30·53 under one year.

There were eight deaths from snake bites.

40. The marriages numbered 284, of which 264 were Roman Catholic, 17 of the Anglican Church, and three of Dissenters. The number for 1889 was 258.

Savings Bank.

41. The number of depositors in the savings bank steadily increases from year to year, as shown by the following table:—

On 1st January.	Depositors.	Deposits.
		£
1887 - - - -	296	6,538
1888 - - - -	438	8,567
1889 - - - -	453	9,492
1890 - - - -	640	8,279
1891 - - - -	681	9,492

42. The investments amount to 7,500*l.*, as follows:—

	£
New South Wales Inscribed Stock -	2,000
Canadian Inscribed Stock - -	2,000
Barbados Government Debentures -	1,000
Colonial Bank on deposit - - -	2,500
Total - - -	7,500

Ecclesiastical.

43. Three religious denominations are represented in the Colony, statistics of which are afforded in the following table :—

Religious Denomination.	Ministers.	Churches, &c.	Accommodation.	Average Attendance.
Roman Catholic - -	11	12	5,300	4,400
Church of England - -	2	4	650	400
Wesleyan - - -	1	1	200	175

44. The Government grant to the Roman Catholic and Anglican denominations amounted to 1,379*l.*; the Wesleyans receive no aid from Government.

45. In the past year an arrangement was made by which the payment of salaries to the Roman Catholic priests was discontinued and a grant of the total amount of stipends was made to that Church on the condition that the several cures were not allowed to become vacant.

Education.

46. *Primary Schools.*—In 1890 one school was added to the number receiving assistance from the public funds. They are divided as follows:—13 Roman Catholic, 11 Mico schools (Anglican), 3 under the direction of the Canadian Mission Society, principally for coolie immigrants, and one under an Anglican clergyman.

The following table shows the number on the registers and the average attendances at these schools :—

Schools.	On the Registers.		Total.	Average Attendance.
	Boys.	Girls		
Roman Catholic - - -	670	1,242	1,912	1,061
Mico (Anglican) - - -	1,024	359	1,383	605
Coolie - - - -	132	97	229	91
Anglican - - - -	87	58	145	63
Total - -	1,913	1,756	3,669	1,820

The numbers on the registers for the previous three years were 3,416, 3,351, and 3,255, and the average attendances 1,865, 1,848, and 1,900.

47. The grants made from public funds to these schools were—to the Roman Catholic 637*l.*, to the Mico 600*l.*, to the coolie schools 150*l.*, and to the Anglican School 45*l.*

48. The primary educational system of the island is in a state of transition. In consequence of the passing of a new Ordinance, the trustees of the Lady Mico Charity decided to close their schools. These have done excellent service for many years and will be taken over by the Government. An inspector of schools has also been appointed, filling a want long felt.

49. *Higher Education.*—For 20 years there has been no provision for the higher education of boys. A grammar school, assisted by the Government, was this year opened under the management of the Vicaire Forain, who is the head of the Roman Catholic Church. It was opened with 40 pupils, the teaching staff consisting of two English masters.

50. The higher education of girls is admirably provided by the convent school.

Weights and Measures.

51. New standard weights and measures have been imported and a thorough inspection made throughout the island.

Imports and Exports.

52. The total value of the imports amounted to 206,693*l.*, including stores and supplies for the War Department estimated at 34,232*l.*, which is an increase on the previous year of 7,855*l.*, excluding military stores. The figures for four years are given in the following table:—

Year.	Exclusive of Military Stores.	Military Stores.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	115,755	196	115,951
1888 - - -	138,769	2,089	140,858
1889 - - -	164,606	7,442	172,048
1890 - - -	172,461	34,232	206,693

53. The quantities and values of the principal articles of imports are given in the following table.—

Articles.	Quantities.	Values.
		£
Cattle (including oxen) - - - -	401 head	3,531
Coals - - - - - -	33,554 tons	18,406
Flour - - - - -	11,644 brls.	10,886
Cottons, linens, woollens - - - -	—	32,098
Fish, salted and dried - - - -	9,219 cwt.	8,678
Haberdashery - - - - -		7,030
Hardware - - - - - -	—	3,776
Leather, manufactured - - - -	—	4,851
Machinery and other agricultural implements -	—	11,814
Manure - - - - - -	—	8,097
Meat, salted and cured - - - -	465,184 lbs.	3,664
Rice - - - - - -	772,855 lbs.	3,299

54. The value of the imports from the United Kingdom was 62 per cent. of the total imports, from the United States 17 per cent., from France 5 per cent., and from British Colonies 11 per cent. From the United Kingdom came cottons, linens, &c., hardware, machinery, coals, and manure; from the United States came flour, salted meat, and some 3,000 tons of coal. The British West Indies contributed nearly the whole of the salt fish.

55. The exports are shown by the following table:—

Year.	Produce of the Colony.	Coal.	Other articles.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1887 - -	95,562	19,533	22,180	137,275
1888 - -	107,445	14,716	14,784	136,945
1889 - -	128,126	19,174	14,650	161,950
1890 - -	133,129	55,693	8,630	197,452

The Colony's produce, valued at 133,129*l.*, was distributed as follows:—59,075*l.* to the United Kingdom, 48,618*l.* to the United States, 14,017 to France, 9,027*l.* to the French West Indies, and 2,364*l.* to British Colonies.

ST. LUCIA.

56. The following table exhibits the principal exports of the Colony's produce during the past three years, and gives the direction of the trade :—

Articles.	Countries.	1888.	1889.	1890.
		Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Cocoa -	United Kingdom - -	491,594	408,440	495,500
	France - - -	300,575	401,520	430,830
	Barbados - - -	—	480	—
	Total -	792,169	810,440	926,330
		£22,987	£20,985	£26,864
		Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
Rum -	United Kingdom - -	—	—	126
	France - - -	115	355	2,408
	Colon - - -	1,423	—	—
	Total -	1,538	355	2,534
		£154	£36	£253
		Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Usine sugar -	United Kingdom - -	3,852,800	5,998,800	4,214,200
	United States - -	420,200	88,800	3,654,000
	British West Indies -	15,900	5,400	20,700
	Other places - -	800	—	—
	Total -	6,289,700	6,093,000	7,888,900
		£50,542	£63,922	£63,111
		Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Muscovado sugar -	United Kingdom - -	118,000	116,100	142,700
	United States - -	2,321,700	2,437,300	3,101,600
	British West Indies -	1,200	400	—
	Other places - -	400	—	29,600
	Total -	2,441,300	2,553,800	3,273,900
		£14,441	£22,232	£20,467
		Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
Molasses	United Kingdom - -	36,730	14,100	10,800
	French West Indies -	108,247	170,091	333,031
	British West Indies -	10	—	—
	Total -	144,987	184,191	343,831
		£2,416	£5,372	£8,596

Shipping.

57. The following table exhibits the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels which entered during the past three years :—

—	1888.		1889.		1890.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers - -	229	236,535	392	434,912	385	425,348
Sailing vessels - -	219	16,088	246	17,621	238	13,028
Total -	448	252,623	638	452,533	623	438,376

and their nationalities are as follows :—

—	1888.		1889.		1890.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No	Tons.
Steamers.						
British - -	204	220,274	364	418,957	324	364,908
Foreign - - -	25	16,261	28	15,955	61	60,440
Sailing Vessels.						
British - - -	182	9,010	209	11,142	206	8,253
Foreign - - -	37	7,078	37	6,479	32	4,775
	448	252,623	638	452,533	623	438,376

58. Of the steamers, 82 came from South American ports, calling for coal, their destination being the United States. The quantity of coal shipped at Castries in 1890 amounted to 37,462 tons. The slight falling off in the number of steamers was caused by the depression in South America.

Crown Lands.

59. The working of the Crown Lands Ordinance of 1889 is gradually bringing the Crown Lands under control. Though no grants or sales were completed in the year, an amount of 547*l.* has been received as deposits and arrears on 1,067 acres of land, and some 46 town and village lots, the usual rate of deposit being

St. Lucia.

one-fifth the upset price—1*l.* for uncultivated land; cultivated land and town lots at varying prices. Applications for about 1,900 acres of land have been received.

Gaols and Prisoners.

60. The daily average number in prison was 50; in 1889 and 1888 the numbers were 40 and 47. The number of commitments was 460, as against 323 in 1889 and 412 in 1888. Of those committed, 310 were men and 150 women; 97 had been previously convicted, 49 once, 11 twice, and 37 three times or oftener.

61. The sanitary state of the prison was good, and there were but 10 admissions to hospital. One death occurred, and there was one execution.

62. The cost of maintaining the prison in 1890 was 878*l.*, and the estimated value of the work done by the prisoners was 560*l.*

Crime.

63. Offences against the person punishable on summary conviction have increased considerably. This may be accounted for by the large number of strangers who have been attracted to St. Lucia by the new works and by the expansion of the coaling trade.

64. The following table gives a retrospect of crime during the years 1887 to 1890:—

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Offences reported to the police - - -	1,309	1,339	1,212	1,237
Persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - - -	1,696	1,585	1,430	1,426
Summary convictions:				
For offences against the person - -	225	172	198	283
For prædial larceny - - - -	29	35	25	24
For offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - -	89	99	67	57
For other offences - - - -	454	443	320	397
Convictions in the Superior Courts:				
For offences against the person - -	11	7	18	12
For offences against property other than prædial larceny - - -	4	16	5	13
Number of persons acquitted:				
In the Inferior Courts - - -	879	806	780	326
In the Superior Courts - - - -	11	7	16	11

Hospitals and Asylums.

65. The following table gives statistics as to the working of the three hospitals at Castries, Soufrière, and Vieux Fort during the year :—

Hospital.	No. on 1st January.	Admissions.	Total.	Daily Average.	Discharges.			Deaths.	Per-centage of Deaths.
					Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Victoria - -	75	1,248	1,323	74	1,079	40	—	40	3·02
Soufrière - -	10	123	133	8	85	31	—	14	10·53
Vieux Fort - -	11	120	131	9	73	16	19	12	9·16
Total -	96	1,491	1,587	91	1,237	87	19	66	7·57

The hospital at Dennery was closed towards the end of the year, and no returns have been made.

66. The following table, omitting Dennery, gives a comparison of the last three years :—

Year.	Total Number treated.	Daily Average.	Death-rate.
1888 - - -	2,599	127	3·9
1889 - - -	2,304	120	5·8
1890 - - -	1,587	91	7·57

67. The following is a classified list of the diseases treated, giving the number of cases, and the number of deaths from each disease :—

Disease.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
Abscess - - - - - -	34	1
Anæmia and debility - - - - -	218	12
Burns and scalds - - - - -	7	1
Cancer - - - - - -	3	3
Disease of—		
Bones and joints - - - - -	11	—
Circulatory system - - - - -	7	1
Digestive organs - - - - -	114	22
Ears and eyes - - - - -	23	—
Genito-urinary organs - - - -	59	4
Glandular - - - - - -	3	—
Nervous system - - - - -	27	12
Respiratory organs - - - - -	126	29
Skin - - - - - -	71	—
Spleen - - - - - -	1	—
Enteritis - - - - - -	6	1

Disease.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
Fevers	295	4
Fractures, wounds, &c.	91	—
Rheumatism	65	—
Senility	19	13
Serpent bite	1	1
Syphilis	39	2
Tumours	12	—
Ulcers	90	—
For confinement	4	—
Miscellaneous	89	1
Malingerers	156	—

68. *Poor Asylum.*—None but male patients were accommodated in this asylum. The female paupers were transferred in 1889 to the Victoria Hospital pending the completion of the new asylum which is being built in Castries out of the bequest left by Mr. Baron. On the 1st January there were 30 paupers in the asylum, and there were 93 admissions during the year, making a total of 123, of whom 49 were discharged relieved and 38 died. The daily average number in the asylum was 35. The principal ailments were senile decay, chronic ulcers, and rheumatism.

69. *Yaws Hospital.*—The number of admissions during the year was 65, which with the 45 remanets from 1889 made a total of 110 under treatment. Of these, 62 were discharged cured and 2 relieved, and there were 5 deaths.

70. *Lunatic Asylum.*—There is no lunatic asylum in the Colony. A temporary reception house has been fitted up at Soufrière to which patients can be sent until they are despatched to the Central Asylum for the Windward Islands at Grenada.

Meteorology.

71. The mean temperature of the air at Morne Fortuné, 800 feet above sea level, was 76. The highest reading, recorded in September, was 89, and the lowest 65, recorded in February and March. The total rainfall amounted to 88·11 inches, distributed over 288 days. In Castries the rainfall was 85·43 inches, and at Soufrière 59·09 inches.

72. The direction of the wind was as follows:—

Direction.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
Number of days	4	115	205	29	2	—	1	4	5

General Remarks.

73. The health of the Island was good throughout the year, and sanitation in the town and harbour of Castries has received

special attention. This and the reclamation of various swamps in the neighbourhood of the town has much improved the health of Castries. St. Lucia may now be considered as one of the more healthy of the West Indian islands.

74. Agriculture is recovering from the stagnation caused by the sugar crisis of 1883–85. Much new land has been taken into cultivation and renewed immigration of labourers from India determined upon. The usefulness of the botanical station is recognised, and applications for plants of economic value are numerous.

75. The return labourers from the Panama canal have brought a considerable amount of money with them and are everywhere taking up land and building houses. The new military and civil works and increased coaling trade have caused much money to be circulated; and altogether there is an appearance of prosperity and activity which speaks well for the future of the Island.

(Signed) C. C. KNOLLYS,
Administrator.

Government House, St. Lucia,
6th April 1891.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

RECEIVED
JUN 8 1892
LIBRARY NAVY DEPARTMENT

No. 23.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 91, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1892.

[C.—6563.-7.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent.	1888
94	St. Vincent.	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlement	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
118	St. Helena	"

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	"
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"

No. 23.

GRENADA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 91, Old Series.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Grenada, August 13, 1891.

I FORWARD the Blue Book for Grenada for 1890, together with the Acting Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

2. Mr. Drayton has taken pains to revise the Blue Book carefully and thoroughly. Section A. in particular has been entirely remodelled, and for the first time contains a full statement of the parochial taxation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT on BLUE BOOK for 1890.

Sources of Revenue.

1. There was no change made in taxation or other source of revenue in the year 1890, with the exception of the imposition of a fee of 1*l.* for every "occasional" license for sale of liquors issued by the Treasury. As in the previous year, an additional import duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* was levied on articles not specified or exempted by the tariff, and the collection of export dues was suspended.

GRENADA.

Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1890 was 49,267*l.*, being 1,468*l.* more than the average of the four preceding years, and 1,174*l.* less than in 1889, as shown in the following statement:—

Head of Revenue.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs - - -	24,760	24,349	411	—
2. Licenses, excise, and internal revenue not otherwise specified - - - -	16,510	16,820	—	310
3. Fees of court or office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements in aid - -	6,371	7,052	—	681
4. Post Office - - -	913	873	40	—
5. Rent of Government property -	410	231	179	—
6. Interest - - -	122	427	—	305
7. Repayment by parochial boards of loans from general revenue	—	50	—	50
8. Miscellaneous receipts - -	130	86	44	—
9. Land sales - - -	51	553	—	502
Total - -	49,267	50,441	674	1,848
	—	49,267	—	674
Decrease in 1890 - -	—	1,174	—	1,174

The decrease is apparent only, and is due to the introduction of a proper system of treasury accounts by which sundry items formerly treated as revenue were relegated to their correct heads.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure for 1890 was 53,356*l.*, being 6,303*l.* more than the average of the previous four years, and 2,270*l.* more than the expenditure of 1889, as shown in the subjoined table:—

Head of Expenditure.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt -	2,032	2,000	32	—
2. Pensions - - - -	638	690	—	52
3. The Governor and Legislature -	2,446	2,129	317	—
4. Colonial Secretary - - -	1,961	1,697	264	—
5. Treasury, Customs, &c. - -	3,438	3,486	—	48
6. Audit - - - -	581	433	148	—
7. Port and Marine - - -	257	225	32	—

Head of Expenditure.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
8. Legal - - - -	4,427	4,549	—	122
9. Police - - - -	4,181	4,211	—	30
10. Prisons - - - -	1,115	1,201	—	86
11. Medical - - - -	6,321	6,999	—	678
12. Education - - - -	4,943	4,281	662	—
13. Ecclesiastical - - -	520	524	—	4
14. Charitable - - - -	415	380	35	—
15. Miscellaneous - - -	2,485	2,646	—	161
16. Post Office - - - -	2,258	2,386	—	128
17. Agricultural - - -	411	311	100	—
18. Public Works Department -	1,833	1,671	162	—
19. Public Works, Recurrent - -	9,430	9,540	—	110
20. Public Works, Extraordinary -	3,664	1,727	1,937	—
Totals - -	53,356	51,086	3,689	1,419
	51,086	—	1,419	
Increase in 1890 - -	2,270	—	2,270	—

The increase as compared with 1889 is due to the large outlay on necessary public works and roads in 1890, and to an alteration in 1889 of the education byelaws which made the result grants to primary school teachers payable in a lump sum after the annual examination instead of spreading them over the following year.

Assets and Liabilities.

4. On 31st December 1890 the Colonial assets exceeded the liabilities by 5,941*l.*, as will be seen from the annexed statement of the financial position :—

Assets.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Colonial chest - - -	236	13	6
On deposit with Colonial Bank -	3,017	13	7
On current account with ditto -	1,775	12	9
Invested in South Australian 4 Per Cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value, 3,805*l.*) -	4,000	0	0
Advances (representing either amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not brought to account) :—Parochial boards for local works - - - -	7,019	5	11
Parochial boards, loans from general revenue - - - -	1,143	15	5
St. Lucia account - - - -	893	3	2
St. Vincent ditto - - - -	561	18	5
Trinidad and Tobago account -	57	6	8
Distillery apparatus - - -	1,141	19	11
Materials, &c., Works Department	497	5	2
Public Works Loan Works - -	1,932	7	11
Other advances - - - -	319	16	7
	£22,596	19	0

Liabilities.	£	s.	d.
Deposits, as follows :—			
Savings bank - - - -	6,883	14	7
Immigration fund - - -	1,963	11	6
Sinking Fund, Public Works Loan - - - - -	2,155	9	2
Fire insurance fund - -	1,591	13	10
Post Office account - -	795	4	4
St. Paul's water supply - -	191	1	7
Deposits on sight entries -	119	4	2
Governor's office fund - -	35	1	0
Primary school books - -	32	5	10
Family remittances - -	20	13	4
Petty Debt Courts' deposits -	15	13	4
Supreme Court deposits -	40	4	0
Land Acquisition deposits -	5	0	0
Due to Crown Agents - -	2,807	8	7
	16,656	5	3
Surplus assets - - -	5,940	13	9
	£22,596	19	0

GRENADA.

These figures are, of course, exclusive of the amount due for public works to debenture holders—44,475*l.*—for the redemption of which special provision is made, and of a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for St. George's waterworks, the repayment of which in 1899 by the parochial board is guaranteed on the security of the general revenue.

Public Debt.

5. The net public debt of the Colony (exclusive of the above sum of 1,000*l.*) at the end of 1890, was 42,320*l.*, as follows :—

1890.		£ s. d.	1890.		£ s. d.
Dec. 31.	Amount of Sinking Fund on deposit with the Colonial Bank -	2,155 9 2	Dec. 31.	Due to sundry debenture holders at this date - - -	44,475 0 0
	Balance, being net indebtedness on account of loan for public works - - -	42,319 10 10			
	Total - -	44,475 0 0		Total - -	44,475 0 0

Parochial Revenue and Expenditure.

6. The receipts and disbursements of the parochial bodies, who are charged with the management of the towns and second-class byeways, are detailed in the following table :—

Parish.	Revenue, 1890.			Expenditure, 1890.		
	Balance at 30th Sept. 1889.	Receipts in 1889–90.	Total.	Expenditure in 1889–90.	Balance at 30th Sept. 1890.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's -	217	4,005	4,222	4,179	43	4,222
„ David's - -	—	313	313	341	—	341
„ Andrew's -	519	1,439	1,958	1,697	261	1,958
„ Patrick's -	—	1,746	1,746	1,971	—	1,971
„ Mark's - -	27	428	455	360	95	455
„ John's - -	52	979	1,031	843	188	1,031
Carriacou - -	243	646	889	554	335	889
Total -	1,058	9,556	10,614	9,945	922	10,867

7. In the above statement are included the following loans from the Government for local work :—

	£
St. George's, for Sendall Tunnel - -	1,502
„ Patrick's, for Sauteurs Jetty - -	1,100
„ John's, for Gouyave do. - -	450
Carriacou, for water supply - - -	300

The total indebtedness of the several boards to the Government for such works at the end of 1890 was 10,594*l.*, as shown below:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
St. George's—						
For Sendall Tunnel - -	1,962	3	0			
„ waterworks, from immigration fund - -	1,430	19	3			
„ waterworks, John-McPhail - -	1,000	0	0			
„ market sheds - -	1,018	18	10			
„ street improvement -	600	0	0			
„ general purposes -	150	0	0			
				6,162	1	1
St. Andrew's—						
For Grenville breakwater -	400	0	0			
„ Grenville water supply -	45	3	8			
				445	3	8
St. Patrick's—						
For Sauteurs Jetty - -				1,100	0	0
St. John's—						
For Gouyave waterworks -	2,093	0	5			
„ Gouyave Jetty repairs -	450	0	0			
				2,543	0	5
Carriacou—						
For water supply - - -				343	15	5
				£ 10,594	0	7

There were also due to the Government from the boards at that date, 888*l.*, arrears of contributions for maintenance of byeways, and 468*l.*, arrears of interest on loans, so that their debts may be set down as 11,950*l.*

Public Works.

8. The total expenditure during the year on account of public works and roads was 22,981*l.*, of which 13,095*l.* was from general revenue, and 9,796*l.* from loan funds.

9. The erection of two important bridges at the Castigue and Balthazard Fords was commenced and nearly completed, and the work on that over the St. Mark's River at Victoria, which had been interrupted by the flood of 1889, was resumed, while the reconstruction of the main roads between St. George's and Grenville, Grenville and Sauteurs, and Gouyave and Grenville, was continued. On the ordinary maintenance and repair of highways and byeways 7,061*l.* was expended, and 1,096*l.* was granted from general revenue for road extension and other extraordinary work on the roads of the island.

10. General repairs and improvements of public buildings were executed at a cost of 1,586*l.*, and the erection of the new ware-

GRENADA.

house and library buildings and repairs of the Court House in St. George's were proceeded with. A lighthouse at Fort George was commenced, additions were made to the quarters of the revenue officer at Carriacou, and of the director of works, and a public works store-room was built at Grenville.

11. The additional waterworks for St. George's and the St. Paul's and Richmond Hill District were completed, securing for the chief town and its neighbourhood a supply of water which both for quantity and quality will compare favourably with any similar supply in the West Indies.

Legislation.

12. Eighteen Ordinances as follows passed into law during the year:—

No. 1. The Appropriation Ordinance, 1890.
No. 2. The Ad Valorem Duties Ordinance, 1889.
No. 3. The Export Duties Suspending Ordinance, 1890.
No. 4. The Audit Ordinance, 1890.
No. 5. The Collection of Ad Valorem Duties Indemnification Ordinance, 1890.
No. 6. The Non-collection of Export Duties Indemnification Ordinance, 1890.
No. 7. The Commissions of Inquiry Ordinance, 1890.
No. 8. The Magistrates' Clerks Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 9. The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1890.
No. 10. The Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1887, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 11. The Bank Holidays Act, 1875, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 12. The Roads Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 13. The St. George's Water Supply Amending Ordinance, 1890.
No. 14. The Parochial Boards Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1890.
No. 15. The Appropriation Ordinance, 1891.
No. 16. The Excise Ordinance, 1890.
No. 17. The Export Duties Suspending Ordinance, 1891.
No. 18. The Ad Valorem Duties Ordinance, 1891.

13. The most important of these are No. 4, which abolishes the office of auditor and the system of audit as previously constituted, so as to enable the audit of the Colonial accounts to be conducted under the control of the Comptroller and Auditor General in England; No. 7, which empowers the Governor to issue commissions of inquiry with specified status and powers; No. 11, creating additional bank holidays; and No. 16, which provides for a complete alteration of the excise system and legalises distillation of rum into locked receptacles, the keys of which are in the custody of the revenue officers.

andronic

14. The system of distillation under police supervision, begun in 1888, although an improvement on previous arrangements, afforded opportunities for smuggling which, it may be anticipated, will not be offered by this new system, and at date of this report the proceeds of the duty on rum since the change fully justify the opinions which led to the alteration.

Councils.

15. Mr. L. R. Fyfe, the new Colonial Secretary, took his seat ex officio at both Councils, and Messrs. W. S. Comissiong, C. H. Collymore, C. F. Anton, and W. Low filled temporary seats while acting for the Attorney-General and the Treasurer respectively.

16. In the Legislative Council Dr. McLeod, medical officer of the first district, was appointed to a vacant seat on the official side, and Mr. C. Messervy, Director of Public Works, was given an acting appointment during the time that the Colonial Secretary was administering the Government. Temporary vacancies that occurred during the year in the unofficial section were filled by Messrs. D. Webster, J. R. Bertrand, and W. Copland.

Establishments.

17. During the absences of the Governor on duty in the other islands of the Government the administration was carried on by Messrs. F. M. Chadwick, L. R. Fyfe, and E. Drayton, the officers discharging the duties of Colonial Secretary. Mr. L. R. Fyfe, of the Colonial Secretary's Department in Jamaica, was appointed Colonial Secretary, and took up his duties on 7th February, and Mr. F. M. Chadwick, who had been acting in that office, retired on pension on 31st March, being succeeded in his offices of Treasurer and Comptroller of Customs by Mr. E. Drayton, the registrar, whose place was in turn taken by Mr. C. F. Anton, the auditor of St. Lucia. Mr. Fyfe, being compelled to go on leave at the end of October on account of serious illness, Mr. Drayton, took his place as Colonial Secretary, and the Treasury Department was placed in charge of Mr. C. F. Anton, temporarily, and then of Mr. W. Low, the police magistrate of the first district, St. Lucia.

18. Mr. J. F. Lavington Payne was appointed magistrate of the southern district in October, vice Mr. H. Lighton Robinson, resigned, and Mr. G. W. Smith took the place of curator of the Botanical Garden in November, vice Mr. C. M. Murray, who resigned after six months' service.

19. Important changes were made in the Treasury Department, the staff of subordinate revenue officers being increased and the duties revised, with the object of dissevering the outdoor and indoor branches of the work in the out districts, and providing an efficient check to smuggling. It may here be added that the most satisfactory results have so far attended the change, valuable seizures

GRENADA.

of smuggled goods having been made in the Grenadines, and increased revenue is being received from Customs and Excise.

Pensions.

20. The list was increased by 268*l.* during the year by the following pensions:—

	£
F. M. Chadwick, late treasurer - -	193
E. A. Guthrie, late organist - -	42
Jos. Roberts, late librarian, St. George's -	33

At the end of the year the total pensions payable by the Colony amounted to 739*l.* per annum.

Vital Statistics.

21. The estimated population at 31st December was 51,427, a result which the census of 5th April 1891 has demonstrated to be 1,350 short of the actual figures. This deficiency is (as shown in the Blue Book report for 1888) due to immigration from neighbouring Colonies of which no record is kept.

22. The birth and death rates have this year been calculated on the mean population at 30th June, instead of, as in previous years, on the population at 1st January, and the results per thousand are most satisfactory, being as follows:—Birth rate, 45·66; death rate, 25·31.

Education.

23. An abstract of the returns relating to primary schools for 1890, comparing the results with those of 1889, is appended.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars.				Income.			Expenditure.
		On Roll.		Total on Roll.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
		Boys.	Girls.						
						£	£		£
Government -	9	863	613	1,476	748	186	1,057	—	1,243
Assisted:—									
Anglican - -	7	772	530	1,302	705	191	891	—	1,082
Roman Catholic	9	1,007	929	1,936	987	187	917	—	1,104
Wesleyan -	5	490	447	937	527	123	672	—	795
Presbyterian -	1	95	63	158	96	4	8	—	12
Totals for 1890 -	31	3,227	2,582	5,809	3,063	691	3,545	—	4,236
" " 1889 -	29	2,685	2,098	4,783	2,518	635	3,180	—	3,815
Increase in 1890 -	2	542	484	1,026	545	56	365	—	421

24. A Government school was established at Happy Hill, in St. George's parish, and a school on Samaritan Estate in St.

Mark's was placed on the list of assisted schools. The necessity for schools in these districts is evidenced by the number on the rolls, 117 and 158 respectively; and the school at Samaritan, which was established by the Presbyterian body in connexion with their mission to the Indian immigrants, is largely attended by the coolies' children, the daily average being 96.

25. 664*l.* was expended by the Government in the erection and improvement of primary school buildings during the year, in addition to the sums detailed in the above abstract.

26. The grammar school in St. George's made satisfactory progress during the year, the examination held in January 1891 resulting in 29 boys obtaining more than 50 per cent. of marks. The number of boys on the roll was 45.

Imports and Exports.

27. The subjoined table illustrates the amount and direction of the trade of the Colony during the last five years :—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 -	53,553	49,044	17,741	120,338	159,805	10,940	9,946	180,691
1887 -	73,306	47,787	22,093	143,186	185,216	10,612	22,121	217,949
1888 -	[illegible],597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
1889 -	87,762	45,733	40,586	174,081	172,912	7,515	15,168	195,595
1890 -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
Totals -	390,476	232,370	148,070	770,916	961,[illegible]38	47,131	80,831	1,089,800
Average -	78,095	46,474	29,614	154,183	192,368	9,426	16,166	217,960

28. In the year under review the imports were 16,691*l.*, and the exports 48,342*l.* above the average of the period, the exports being in fact the largest on record. The steady increase of the trade with the United Kingdom and foreign countries, and the corresponding decrease of that with British Colonies, are noticeable features, and the following analysis of the foreign trade in 1890 may be interesting:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United States of America - -	39,086	1,319
France - - - -	136	13,846
Martinique - - - -	343	700
Venezuela - - - -	177	334
Other countries - - -	590	—
Total - - -	40,332	16,199

GRENADA.

29. A comparative statement of the value of the principal exports in the last five years is annexed:—

Year.	Cocoa.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fire-wood.	Fruit.	Hides.	Live Stock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	155,938	998	127	1,456	71	511	4,693
1887 - -	185,412	8,048	1,368	1,170	110	457	2,742
1888 - -	199,902	7,632	1,413	1,098	167	547	3,230
1889 - -	166,178	6,714	1,182	842	151	641	3,312
1890 - -	228,889	7,973	1,503	1,231	426	302	3,116
Totals -	936,319	31,365	5,593	5,797	925	2,438	17,093
Average -	187,264	6,273	1,119	1,159	185	488	3,419

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Manure.	Peas.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.	Log-wood.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	311	1,705	341	8,999	771	784	786
1887 - -	301	3,063	484	9,709	1,920	280	301
1888 - -	766	1,487	580	9,429	697	200	147
1889 - -	938	431	451	10,220	2,255	280	273
1890 - -	614	850	597	15,955	642	300	1,460
Totals -	2,930	7,536	2,453	54,312	6,285	1,844	2,967
Average -	586	1,507	491	10,862	1,257	369	593

The increased export of cocoa, cotton and cotton seed, fruit and spices is worthy of notice, as there is no doubt that it is not transient, and that the current year, 1891, will yield even better results.

Shipping.

30. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was as follows:

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	159	222,657	162	229,450
Sailing Vessels - -	382	10,745	373	11,176
Totals - -	541	233,402	535	240,626

31. The nationalities of the vessels entered were as below :—

—	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.
British - - - - -	154	363
United States of America - - -	3	8
German - - - - -	1	—
Venezuelan - - - - -	1	7
Dutch - - - - -	—	4
	159	382

Prisons.

32. A comparative statement of the chief statistics relating to prisons for the last five years is subjoined :—

Year.	Number of Persons committed.				No. of those committed who have been previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions to Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.
	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	Totals.				
1886 -	5	52	149	206	49	59·35	18	3·95
1887 -	3	54	205	262	63	62·73	21	1·62
1888 -	3	47	153	203	56	55·75	15	2·98
1889 -	3	53	244	300	89	64·22	18	3·51
1890 -	2	44	196	242	74	59·86	25	2·56

GRENADA.

Continued.)

Year.	Deaths, excluding Executions.	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Percentage of Committals of Persons previously convicted.	Cost of a Prisoner. Annual.	Cost of a Prisoner. Daily.	Cost of a Prisoner. For Diet, per Day.
		£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
1886 -	2	1,299	1,110	32·88	22 0 3	0 1 2¼	3¾
1887 -	—	1,224	1,318	30·73	19 10 1	0 1 1	3
1888 -	1	1,328	1,256	36·60	23 14 3	0 1 3½	3½
1889 -	2	1,231	1,303	36·48	19 4 8	0 1 0¾	2¼
1890 -	1	1,160	1,304	38·27	19 6 7	0 1 1	2¼

33. On 1st July the Inspector of Prisons resigned that office consequent upon his appointment as Treasurer and Comptroller of Customs, and Mr. J. M. Lash, the keeper of the Richmond Hill prison, was placed in charge of the department, with the title of Superintendent of Prisons, the duties of which office include those formerly discharged by him. On 10th October a new code of rules, similar to those in force in English prisons, and embodying the various improvements in prison management and discipline that had been introduced here since 1885, was brought into operation.

Criminal Statistics.

34. The difference in 1890 from the average statistics of crime in the last four years is noted in the subjoined abstract:—

———	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	Average.	Difference in 1890 from Average. Increase.	Difference in 1890 from Average. Decrease.
Offences reported to police - - -	*1,727	594	649	666	*909	—	*243
Apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - - -	*1,727	1,279	1,279	1,356	*1,369	—	*257
Summary convictions:—							
Offences against the person - - -	190	241	379	311	280	31	—
Prædial larceny - - - -	22	18	31	26	24	2	—
Other offences against property - -	149	150	209	182	173	9	—
Other offences - - - - -	454	468	342	317	395	—	78
Total summary convictions - -	815	877	961	836	872	—	36

* In the years previous to 1888 the number of offences reported to the police and the number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates were stated together, in subsequent returns they are given separately.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	Average.	Difference in 1890 from Average.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
Convictions in the superior courts:—							
Offences against the person	11	7	11	3	8	—	5
Prædial larceny	—	—	4	1	1	—	—
Other offences against property	14	13	12	13	13	—	—
Other offences	2	1	1	9	3	6	—
Total convictions in the superior courts	27	21	28	26	25	1	—
Persons acquitted:—							
In inferior courts	333	356	337	437	366	71	—
In superior courts	12	16	38	9	19	—	10
Total acquittals	345	372	375	446	385	61	—

35. This record, as the Attorney-General remarks in his report, "so far as figures go, compares favourably enough with previous "years," but he also points out that with respect to prædial larceny, under the head of cocoa and spice robbery, it is to some extent misleading, as by far the majority of such robberies are never detected and punished. Special legislation of a very stringent nature has since been resorted to with the view of coping with this evil.

Hospitals and Asylums.

36. The following table contains the principal statistics of the hospitals and asylums for the year:—

Institution.	No. of Admissions.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.			Number of Deaths.
			Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	
Colony Hospital	426	55·20	282	90	8	34
Yaws Hospital	102	36·30	134	—	—	1
St. Andrew's Hospital	76	7·	44	24	2	5
St. John's Hospital	111	8·17	75	21	4	11
Carriacou Hospital	115	5·70	108	7	3	—
Total hospitals	830	112·37	643	142	17	51
Lunatic Asylum	22	75·	13	5	—	4
Poor Asylum	27	48·	—	—	—	19
Totals	879	235·37	656	147	17	74

GRENADA.

37. At the Colony Hospital the admissions were 66 more than in 1889, and the death rate 7·1 against 7·28. At the Yaws Hospital there was a decrease of 128 cases as compared with 1889, and the death rate was ·63 per cent.

38. The sanitary condition of the lunatic asylum was most satisfactory, the death-rate (4·12 per cent.) being the lowest for many years. A copious water supply was laid on, and a scheme for the complete remodelling of the buildings, which will shortly be carried into effect, was elaborated.

39. The mortality at the Poor Asylum was very great, 19 deaths being recorded. Senile decay and diarrhœa caused one half of these.

Savings Bank.

40. The progress made by the savings bank is shown by the following return of its transactions for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1886 - -	196	3,210	2,181	3,662
1887 - -	343	3,757	2,447	5,041
1888 - -	277	4,804	4,319	5,632
1889 - -	583	4,709	4,038	6,295
1890 - -	723	5,441	4,882	6,853

41. Early in 1889 four branch banks were opened in the out districts, and at the end of 1890 there were 136 depositors in them with a balance of 814*l.* to their credit. 4,000*l.* of the funds of the bank are invested in South Australian Government Stock.

General Remarks.

42. The statistics of the year point unmistakably to the steady progress and increasing prosperity of Grenada, which in the last six years has improved and advanced in almost every direction. With a population increasing at the rate of 25 per cent. in ten years, a large proportion of which owns land, with the liberal expenditure on roads and public works which has been the leading feature of the administration of recent years, and with the development of products other than cocoa and the opening up of a

new market in the United States of America, it is not unreasonable for those interested in this beautiful Colony to forecast for it a prosperous future, and in time to come a leading position in the West Indies.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
8th August 1891.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

RECEIVED
JUN 15 1892
LIBRARY NAVY DEPARTMENT

No. 38.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 7.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1892.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW.
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1892.

[C.—6563.-22.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 38.

ST. VINCENT.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 7.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

St. Vincent, March 11, 1892.

Forwarded.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
March 10, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891.

2. The Blue Book is being printed and will be forwarded to your Excellency as soon as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

---

1. *Taxes, Duties, and Fees.*

The only change to be noted under this head during the year is under "The Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1891," viz.:—

(*a*) The abolition of the town and country annual licences for sale of malt liquors, and

(*b*.) The creation of an "occasional licence" on payment of (10*s*.) ten shillings for sale of intoxicating liquors at any

ST. VINCENT.

public entertainment or place of amusement to which the public have access.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

Revenue.

	£
The revenue estimated for the year was - -	26,615
There was actually collected - - -	27,649
Thus showing an excess of - - - - - -	1,034

The revenue exceeded that of the preceding year, 1890, (27,103*l.*) by 546*l.*

In comparison with 1890, the details of revenue for 1891 show the following noticeable variations:—

Increases:—

	£
Import duties increased - - - - -	536
Liquor licences „ - - - -	165
Excise duty on rum - - - - -	182

The above-mentioned items may be regarded as representing together an improved money-spending capacity of the Colony.

Revenue stamps increased 201*l.*, due entirely to the stamps used in connexion with the will of the late Mr. D. K. Porter.

The increase of 30*l.* under "Rents of Government property" is nominal, arising by the separation of this item from the head "Miscellaneous."

Under "Interest" the item "savings bank" represents the surplus interest on investments in excess of interest credited to depositors for the years 1889–1890.

The item "Kingstown Waterworks" represents interest charged to that account for advances from the general revenue in lieu of the issue of debentures.

Decreases:—

	£
Export duties decreased - - - -	169
Tonnage „ „ - - - - - -	143
Together - - - -	312

chiefly the result of the smaller sugar crop, which will be found on reference to the export figures to have been 1,108 hogsheads less than in 1890—about one-fifth.

The decrease in harbour dues, 49*l.*, has been caused by the discontinuance of the visits of American steamers bringing goods direct from America; these steamers paid 2*l.* on each entry.

The falling off in the Post Office revenue is due to the reduction in the rates to all British Possessions from (4*d.*) fourpence to (2½*d.*) twopence halfpenny, and a smaller demand by stamp-dealing people during the year—the reduction is an advantage, which not only will all well-wishers of postal intercourse rejoice at, but which it may in all reason be expected will be recouped by increased correspondence.

The following table exhibits a comparison between the revenues of 1890 and 1891 under the several heads of revenue:—

Details.	Revenue, 1890.	Revenue, 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs:				
Import duties	13,936 17 5	14,472 11 5	535 14 0	—
Export duties	1,314 18 3	1,145 12 3	—	169 6 0
Harbour dues	222 3 0	172 19 0	—	49 4 0
Tonnage dues	1,087 2 6	943 17 6	—	143 5 0
Licenses:				
Liquor	861 0 0	1,026 0 0	165 0 0	—
Stills	175 0 0	171 0 0	—	4 0 0
Auctioneers, &c.	29 9 6	25 4 6	—	4 5 0
Boats	103 14 11	103 12 9	—	0 2 2
Droghers	46 3 3	50 7 6	4 4 3	—
Guns	33 15 0	32 5 0	—	1 10 0
Dogs	248 13 9	223 18 9	—	24 15 0
Horses, &c.	509 15 0	472 17 6	—	36 17 6
Carriages and carts	75 7 6	77 2 6	1 15 0	—
Charcoal, &c.	56 17 6	35 3 0	—	21 14 6
Excise:				
Duty on rum	3,802 13 0	3,984 15 0	182 2 0	—
Stamps:				
Revenue	434 13 0	635 8 0	200 15 0	—
Taxes:				
Income	428 9 8	426 19 5	—	1 10 3
Land	1,254 9 9	1,224 12 1	—	29 17 8
Fines and forfeitures of Court.	466 5 8	447 0 11	—	19 4 9
Fees of office:				
Registrar	174 13 7	163 11 3	—	11 2 4
Police magistrates	281 9 0	306 6 0	24 17 0	—

ST. VINCENT.

Details.	Revenue, 1890.	Revenue, 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Reimbursements in aid:				
Hospital - -	248 17 3	207 2 4	—	41 14 11
Cemetery - - -	98 7 0	50 5 0	—	48 2 0
Botanical garden -	—	9 14 7	9 14 7	—
Warehouse rent - -	50 10 1	66 11 3	16 1 2	—
Post Office:				
Sale of stamps - -	899 0 0	731 0 0	—	168 0 0
Commission on Money Orders.	47 9 3	55 7 2	7 17 11	—
Rents of Government property.	—	30 0 0	30 0 0	—
Interest:				
Crown lands account -	10 10 10	—	—	10 10 10
Colonial bank - -	—	10 18 4	10 18 4	—
Savings bank - -	—	115 0 9	115 0 9	—
Kingstown waterworks -	47 10 4	130 16 1	83 5 9	—
Town of Kingstown loan -	—	5 14 7	5 14 7	—
Miscellaneous receipts:				
Sundries - - -	157 6 2	95 5 1	—	1 1
£	27,103 2 2	27,648 19 6	1,393 0 4	847 3 0

Expenditure.

	£
The expenditure of 1891 was fixed on the estimates at - - - - - - - - - -	26,478
The total amount expended was - - -	28,537
Of the excess - - -	2,059,
Public works recurrent represent, for extra heavy repairs about - - - - -	240
Public works extraordinary - - - - -	835
Education (extra grants to schools) about - -	225
Jamaica Exhibition - - - - -	278
Post Office - - - - -	283
Miscellaneous - - - - -	190
Together - -	2,051

In comparison with 1890 the details of expenditure of 1891 represent the usual fluctuations which call for no explanation beyond the general remark that many of the items of 1891 represent expenditure authorised in 1890 but not incurred in full or at all until 1891.

The following is a statement of the expenditure of the year, under the several heads enumerated as compared with that of 1890:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charges on account of public debt.	1,082 10 0	1,060 0 0	—	22 10 0
Pensions - - -	2,002 11 6	1,940 0 4	—	62 11 2
Governor and legislature -	1,115 13 4	984 18 11	—	130 14 5
Colonial secretary's department.	1,323 10 9	1,497 8 9	173 18 0	—
Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue.	1,268 2 1	1,256 1 1		12 1 0
Audit department - -	268 18 1	222 9 9	—	46 8 4
Legal departments - -	3,366 10 4	3,394 4 0	27 13 8	—
Police - - - -	2,761 12 5	2,696 5 0	—	65 7 5
Prisons - - -	564 19 8	604 8 8	39 9 0	—
Medical departments, hospitals, &c.	4,285 9 1	4,028 9 11	—	256 19 2
Education - - -	1,606 12 6	2,083 2 1	476 9 7	—
Charitable - - -	454 10 0	382 16 4	—	71 13 8
Miscellaneous - - -	897 15 5	1,286 18 3	389 2 10	—
Sufferers—fire, Martinique -	100 0 0	—	—	100 0 0
Census - - -	—	321 4 0	321 4 0	—
Post Office - - -	1,097 3 11	1,345 9 5	248 5 6	—
Botanical Station - -	261 0 6	340 19 10	79 19 4	—
Colonial engineer's department.	489 0 0	489 4 11	0 4 11	—
Public works recurrent -	1,528 15 0	1,955 12 11	426 17 11	—
Public works extraordinary	1,051 14 6	2,356 14 10	1,305 0 4	—
Jamaica Exhibition -	284 14 6	277 17 2	—	6 17 4
Interest - - - -	241 8 2	—	—	241 8 2
Director of Public Works -	—	12 10 0	12 10 0	—
Total - - -	26,052 11 9	28,536 16 2	3,500 15 1	1,016 10 8

3. *Public Debt.*

	£
The year 1891 opened with a public debt of - -	12,270
which sum was augmented during the year by the issue of debentures for the purpose of repaying the general revenue the amounts advanced during the year 1890 on account of the following services:—	
Kingstown new waterworks - - -	2,600
Crown lands account - - -	1,000
making the total public debt - - - -	15,870
From this, however, has to be deducted a sum of -	1,510
being the amount represented by debentures redeemed during the year.	
The amount of public debt therefore at end of the year was - - - - - - -	14,360

made up as under:—

1. Government House loan - - -	1,840
2. Immigration loan - - -	3,750
3. Public buildings loan - - - -	800
4. Crown lands loan - - -	1,920
5. Public debt loan - - - -	2,550
6. Kingstown waterworks loan - -	3,500
	14,360

4. *Public Works.*

The total amount expended on public works, recurrent and extraordinary, during the year was 4,312*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*; of this there was expended on:—

	£	s.	d.
1. New line of highway Overland Village -	73	0	0
2. Erection of bridge over Cumberland River -	261	0	0
3. Renewing piling to Kingstown jetty -	978	0	0
4. Continuation of road through Botanic Garden and repairs to main drain at Government House - - - - -	95	0	0
5. Construction of Curator's lodge - -	327	0	0
6. Establishing cemetery at Calliqua - -	62	0	0
7. Repairs to Colonial Hospital - -	113	0	0
8. Widening and deepening the "Bottle and Glass" Pass at Banonallie - -	76	0	0
9. Repairs to Banonallie police station -	67	0	0
10. Small repairs, &c. to various public buildings, &c. - - - - -	901	16	5

with the exception of the works numbered 2, 3, and 9, the above were completed during the year.

1,358*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* was spent on repairs to highways during 1891.

5. *Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1891 :—

Ordinances.

No. 1. An Ordinance to amend "The Kingstown Regulation Ordinance, 1882."

No. 2. An Ordinance to amend "The Trade and Revenue Ordinance, 1882."

No. 3. An Ordinance to provide for taking a census of Saint Vincent in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one.

No. 4. An Ordinance to legalise the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year 1889 in addition to the sums already sanctioned under "The Appropriation Ordinance, 1889," and "The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1889."

No. 5. An Ordinance to amend "The Births, Marriages, and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1887."

No. 6. An Ordinance to provide for the appointment and Regulation of surveyors and for the survey of vacant lands and for the survey of the boundaries of Crown and other lands and to repeal certain laws relating thereto.

No. 7. An Ordinance to provide for the supply of water to Georgetown and for the repayment of a loan to be raised for that purpose.

No. 8. An Ordinance to amend "The Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886."

No. 9. An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Saint Vincent for the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.

No. 10. An Ordinance to legalise the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year 1890 in addition to the sums already sanctioned under "the Appropriation Ordinance, 1890."

No. 11. An Ordinance to amend "The Charcoal Ordinance, 1890."

6. *Council.*

Mr. George Smith, Q.C., unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, obtained three months' leave of absence during the year. No temporary appointment was made in his place

On the 14th May Mr. G. P. St. Aubyn, police magistrate of the Kingstown district, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council in the room of the late Mr. G. Van Heyningen, whose seat had not up to the above date been filled.

ST. VINCENT.

Mr. C. J. Simmons, unofficial member of the Legislative Council, was absent on leave from the 14th of August to the 9th of November.

7. *Civil Establishment.*

Few changes of importance occurred during the year.

Dr. M. G. Pereira was appointed medical officer of the No. 4 District on the 14th April; and Mr. G. P. St. Aubyn, police magistrate of the Kingstown District on the 13th of May; both of these officers were selected for their posts by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

During the month of December Mr. C. J. McLeod, registrar of the Supreme Court, resigned his appointment, and was succeeded by Mr. George Anton, the Treasury Accountant.

In the Treasury Department Mr. G. F. Grant was promoted to the post of Accountant and Mr. G. D. Mackie to that of Clerk in the Treasury.

Mr. E. C. Lewis was confirmed as Colonial Postmaster.

8. *Pensions.*

During the year two pensions, amounting to 33*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, were granted, viz:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Miss Cumming, Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Windward District - - -	18	8	4
2. Mr. J. W. Creese, late Process Server - -	15	0	0
	33	8	4

The pension list has been, on the other hand, relieved by the deaths of the following pensioners:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. The Venerable Archdeacon Laborde - -	384	8	11
2. Mr. J. Donawa, late schoolmaster - - -	20	0	0
	404	8	11

The pension list has thus been reduced some 371*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*

9. *Population—Census.*

According to the returns of the census taken on the 3rd of April 1881, and that taken on the 5th of April 1891, the popula-

tion of the Colony at the two dates respectively were as shown in the following statement :—

Complexion.	Population, 1881.	Population, 1891.
White - - - -	2,693	2,445
Coloured - - - - -	7,176	,554
Black - - - -	30,679	31,055
Total - - - -	40,548	41,054

10. *Births and Deaths.*

The births and deaths registered in 1891 were as follows :—

Complexion.	Births, 1891.	Deaths, 1891.
White - - - -	78	51
Coloured - - - - -	326	161
Black - - - -	1,537	846
Total - - - -	1,941	1,058

11. *Education.*

There were 43 schools open during 1891 in receipt of Government aid ; two schools which had been closed for a considerable period were reopened and a new one was added to the list.

The average attendance of scholars during the year was larger than that of 1890, the amount granted in capitation fees having been in excess of that paid in 1890 by about 96*l.*

It is satisfactory, too, to note that the results of the last examinations held by the Inspector of Schools showed a very marked improvement on those of 1890, the number of passes and marks obtained being in excess of 1890.

Just before the close of the year an addition to the pay of the teachers was voted by the Legislature ; this step has tended to improve matters considerably, as not only have the teachers been placed in a better position, but it has acted as a stimulus to them in the performance of their duties.

The rules and regulations at present in force for the government of state-aided schools are being revised with the view of improving the educational system of the Colony.

St. Vincent.

The following comparative statement of schools, &c. in 1890 and 1891 may be found interesting:—

—	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government grant based on average -	594 11 10	691 3 0
Payments by results - - - -	723 6 0	888 1 10
Payments to pupil-teachers - - -	76 0 0	66 10 0
Voluntary contributions - - - -	164 0 0	164 3 4
Fees - - - - -	195 19 11	191 18 4
Total - - -	1,753 17 9	2,001 16 6
Number of schools - - -	41	43
Average attendance - - - - -	3,229	2,925
Number on roll - - - -	Not shown	5,348

12. *Friendly Societies.*

During the year three new societies were registered in accordance with the provisions of the Friendly Societies Act, 1884, making a total of 16 registered.

13. *Imports and Exports.*

	£
The import and export trade of the Colony during the year amounted in value to - - -	196,512
Against, in 1890, - - - -	202,553
Showing a decrease of - - - -	6,041

which is doubly accounted for by the item "sugar," the export of which decreased in quantity about one fifth and in total value about the same, *i.e.*, 11,255*l.* On the other hand, however, the principal products of the Colony represent a very satisfactory condition in quantities and values as the following comparisons with 1890 will show:—

Article of Export.		Quantities. 1890.	Quantities. 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
Arrowroot	barrels	20,847	17,591	—	3,256
Cassava starch	,,	196	633	437	—
Cocoa	lbs.	102,771	114,683	11,912	—
Cotton	,,	25,218	43,286	18,068	—
Firewood	cords	1,163	1,462	299	—
Rum	puns.	550	672	122	—
Spice	lbs.	13,005	14,846	1,841	—
Fruits and vegetables	bunches	126	234	108	—
	barrels	2,120	4,332	2,212	—
	dozens	2,070	2,392	322	—

Article of Export.	Values. 1890.	Values. 1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Arrowroot	31,270	31,095	—	175
Cassava starch	245	665	420	—
Cocoa	1,835	2,389	554	—
Cotton	421	902	481	—
Firewood	589	951	362	—
Rum	4,406	6,735	2,329	—
Spice	434	742	308	—
Fruits and vegetables	1,195	3,089	1,894	—

The increase in value in 1891 of the second staple product of the Colony, arrowroot, is most satisfactory, completely compensating for the reduced quantity (3,256 barrels) which was reaped.

It may here be added that the prices of arrowroot up to the date of this report in 1892 keep up bravely, thus giving hope of a comforting harvest for the year 1892.

14. *Shipping.*

The total number of sailing vessels entered during the year under review was 322. The tonnage of these vessels in the aggregate amounted to 14,410, their crews to 1,696.

The total number of sailing vessels cleared was 330 with a tonnage of 15,377 and crews 1,924.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 101 with tonnage amounting to 115,992 and crews 4,492.

Clearances of steam vessels in 1891 totalled 101 with a tonnage of 115,992 and crews 4,492.

St. Vincent.

Of the 322 sailing vessels entered the nationalities were as follows:—

British	287
American	11
Dutch	11
Venezuelan	11
Italian	1
French	1
Total	322

Of the 330 sailing vessels cleared the following were the nationalities:—

British	295
American	11
Dutch	11
Venezuelan	11
Italian	1
French	1
Total	330

The 101 steam vessels entered and cleared were all British.

From the above figures it will be seen that in the number and tonnage of sailing vessels entered in 1891, as compared with 1890, there is a decrease of 23 and 801 tons, whilst of those cleared, though a decrease in number of 18, there is an increase in tons of 84.

The following table will show the differences in the number and tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared as compared with the previous year:—

1890.		1891.		Decrease.	
Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
119	134,859	101	115,992	18	18,867

15. *Gaols and Prisoners.*

There was nothing worthy of special mention which occurred under this head. The following table presents a comparative statement of the working of the prison during the last three years:—

Year.	Number of Commitments.	Committed for Debt.	Committed for Custody for Trial or for want of Sureties.	Committed for penal Imprisonment.	No. of Prisoners previously convicted			Commitment for				Daily Average in Prison.	Admission to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	No. of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	Five Years or more.	More than One Year and less than Five Years.	More than Three Months and less than One Year.	Three Months or less.				
1889 - -	192	2	48	142	19	3	20	1	4	7	130	22·9	1	·12	1
1890 - -	170	3	48	119	4	8	10	3	8	2	106	20·0	2	3	1
1891 - - -	176	1	40	135	16	7	9	1	3	4	127	26·25	1	·38	—
Total - -	538	6	136	396	39	18	39	5	15	13	263	68·34	4	·53	2
Average -	179	2	45	132	13	6	13	1	5	4	121	22·78	1	·17	—

St. Vincent.

16. *Criminal Statistics.*

Police Reports.

There was a decrease of 72 in the number of offences reported to the police as compared with 1890, the number for the latter year being 1,552, whilst that of 1891 was 1,480.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

Of the cases brought before the Magistrates' Courts for offences, 669 were convicted, 179 were discharged, 589 acquitted, and 15 were sent on to Higher Courts. With the exception of the number of convictions, there was a decrease in all of the above as compared with 1890.

Summary Convictions.

In the number of summary convictions in the Magistrates' Courts as compared with the preceding year there was an increase of 12; the number of convictions in the Supreme Court, however, was only six as against 14 in 1890.

The following comparative table showing the number of offences, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years shows a marked decrease under several heads in 1891:—

——	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Number of offences reported to the police.	1,693	2,041	1,552	1,480
Number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person.	110	129	106	151
2. For prædial larceny - -	35	46	46	38
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	96	125	92	110
4. For other offences - -	539	840	413	370
Number of convictions in the Superior Courts:—				
1. For offences against the person.	2	2	5	2
2. For offences aginst property other than prædial larceny.	4	4	9	4
Number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the Inferior Courts -	244	249	247	179
2. In the Superior Courts -	8	2	2	4

17. *Crown Lands.*

Important changes took place in this direction. Up to the early part of the year the Crown Lands Boundary Commissioners, with their surveyor or surveyors, conducted the definition of the boundary line between the Crown lands (which occupy the whole of the interior of the island) and the adjacent estates; whilst allotments were surveyed and sold under the direction of the Administrator, assisted by the Colonial Engineer as superintendent of Crown lands. Roughly speaking, the Crown lands lying in the northern half of the island have been defined under the Commissioners, and it is from these lands that allotments have been and are being made. The Crown lands situated in the other, or southern, half of the island, with the exception of one or two localities, have yet to be marked off. Formerly allotments were sold as a rule in blocks of not less than one acre at 3*l.* per acre (including the cost of survey) payable in ten annual instalments of 6*s.* each, the option being always given to the applicant of purchasing outright, in which case the price per acre was considerably reduced.

By "The Surveyors Ordinance, 1891," the whole of this has been changed, the Crown Lands Boundary Commission having been abolished and a new Survey and Crown Lands Department created and placed under the charge of Mr. Henry Reeve, Director of Surveys of the Windward Islands.

The cost of survey and the price of Crown lands was rearranged, but the obligatory conditions as to payment of instalments, of purchase money, and planting of trees remain about the same.

A trigonometrical survey of the island has been commenced by the Director of Surveys and is proceeding, pending the further advancement of which the survey of the Crown lands boundary line has been temporarily stopped.

Under the new Regulations Crown lands (except village lots, for which there is special provision) are sold in blocks of not less than five acres.

The survey fee is required to be paid in advance at the time of application, and is 2*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* for the first acre, 8*s.* 4*d.* for the second acre, and 4*s.* 2*d.* for every additional acre. The survey fee on five acres is therefore 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

After survey and reports by the surveyor and superintendent of Crown lands the price is fixed, the minimum being 30*s.* cash or 2*l.* in five yearly instalments, per acre.

If the latter mode of payment is chosen the purchaser is required to pay his first instalment six months after date of application.

The first application under the new system was made in May, 1891, and at the close of the year the applications numbered 103 for a total of 660 acres in allotments, exclusive of a special application for a lot exceeding 300 acres.

St. Vincent.

Of these lands applied for only a few were not surveyed within the year; whilst, on the other hand, about 25 lots of one and two acres, applied for under the old system, were surveyed. Grants for these lands will be issued during the current year.

From the above it is apparent that the benefits of the scheme are not unappreciated, and it can fairly be said that, but for the depression in the sugar trade which limits the circulation of money amongst the people there would have been many more applications during the year.

The scheme with careful management promises to be successful.

18. *Hospitals.*

On the 1st January 1891 there were 39 patients in the Colonial Hospital from the previous year, 21 being males and 18 females. During the year 424 were admitted, namely, 254 men and 170 women, an increase of 12 as compared with 1890.

The daily average number in hospital during the year was 52 as against 48 in the preceding year. The patients discharged were 431, 257 being males and 174 females.

The deaths were 32, of which 18 were those of men and 14 of women.

The total number of out patients attended to at the hospital from 1st January to 31st December 1891 was 2,317.

19. *Public Health.*

The Colonial Surgeon reports as follows with regard to the health of the colony during the past year:—

"1891 compares very favourably with the previous year from a health point of view.

"In 1890, from beginning to end, the effects of the epidemic of influenza of 1889-90 were severely felt in all parts of the island, greatly increasing the death-rate, whereas in 1891 the first six months were exceptionally healthy. In June, however, there was a return of influenza in a milder form, which for a time disturbed the general healthiness, but happily it died out in July, not leaving much trouble behind it. After the heavy rains of June there were several cases of typhoid fever in and about Kingstown, specially among young persons, and some deaths occurred, but this disappeared by the end of July. There were also some cases of cerebro-spinal fever and idispathic tetanus, brought into hospital from marshy districts, which nearly all came in moribund. There was, however, but little malaria fever even in the fall of the year when it is usually looked for.

"In the very hot months there were the usual cases of choleraic diarrhœa, but the cases were mild and followed by little or no dysentery, which generally comes in its track.

"The death-rate at Colonial Hospital was only 6·9 per 100 against 9·9 in 1890. That among children of the labouring classes is still higher than it should be; but against stolid stupidity, neglect, and superstition the best efforts of the medical officer can make but slow headway.

"Leprosy does not appear to be on the increase, as the small average of 17 at the Leper Asylum shows; were it so, it would easily be ascertained, as the negro in the present state of the labour market can ill afford to maintain useless members and is only too ready to avail himself of the help of the Pauper or Leper Asylum.

"Yaws, though more or less at the same level, does not so often present itself in its more hideous form. It has, however, made its appearance in the Grenadines which have hitherto escaped this pest."

20. *General Remarks.*

The year under review has been a prosperous one on the whole, and the present advanced price on the second largest staple product of the Colony, namely, "arrowroot," leads one to hope that the satisfactory financial condition of the Colony will be maintained during the current year.

Since writing my last report the Kingstown new water-works were satisfactorily completed in October last, at an expenditure of 7,735*l.* Thus the inhabitants of Kingstown are afforded a continuous supply of excellent water. No gift more acceptable could be presented to the inhabitants of Kingstown, and I am sure it is much appreciated, knowing as they do how much their health and comfort depend on the nature of the water they drink.

It is intended during the current year to cover with a suitable roof the reservoir at Montrose, situated at an elevation of 190 feet above the sea level, and calculated to hold a little over 300,000 gallons of water.

The actual daily supply from this reservoir being about 100,000 gallons there remain some 200,000 gallons of water for any emergency that may arise.

Besides this new water supply there are two other reservoirs, one at Richmond Hill, at an elevation of about 230 feet, containing 72,000 gallons, and the other at Lower Montrose, at an elevation of 131 feet, containing some 46,000 gallons. Both these reservoirs are reserved solely for fire purposes.

The Curator's house at the Botanic Station, also referred to in my last report, was commenced and completed within the year, and the Curator has taken up his residence there.

The extension and repairs to the Kingstown jetty were also undertaken during the year at an estimated cost of 1,171*l.*, out of which sum 978*l.* has been expended. The work is near completion. The total length of the jetty is 234 feet, having a width of 31 feet, with a frontage of 76 × 49. On this portion of the jetty it is

ST. VINCENT. intended to place a crane to facilitate the landing of goods, which will be removed in trucks running on rails to the Government Bonded Warehouse proposed to be erected within the Police Barrack yard.

(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

St. Vincent,
9th March 1892.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 52.

GRENADA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 23.]

Sir W. HELY HUTCHINSON to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

St. Vincent, August 26, 1892.

FORWARDED. With regard to the telephone system, which is a great success, it is due to Mr. Drayton, the Colonial Secretary, to say that its success is mainly due to his personal exertions.

(Signed) WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c. &c.

Government Office, Grenada,
August 23, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Secretary of State the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1891, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON.
Administrator.

His Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.
St. Vincent.

I 73470. Wt. 10230.

GRENADA. 1891.

REPORT on BLUE BOOK of GRENADA for 1891.

Sources of Revenue.

An important change was effected at the close of the year in the taxation of land and houses by levying a uniform tax of 1*s.* an acre on lands in lieu of 1*s.* 6*d.* on cultivated and 6*d.* on uncultivated lands, and by increasing the house tax from 5*s.* on houses assessed at less than 10*l.* per annum to 6*s.* when assessed at 10*l.*, or under, and from 4½ per cent. when of the value of 10*l.* or more, to 6 per cent. when exceeding 10*l.*

At the same time the byeway rates, previously levied by the parochial boards for maintenance of second-class byeways, were abolished; a tax commissioner was appointed, and provision made for better collection of the tax in future. These changes, however, did not take effect until the present year.

2. An alteration was made in the water rates levied in connection with the St. Pauls and Richmond Hill water supply by fixing a rate of 5*s.* on houses within the rateable area of the annual value of £10 and under instead of 6 per cent. thereon.

3. The fee for a licence to deal in cocoa and nutmegs was increased from 1*l.* to 5*l.* per half year, and an additional liquor licence was provided under Class 4 enabling the Government to license premises within a mile of a town boundary at a reduced rate.

4. The change in the land tax and its collection was a much needed reform, for not only did the different rates on cultivated and uncultivated lands cause much evasion of the tax, but there was practically no control or check over this important section of the revenue, and as it was collected at a time of the year when money is most scarce in the community, and as the parochial byeway rate (another tax on lands and tenements) had to be paid at another time of the year, the proper amount of revenue under this head was never collected.

The period now fixed for payment of the tax, March to May, is that when the receipts for the cocoa crop are in full circulation in the colony, and it is intended to devote the entire yield of the tax (estimated at £6,100 in the current year) to the maintenance of the roads.

5. The collection of export duty was suspended during the year, and the usual additional import duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* on articles not specified in or exempted by the tariff was imposed.

Revenue.

6. The revenue of 1891 was 54,018*l.*, the highest on record. This satisfactory result is chiefly due to the improved collection of

customs and excise duties rendered possible by the rearrangement of the Treasury staff, the establishment of a Revenue cruiser, and the change in the system of distillation referred to in last year's report. The receipts from excise duty on rum amounted to 10,133*l.*, being 1,917*l.* more than in the previous year, and in 1892 they are expected to exceed 12,000*l.*; in 1887 they realised only 5,223*l.* A detailed comparative statement of the revenues of 1890 and 1891 under the several heads is subjoined.

Head of Revenue.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs - - -	25,390	24,760	630	—
2. Licenses, excise, and internal revenue not otherwise specified - - - -	24,548	16,510	8,038	—
3. Fees of office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements in aid - -	2,028	6,371	—	4,343
4. Post Office - - -	1,041	913	128	—
5. Rent of Government property -	390	410	—	20
6. Interest - - -	297	122	175	—
7. Miscellaneous receipts - -	36	130	—	94
8. Land sales - - -	288	51	237	—
Total - -	54,018	49,267	9,208	4,457
	49,267	—	4,457	—
Increase in 1891 - -	4,751	—	4,751	—

Expenditure.

7. The expenditure was also the highest on record, being 56,450*l.*, or 3,093*l.*, more than in 1890, as shown in the following comparative statement :—

Head of Expenditure.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt -	1,929	2,032	—	103
2. Pensions - - - -	739	638	101	—
3. The Governor and Legislature -	2,211	2,446	—	235
4. Colonial Secretary - - -	2,063	1,961	102	—
5. Treasury, Customs, &c. - -	6,528	3,438	3,090	—
6. Audit - - - -	444	581	—	137
7. Legal - - - -	4,595	4,427	168	—

Head of Expenditure.	1890.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
(*Continued.*)	£	£	£	£
8. Police - - - -	4,335	4,181	154	—
9. Prisons - - - -	1,191	1,115	76	—
10. Medical - - - -	6,708	6,321	387	—
11. Education - - - -	5,264	4,943	321	—
12. Ecclesiastical - - -	517	520	—	3
13. Charitable - - - -	492	415	77	—
14. Miscellaneous - - -	4,064	2,485	1,579	—
15. Post Office - - - -	2,337	2,258	79	—
16. Agricultural - - -	546	410	136	—
17. Public Works Department -	2,249	1,833	416	—
18. Public Works, Recurrent - -	8,881	9,430	—	549
19. Public Works, Extraordinary -	1,357	3,665	—	2,308
20. Port and Marine - - -	—	257	—	257
Totals - -	56,450	53,356	6,686	3,592
	53,356	—	3,592	—
Increase in 1891 - -	3,094	—	3,094	—

8. It will be seen that the chief heads under which an increase appears are Treasury, Miscellaneous, and Public Works Department. The first is due to the establishment and maintenance of a revenue cruiser, to the heavy outlay on the new distillery apparatus, a moiety of which is paid by the Government, and to the purchase of premises in St. George's for use as a warehouse. All of this is productive of revenue.

The miscellaneous expenditure includes a subsidy at the rate of 1,000*l.* per annum to a direct line of steamers between the Colony and New York, with the object of developing a fruit trade and of securing another market for local produce, the expenses of the census, and of the representation of the Colony at the Jamaica Exhibition, sundry grants from escheated properties to persons with moral claims, and a grant in aid of the sufferers from the terrible fire in Martinique. The increase under Public Works Department is caused by the importation of a foreman carpenter from England, a step already productive of the best results, and by the transfer of the salaries of the road foremen to this head from another.

Financial Position.

9. The surplus assets of the Colony at 31st December were 3,509*l.*, as shown in the following statement :—

Assets.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in Colonial chest		197 1 8
On deposit in Colonial Bank		920 3 6
Invested in South Australian 4 Per Cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value, 3,805*l.*)		4,000 0 0
Advances as follows:—		
Parochial Boards, Loan Works	9,172 12 9	
Distillery apparatus	1,078 8 1	
Primary School Books	253 3 0	
Authorised advances	730 17 11	
Public Works Loan Works	12,649 12 10	
St. Lucia account	1,654 17 1	
St. Vincent ditto	921 16 6	
Trinidad and Tobago account	28 13 4	
Loans to Parochial Boards from General Revenue	1,100 0 0	
Surplus stores, Public Works Department	1,794 2 4	
		29,375 3 10
		£34,492 9 0

Liabilities.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits, as follows:—		
Savings bank	7,599 13 2	
Immigration fund	2,004 15 11	
Sinking Fund, Public Works Loan	2,155 9 2	
Fire insurance fund	1,939 8 10	
Deposits on sight entries	40 0 2	
Post Office	621 0 3	
St. Paul's water supply	455 4 10	
Governor's office fund	20 15 6	
Petty Debt Courts' deposits	14 15 10	
Lands Acquisition deposits	5 0 0	
Supreme Court Unclaimed deposits	40 4 0	
Suspense Account	154 19 0	
Prisons' Manufacturing Account	72 13 9	
		15,124 0 5
Due to Crown Agents:—		
On current account	14,859 7 0	
Draft Maturing	1,000 0 0	
		15,859 7 0
		30,983 7 5
Surplus assets		3,509 1 7
		£34,492 9 0

GRENADA. 1891.

10. The net public debt at the same date was 42,320*l.* exclusive of a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for the St. George's Waterworks, the repayment of which in twenty years by the parochial board is guaranteed on the security of the general revenue.

In the course of the year ordinances were passed authorising the creation of Grenada Inscribed Stock, and empowering the Government to convert the existing debentures into stock and to borrow a further sum of 50,000*l.* for public works. The loan has been floated in the current year and a Stock Exchange quotation obtained as a present issue of 80,000*l.* at 102–104.

Local Boards.

11. At the end of the year the parochial boards were relieved of the care and maintenance of the second-class byeways, and their duties were restricted to the towns, except where, as in St. George's and Carriacou, water rates are collected beyond the town boundaries. The receipts and disbursements of these bodies in the year ended 30th September, 1891, and their debt at 31st December, are detailed below :—

Parish.	Revenue 1890–91.	Expenditure 1890–91.	Debt at 31st December 1891, including arrears of interest.
	£	£	£
St. George - -	2,836	2,638	7,031
St. John - -	801	637	2,657
St. Mark - -	392	455	482
St. Patrick - -	763	736	1,158
St. Andrew - -	2,632	2,783	1,433
St. David - -	264	225	—
Carriacou - -	331	671	414
Total - - £	8,019	8,145	3,175

12. During the year the Grenville Board re-constructed and added to the jetty in the harbour at a cost of 950*l.*, borrowed from the Government. The work has been well executed, and is a great benefit to the town and district.

A similar work was begun by the Victoria Board, at an estimated cost of 1,100*l.*, and at this date is almost completed. All of the towns in the island will then be provided with jetties, rendering the shipment of produce and the transport of passengers, formerly difficult and at times dangerous, comparatively easy and simple.

Public Works and Roads.

13. 20,906*l.* was expended on public works and roads during the year, 10,668*l.* being from loan funds, and 10,238*l.* from general revenue; of this latter amount 6,188*l.* was for the ordinary upkeep of roads.

14. The bridging of the rivers at Balthazard, Castigne, and Victoria, was completed, and another bridge at Belmont, on the main road between Sauteurs and Grenville was commenced; the re-construction of the main roads from St. George's to Grenville along the coast and from Grenville to Gonyave across the island was continued, and the Sauteurs-Grenville main road completed.

15. The most important road work of the year was, however, the reconstruction of the second-class byeways, the arteries which connect the highways with the inland cultivated area. 6,216*l.* was expended on them up to 31st December under the supervision of Committees composed of the principal landowners in the various parishes; the work has been thoroughly done, and its importance to the Colony cannot be too highly estimated, as it is obvious that however good the main roads may be, their value is but little if the produce cannot be brought down to them from the interior of the island. The inception of this important work is due to the present Governor, who has also taken the most lively interest in its progress; it is, indeed, the fact that every detail has received his personal attention, and that every byeway in the island has been visited by him, most of them repeatedly, during the progress of the work.

16. The success of the byeway committees has brought about a most important change in the system of road maintenance. By an Ordinance which came into full force on the 31st December, all roads are handed over to the care of boards, one for each parish, composed of the principal landowners or their attorneys, holding office during pleasure and directly responsible to the Government. The roads in each parish are divided up by the boards among the several members, who employ the necessary labourers at rates of wages settled by the board, and personally supervise the work. The pay-sheets are certified by these delegates and sent to the Treasury, where, when checked, they are paid by a Treasury officer in the district to which they relate. The accounts of the roads are kept in the Treasury, and the expenditure is thus completely under control.

The system is working admirably.

17. Next to the road work of the year in importance was the establishment of a complete system of telephone exchanges in the island, begun in July. On account of the distances which divide the various centres, and the difficulty of getting about, communication by telephone is peculiarly acceptable in Grenada, and the success which has so far attended the scheme has been considerable.

GRENADA. 1891.

At the date of writing this report there are three exchanges at work, with 102 connections; two more are in course of erection, and it is safe to estimate that about 150 telephones will eventually be connected. The receipts for rent of instruments are expected to cover cost of maintenance, interest and sinking fund on the loan for cost of construction, and to provide a reserve fund as well.

18. On the repair and general improvement of public buildings 1583*l.* was spent, the lighthouse at Fort George was completed, and the drainage and walks of the Botanic Garden put in thorough order. A commencement was made of the work on the lunatic asylum, which it is proposed to completely remodel; so as to make it capable of fully accommodating the lunatics of the three colonies of the Windward Islands and giving them proper treatment. The alterations and additions to a building in Gonyave, which was purchased with the object of converting it into public buildings for that town, were begun, and are now approaching completion.

Legislation.

19. Twenty-two Ordinances became law during the year; the most important of these have been already referred to, and it is only necessary to notice the following:—

No. 2. The Land Surveyor's Ordinance, 1890.
No. 4. The Birds and Fish Protection Ordinance, 1891.
No. 6. The Purchase of Cocoa and Nutmegs Amendment Ordinance, 1891.
No. 11. The Inflammable Goods Ordinance, 1891.
No. 12. The St. George's Harbour Ordinance, 1891.

No. 2 regulates the licensing and control of land surveyors; No. 4 provides close seasons for oysters and turtle and certain valuable birds, and makes it an offence to catch turtle or their eggs on the land; No. 6 enacts very stringent provisions against theft of cocoa and nutmegs, the staple products of the Colony, and empowers the Courts to flog male offenders; No. 11 prohibits the importation of volatile petroleum, and establishes a system of tests for that end; No. 12 abolishes the office of Harbour Master and places the harbour under the control of the Treasury Department, the harbour duties being discharged by one of the Revenue staff with the title of Port Officer.

Councils.

20. Mr. C. Messervy, Director of Public Works in the Windward Islands, was appointed to an official seat in the Legislative Council in January. Temporary vacancies in the official section

andronicus publi

were filled by Messrs. J. F. L. Payne, Police Magistrate of the Southern District, and C. F. Anton, Registrar of the Supreme Court; and on the unofficial side by Messrs. John R. Bertrand, Captain M. Short, and W. Copland.

Establishments.

21. During the Governor's periodical visits to the other Colonies of his government the administration devolved on Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles, the Attorney-General, by virtue of a commission issued to him by the Governor; Mr. E. Drayton acted as Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Low as Treasurer for the whole year, during the continued absence of Mr. L. R. Fyfe, the Colonial Secretary, on account of ill-health. Mr. H. Reeve, Director of Surveys in the Windward Islands, acted as Director of Public Works, in the absence of Mr. Messervy on leave.

The offices of road surveyors were abolished in the course of the year, the surveyor of the Northern district being given an abolition allowance, and the surveyor of the Southern district being appointed to be a revenue officer.

Pensions.

22. The pension list of the Colony was increased by the following grants:—

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Worall, late revenue officer -	7	4	9
Walter Gibbs, late Treasury messenger -	9	12	0
R. J. Graves, late road surveyor -	30	0	0
R. Toussaint, late matron, poor asylum	5	6	8
	£52	3	5

Pensioners in receipt of 14*l.* a year died, and the total amount payable by the Colony at 31st December was 778*l.*

Vital Statistics.

23. The population, according to the census of 5th April 1891, was 53,209, being an increase of 10,806, or 25·48 per cent. on the number returned at the census of 1881.

The mean annual birth-rate in the decennial period was 43·73 per thousand, and the death-rate 24, which will bear very favourable comparison with any other West Indian Colony.

24. The estimated population at 31st December 1891, was 54,062, and the birth and death rates for the year, 45·94, and 21·91 per thousand respectively.

hing company, inc.

GRENADA. 1891.

Education.

25. A comparative abstract of the primary education returns for the years 1891 and 1890 is appended.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars. On Roll. Boys.	Girls.	Total on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Income. School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	Expenditure.
						£	£		£
Government -	9	832	573	1,405	755	136	1,233	—	1,369
Assisted :—									
Anglican - -	7	743	540	1,283	707	162	893	—	1,055
Roman Catholic	10	1,214	1,162	2,376	1,153	169	1,207	—	1,376
Wesleyan -	5	473	430	903	513	88	677	—	765
Presbyterian -	1	106	82	188	118	13	122	—	136
Totals for 1891 -	32	3,368	2,787	6,155	3,246	568	4,132	—	4,701
" " 1890 -	31	3,227	2,582	5,809	3,063	691	3,545	—	4,236
Increase in 1891 -	1	141	205	346	183	Decrease.	587	—	465

The Roman Catholic School at Grand Ance was placed on the list of assisted schools during the year.

26. The St. George's Grammar School continued on a satisfactory footing.

The annual examination resulted in 31 boys obtaining more than half marks, and the examiner reports that "the work of the school has been done well and conscientiously. The late head master" (Mr. C. H. Johnson) "deserves much credit for what has been accomplished."

There were 43 boys on the roll, and the income of the school, including the Government grant of 400*l.*, was 535*l.*

Imports and Exports.

27. The amount and direction of the trade of the Colony in the last five years is shown below :—

Year.	Imports. United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	Exports. United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 -	73,306	47,787	22,093	143,186	185,216	10,612	22,121	217,949
1888 -	82,597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
1889 -	87,762	45,733	40,586	174,081	172,912	7,515	15,168	195,595
1890 -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
1891 -	97,895	31,512	47,523	176,930	218,600	8,672	9,371	236,643
Totals -	434,818	214,838	177,852	827,508	1,020,633	14,863	80,256	1,145,752
Average -	86,964	42,968	35,570	165,502	204,127	8,973	16,051	229,150

A comparative statement of the value of the principal exports in the same period is appended :—

Year.	Cocoa.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fruit.	Fire-wood.	Hides.	Live Stock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - -	185,412	8,048	1,368	110	1,170	437	2,742
1888 - -	199,902	7,632	1,413	167	1,098	547	3,230
1889 - -	166,178	6,714	1,182	151	842	641	3,312
1890 - -	228,889	7,973	1,503	426	1,231	302	3,116
1891 - -	200,267	8,194	1,783	600	1,096	434	2,696
Totals -	980,648	38,561	7,249	1,454	5,437	2,361	15,096
Average -	196,130	7,712	1,450	291	1,087	472	3,019

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Manure.	Peas.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.	Log-wood.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - -	301	3,063	484	9,709	1,920	280	301
1888 - -	766	1,487	580	9,429	697	200	147
1889 - -	938	431	451	10,220	2,225	280	273
1890 - -	614	850	597	15,955	642	300	1,460
1891 - -	171	998	560	12,598	1,905	714	708
Totals -	2,790	6,829	2,672	57,911	7,389	1,774	2,889
Average -	558	1,366	534	11,582	1,478	355	578

28. It will be seen that the trade with British Colonies continues to decrease and that the bulk of the imports now come direct from the United Kingdom and foreign countries.

GRENADA. 1891.

Of the 47,523*l.*, value of imports from foreign places, 46,517*l.* came from the United States of America; in 1881 the corresponding figures were 11,665*l.*; and of the 9,371*l.* exported to foreign countries, 4,437*l.* went to the United States; in 1881 there was nothing sent there.

Shipping.

29. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year is shown below:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	172	249,735	168	246,870
Sailing Vessels - -	340	9,055	332	9,436
Totals - -	512	258,790	500	256,306

Prisons.

30. The subjoined table compares the chief prison statistics for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Persons committed.				No. of persons committed who have been previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions into Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.
	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	Totals.				
1887 -	3	54	205	262	63	62·73	21	1·62
1888 -	3	47	153	203	56	55·75	15	2·98
1889 -	3	53	244	300	89	64·22	18	3·51
1890 -	2	44	196	242	74	59·86	25	2·56
1891 -	6	47	189	242	75	73·13	19	3·02

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Deaths, excluding Executions.	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Percentage of Committals of Persons previously convicted.	Cost of a Prisoner.		
					Annual.	Daily.	For Diet, per Day.
		£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
1887 -	—	1,224	1,318	30·73	19 10 1	0 1 1	3
1888 -	1	1,328	1,256	36·60	23 14 3	0 1 3½	3¼
1889 -	2	1,231	1,303	36·48	19 4 8	0 1 0¾	2¼
1890 -	1	1,160	1,304	38·27	19 6 7	0 1 1	2¼
1891 -	—	1,281	1,593	39·68	17 11 0	0 0 11¼	[illegible]

The annual cost of a prisoner to the Colony has decreased from 25*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* in 1884 to 17*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.*, in 1891, and it will be noticed that the prisons are in reality self-supporting, as the value of their work exceeds their annual cost. For these satisfactory results much credit is due to the energetic and painstaking superintendent, Mr. J. M. Lash.

Criminal Statistics.

31. An abstract of the criminal statistics for the last four years, exhibiting the difference in 1891 from the averages of that period, is appended. The Attorney-General remarks in his annual report—"In view of the fact that the last census shows a very considerable increase of the population of Grenada, the present criminal statistical returns speak as favourably for the law-abiding character of the population as any which have hitherto been compiled."

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	Average.	Difference in 1891 from Average.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
Offences reported to the police - -	594	649	666	1,041	737	304	—
Apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - - -	1,279	1,356	1,112	1,168	1,229	—	61
Summary convictions:—							
Offences against the person - - -	245	379	311	294	306	—	12
Prædial larceny - - - -	18	31	26	27	26	1	—
Other offences against property - -	150	209	182	167	177	—	10
Other offences - - - - -	468	342	317	614	435	179	—
Total summary convictions - -	877	961	836	1,102	944	158	—

(*Continued.*)

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	Average.	Difference in 1891 from Average.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
Convictions in the superior courts:—							
Offences against the person	7	11	3	7	7	—	—
Prædial larceny	—	4	1	4	2	2	—
Other offences against property	13	12	13	17	14	3	—
Other offences	1	1	9	4	4	—	—
Total convictions in the superior courts	21	28	26	32	27	5	—
Persons acquitted:—							
In inferior courts	356	337	437	397	382	15	—
In superior courts	16	38	9	12	19	—	7
Total acquittals	372	375	446	409	401	8	—

Hospitals and Asylums.

32. The principal statistics under this head for 1890 and 1891 are given below:—

Institution.	No. of Admissions.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.			Number Deaths.
			Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	
Colony Hospital	617	75·66	471	100	—	44
Yaws Hospital	178	37·66	137	—	—	1
St. Andrew's Hospital	89	7	52	23	2	6
Carriacou Hospital	111	9	90	6	6	3
Total hospitals	995	129·32	750	129	8	54
Lunatic Asylum	30	78·	10	2	—	11
Poor Asylum	21	48·	—	—	—	14
Totals	1,046	255·32	760	131	8	79
Totals for 1890	879	235·37	656	147	17	74

33. The St. John's District Hospital was closed early in the year, as it was found that the patients from that part of the colony could more efficiently and economically be treated in the Colony Hospital in St. George's, with which there is daily communication by steamer.

34. The Administration of the Colony Hospital was much improved under the care of Dr. W. Boyd, the house surgeon.

Savings Bank.

35. The Savings Bank continues to progress, as will be seen from the subjoined return of its transactions for the five years 1887–91:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1887 - -	343	3,757	2,447	5,041
1888 - -	277	4,804	4,319	5,632
1889 - -	583	4,709	4,308	6,295
1890 - -	723	5,441	4,882	6,853
1891 - -	637	6,112	5,356	7,610

That the people in the out districts take advantage of the branch banks, is shown by the fact that there were 175 depositors in them at the end of the year, with 1,086*l.* to their credit; the corresponding figures for 1890 were 136 and 814*l.*

General Remarks.

36. In conclusion, attention may justly be drawn to the continued progress and prosperity of the Colony, the outward signs of which are to be seen in the remarkable increase of the population in the last decade, the expansion of trade, and the increase of the revenue. Every effort is being made by the Government to direct and stimulate the advance of the colony, and the future is full of promise.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

Grenada,
19th August, 1892.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 53.

ST. LUCIA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 10.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD

St. Vincent, August 20th, 1892.

Forwarded.

(Signed) WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR, Government House, August 12th, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book for the year 1891.

2. I regret that owing to the late period at which I received some of the returns, I was unable to forward my report at an earlier date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1891.

TAXES, DUTIES, AND FEES.

Excise Duty on Spirits.

Throughout the year the strength of Spirits had been tested by the use of the bubble, but on the 31st of December an Ordinance

became law substituting Sykes's hydrometer for the bubble. By the use of this instrument the exact strength of the spirit may be ascertained, and accurate calculations made for revenue and other purposes.

Dues falling on the Shipping.

These remain unchanged, except that a fee of 4*s*. for the use of the harbour master's boat in running lines has been authorised. This adds nothing to the charges paid by the shipping, as the fee was previously paid to the boat's crew.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year 1891 amounted to 49,326*l*. and 53,906*l*. respectively, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to 4,580*l*.

The estimated revenue and expenditure were, respectively, 48,624*l*. and 48,155*l*. The actual revenue exceeded the estimated revenue by 702*l*., and the actual expenditure the estimated expenditure by 5,751*l*.

The revenue for 1890 was returned at 50,232*l*. and the expenditure at 45,430*l*. The revenue for 1891 was, therefore, 906*l*. less, and the expenditure 8,476*l*. more, than the respective figures for 1890.

The following table shows the principal heads of revenue under which there was a falling off, and of expenditure under which there was an increase, in 1891 as compared with the preceding year, and also the principal items of decrease in the one case and of increase in the other.

Revenue.

Heads of Receipts.	Decrease in 1891 compared with 1890.
	£
Customs - - - - - - -	243
Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Light Dues - - -	316
Fees of Court and of office - - - - -	231
Land Sales (the proceeds of land sales were transferred in 1891 from General Revenue to a special account) - -	547

Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure.	Increase in 1891 as compared with 1890.
	£
Treasury and Customs	568
Audit Department	738
Medical	597
Immigration	931
Education	637
Miscellaneous	894
Post Office	432
Colonial Engineer's Department	721
Materials and Stores	2,125
Census	415
Special Votes	435

The revenue and expenditure for 1891 compare as follows with the average revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years 1886–90 :—

—	1891.	Average for five years 1886–90.	Increase over average for preceding five years.
	£	£	£
Revenue	49,326	43,956	5,370
Expenditure	53,906	44,481	9,425

The decrease in the revenue for 1891, compared with the previous year, is attributable to several causes. The decrease in Customs receipts was mainly due to a reduction in the number of wage-earning people employed on military and public works, and a consequent diminution in the spending power of a considerable number of the working-class consumers; and to the amount of the Customs receipts carried to the credit of revenue being reduced by two-fifths of the duty received on tobacco having been assigned to the Immigration Fund.

The decrease in Port and Harbour Dues was chiefly caused by the discontinuance of certain dues charged on steamers entering

the port of Castries; and the falling off in the receipts from fees of office, was owing principally to fewer vessels having been piloted than in the previous year.

The decrease as regards land sales arose from the transfer from general revenue of the proceeds of land sales to a special account.

The increase of 8,476*l.* in the expenditure for 1891 as compared with 1890 was, in the main, due to the following circumstances:—The adoption of the system of increase to salaries of certain officers by annual increments; the payment of the audit expenses of 1890 in 1891; the resumption of coolie immigration, which caused increased expenditure under the head "Medical"; the charging against general revenue of salaries and certain other expenses incurred in connection with immigration which had previously been charged to the Immigration Fund; an increased vote for educational purposes; a larger allowance to the military in lieu of exemption from customs duty; an increased contribution to the Imperial postal subsidy; the rearrangement of the offices of Director of Public Works and Director of Surveys; the formation of a Public Works Store Department and the purchase of stores and materials; the cost of the census; and, under the head of Special Votes, the cost of plans, reports, &c., in connection with the proposed new water works for Castries, and the grant made to Martinique in aid of the sufferers from the hurricane.

Assets and Liabilities.

The subjoined statement exhibits the assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December 1891.

Assets.	£	Liabilities.	£
Cash	363	Savings Bank Deposit Account	9,961
Colonial Bank Current Account	2,767	Castries Town and Towns and Villages Funds	2,790
,, Deposit Account	7,500	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,737
Investments on account of Savings Bank	5,000	Imperial Post Office Fund and Colonial Money Order Account	477
Investments on account of Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,504	Grenada Account	1,296
Miscellaneous Advances	9,674	Public Works Loan Works Account	5,608
Crown Agent's Current Account	672	Land Sales Fund	352
London and Westminster Bank	114	Suspense Account	3
	£27,596	Prisons Manufacturing Account	140
		Sinking Funds	114
Surplus Stores Account	2,125	Surplus Assets	7,246
	£29,721		£29,721

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at the end of the year under review amounted to 148,770*l.*, and was made up as shown in the annexed table.

Debts.	Amount due at end of year 1891.	Amount of original debt.	Source from which interest and sinking fund are paid.
	£	£	
Central Sugar Factory Loans -	31,600	40,000	General Revenue.
Immigration Loans - -	21,800	23,000	Immigration Fund.
Harbour of Castries Improvement Loans - - -	84,000	84,000	General Revenue.
Public Works Loans - -	11,370	11,370	Do.
	£148,770	£158,370	

The sum of 1,000*l.*, was paid off during the year by the redemption of drawn debentures. The public debt at the end of the year was equal to about three years' revenue, and represented an indebtedness equal to 3*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank during 1891 amounted to 8,268*l.*; the number of depositors at the end of the year was 909, thus giving an average of a little over 9*l.* per depositor. The withdrawals amounted to 8,264*l.* The deposits and withdrawals almost balanced each other. The total amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year was 9,961*l.*

In 1890 the deposits amounted to 7,630*l.*, the withdrawals to 6,521*l.*, and the depositors numbered 681. The amount to the credit of depositors on the 31st December 1890 was 9,492*l.*

Municipalities and other Public Bodies.

The town of Castries is governed by an elective Town Board consisting of eight members. All the other towns and villages are under the supervision and management of Town Wardens, acting under the control of the Governor in Council.

The revenue of the towns and villages for 1891 amounted to 3,665*l.*, and the expenditure to 3,777*l.* The revenue is derived

principally from House Tax, the rate being levied upon the assessed annual rental, or value for rental, of the property. The rate varies from 5 per cent. in some of the villages to 8 per cent. in others and in the towns.

Military.

The only expenditure of the Colony in respect of the troops was 867*l.*, paid as an allowance in lieu of duty-free goods. The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 35,059*l.*

Public Works.

The works executed by the Public Works Department during the year consisted partly of works of construction and partly of works of maintenance and repair. Under the former head may be enumerated the following as the principal works of construction carried out during the year:—The completion of the new police barracks at Dennery and of that at Soufrière; the addition of a verandah to the medical officer's quarters at Dennery Hospital; the building of a new kitchen at the Poor Asylum; the erection of a harbour-master's boathouse at Castries, and of a boat jetty at Rat Island (for Yaws Hospital); the completion of the infirmary at the Royal Gaol, and of the main building of the Baron Asylum; the laying of a new and larger main from the Castries Waterworks reservoir to the town; and the erection of one of the two leading lights for marking the line of entrance of the Castries Harbour.

Under the head of repairs the following were the principal items of work done:—General repairs to Governor's office, Post Office, and Treasury; general repairs to Dennery Hospital, Soufrière Lunatic Asylum, Gros Islet Police Barracks, and to Royal Gaol; repair of damage done at Eastern end of North wharf by storm on the 18th August (the day of the hurricane at Martinique, and the reopening, repairing, and renewal of drains on the Eastern reclamation and at the Carenage.

As regards roads and bridges the work executed was mainly that of maintenance and repair; the only new work of importance undertaken being the opening of a new trace from the fourth mile mark on the Dennery road, by means of which the very steep gradients of the Piton Flore are avoided; and the erection of a new iron bridge over the Grognet Ravine to replace the old wooden second bridge, Morne Road.

The total sum spent on public works for the year was 10,172*l.*, of which expenditure 8,136*l.*, was paid out of General Revenue and the balance of 2,036*l.*, out of loans.

Legislation.

Seventeen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year.

Their titles are as follows:—

(1.) An Ordinance to authorise the raising of a Loan, not exceeding in the whole the sum of 28,000*l.*, for the purposes of Indian Immigration, and to provide for the repayment of the said Loan.

(2.) An Ordinance to amend the Surveyors and Boundaries Settlement Ordinance, 1886.

(3.) An Ordinance for taking the census of the Island of St. Lucia.

(4.) An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Immigration.

(5.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Ordinance, 1888.

(6.) An Ordinance to protect Children under the age of twelve years from being made to perform Excessive Manual Labour.

(7.) An Ordinance to provide for the payment of certain sums of money for the Public Service of the year 1890.

(8.) An Ordinance to impose Dues on Ships entering the Harbour of Castries.

(9.) An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886.

(10.) An Ordinance to provide for the appointment of an Administrator-General, and for vesting in him certain powers and duties hitherto attaching to the office of Colonial Trustee.

(11.) An Ordinance to amend the Quarantine Ordinance, 1871.

(12.) An Ordinance to amend the Immigration Loan Ordinance, 1891.

(13.) An Ordinance to regulate the carriage of passengers between St. Lucia and certain other places adjacent thereto.

(14.) An Ordinance to authorise and confirm certain expenditure incurred for the Public Service during the year 1889.

(15.) An Ordinance to provide for the Service of the Colony of St. Lucia for the year 1892.

(16.) An Ordinance to amend the Tax Ordinance, 1875.

(17.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881.

The most important measure passed during the year was the Immigration Ordinance 1891. This enactment deals in a comprehensive manner with all matters connected with immigration. It, *inter alia*, defines the duties and powers of the Protector

St. Lucia. 1891.

of Immigrants; fixes the conditions and terms upon which immigrants are to be indentured to employers, and the rates of wages to be paid both for time and task work; and provides for the protection, medical care, and general well-being of the immigrants while in the Colony.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. C. C. Knollys administered the Government up to the 26th of May, on which day I arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government in succession to Mr. R. B. Llewelyn.

The Colonial Engineer and Surveyor's Department was reconstructed and the duties divided between two new offices. The execution of public works was committed to the Director of Public Works for the Windward Islands, and a foreman of works, resident in St. Lucia, was appointed for three years. The office of Director of Surveys for the Windward Islands was created, and the duties performed previously by the Colonial Surveyor were transferred to that officer, who was placed at the head of a Crown Lands and Survey Department. Mr. Messervy, Director of Public Works at Grenada, became the head of the Public Works Department, and Mr. Reeve, late Colonial Engineer and Surveyor at St. Lucia, was appointed Director of Surveys for the Windward Islands.

Mr. H. Gamble, harbourmaster and pilot, was dismissed from the service, and Mr. G. C. Bruce, harbourmaster and second Customs officer at St. Helena, was appointed in his stead.

Mr. Low, magistrate of the first district, who was transferred to Grenada in the previous year to act as treasurer of that Colony, continued absent throughout the year. The arrangement which had been made in consequence of his transfer remained the same, namely, the magistrate of the third district, Mr. J. W. Elliot, acted as magistrate of the first district, and Mr. T. H. Dix, magistrate of the second district, discharged Mr. Elliot's duties in conjunction with his own.

Pensions.

There was no change in the pension list during the year.

Population.

The birth-rate for the year under review was above, and the death-rate below, the average for previous years; and the gain to the population resulting from the excess of births over deaths was 734.

Census.

The census taken on the 5th April 1891 shows that the population of St. Lucia on that day was 42,220. The population in

1881 was 38,551. There was, therefore, an increase of 3,380 in the intervening 10 years, or an average annual increase of 338. Small as this increase is, it has not been a natural one, but has been contributed to by the addition of the troops, and by increased East Indian coolie and other immigration, which sources have supplied 1,806 out of the 3,380 shown as the gain in the decade; leaving 1,574, or 157 per annum, as the apparent natural increase in the population for the last 10 years. Against the poverty of this increment, however, there must be set an uncertain allowance which is to be taken into account in respect of the emigration which took place to Colon during the construction of the Panama Canal. Unfortunately no record was kept of the numbers who were lured away by the prospect of quickly acquired wealth, nor has any note been taken of those who have returned. Some slight and slow repatriation has been going on, but it is to be feared that of those who sailed away dreaming of easy work, rapidly acquired wealth, and a happy return to their native land, a large portion met, instead, with hardship, sickness, and disappointment, and finally fell victims to their unhealthy surroundings and to the climate.

Of the total increase since 1881, namely, 3,380, the town of Castries contributes 2,133, or 63 per cent.; and, adding in the towns of Dennery and Vieux Fort, the proportion is raised to 2,723, or nearly 81 per cent. contributed by these three towns to the total of the number gained during the decade, leaving the trifling increment of 650, or an average of 65 yearly, as that furnished by the rural districts. This cannot, I think, be regarded as a healthy and satisfactory state of things. It is, however, only an accentuated instance of the unhealthy tendency which obtains generally in other lands of crowding into towns at the cost of the country in the way of diminished agricultural production, and at the loss to the individual of desirable physical and moral qualities.

The following table exhibits in a general way the movements of the population for the decennial period, 1881–91:—

Year.	Number of Population.			Births per cent.	Deaths per cent.	Density of population per square mile.	Married.	Unmarried.	Widowed.
	Males.	Females.	Total.						
April 1881	18,973	19,578	38,551	4·30	2·55	165	6,935	30,469	1,147
April 1891	20,461	21,759	42,220	3·60	2·41	181	7,956	32,599	1,665

The relative proportion of the sexes is shown as 100 males to every 106·34 females. The census report gives the following as the numbers and centesimal proportions of the four racial

categories into which, for census purposes, the population has been divided.

—	Number.	Per-centage.
Black - - - -	28,766	68·13
Mixed - - - -	9,978	23·63
White - - - -	950	2·25
Asiatic - - - -	2,526	5·99
Total - -	42,220	100·00

The centesimal proportions of the married, unmarried and widowed appear as,—married 18·84, unmarried 77·22, widowed 3·94.

The proportion of the different religious denominations, expressed centesimally, is shown in the census report as follows:—

Roman Catholic - - - -	85·79
Protestant - - - - -	9·23
Mohammedan - - - - -	·47
Hindû - - - - -	4·38
Undetermined remainder - - -	·13

The 2,523 East Indian coolies in the Colony comprise 1,849 Hindûs, 199 Mohammedans, and 475 Christians.

Immigration.

The total number of East Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony during 1891 was 554. They were brought from Calcutta in the s.s. Roumania, and arrived at St. Lucia on the 31st of March. This batch of immigrants came by way of the Red Sea, Suez Canal, and Mediterranean, the Roumania being the first ship that brought immigrants for the West Indies by that route.

Three births and five deaths occurred during that voyage, and a birth and a death took place in the harbour of Castries before the immigrants had left the ship.

The 554 immigrants landed were classified in accordance with the Ordinance as follows:—309 male and 126 female adults, 7 minors, and 105 infants. According to the Immigration Ordinance an adult means an immigrant at or above the age of 15 years; a minor, an immigrant under the age of 15 years, and above the age of ten years; and an infant, an immigrant under the age of ten years.

The Protector of Immigrants reports that in some respects the immigrants were landed in a satisfactory condition, but that an unusually large number of them was sent direct from the ship to hospital, and that many of the smaller children were extremely emaciated.

The vital statistics of the immigrants brought by the Roumania, for the nine months April to December, appear as follows:—

	Adults.		Minors.		Infants.	Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Number landed from S.S. Roumania.	309	126	7	7	105	554
Births - - - -	—	—	—	—	12	12
					117	566
Deaths - - -	1	2	—	—	19	22
Remain -	308	124	7	7	98	544

The decrease of ten souls, shown above, was attributable to the excessive infant mortality, the deaths amongst infants corresponding to an annual death-rate of 216·5 per 1,000. On the other hand, the mortality amongst the adults and minors was slight, corresponding to an annual death-rate of 8·9 per 1,000. The Protector of Immigrants, in his report, states that the large number of children landed from the Roumania in a miserable and emaciated condition, furnishes the explanation as to the large number of deaths which occurred.

Although the immigrants who were brought to the Colony in 1881, had fulfilled their ten years' engagement, under which they were entitled to a free passage back to India in 1891, none of them returned during the year in consequence of a failure on the part of the Government to obtain the means of transport, no accommodation being available in any of the ships conveying coolies back to India from any of the other West India Colonies.

At the date of taking the Census (5th April) there were 2,523 East Indian immigrants in the Colony.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that the East Indian immigrants are large depositors in the Savings Bank; that many of them have acquired property in the form of stock, such as horses, cattle, sheep, &c.; and that some of the leading men have begun to purchase Crown lands in the neighbourhood of Castries. Another gratifying feature which is worthy of note, is the existence in the Colony of five schools (four of which were on the list of Government aided schools in 1891), organised and partly

maintained by the Canadian Mission, and specially devoted to the training and teaching of Indian children.

A comprehensive Immigration Ordinance was passed in the early part of the year repealing the Immigration Ordinance 1880, defining the conditions under which immigrants are to be introduced into the Colony and indentured to employers, making provision for the protection, medical supervision and treatment, and general well-being of the immigrants while in the Colony and finally for their repatriation at the end of their period of contract.

Education.

With the exception of two schools, the St. Mary's College and the St. Joseph's Convent, both in Castries, all those in St. Lucia are primary schools. Of these 24 are assisted and 4 are Government schools, the former consisting of 16 Roman Catholic, 1 Anglican, 1 Wesleyan school, 4 schools for East Indian children, and 2 undenominational schools. Four schools, 3 Roman Catholic and one Government, have infant schools attached to them. The Government schools are undenominational, but in certain specified hours religious instruction can be given to the scholars by their spiritual pastors.

Although education is in a backward state in St. Lucia, it is gratifying to learn that improvement is taking place, and to know that the improvement will become accelerated as the children become more familiar with the language in which they are taught, and in proportion to the improvement in the methods of instruction.

The schools which for many years past had been maintained in the Colony by the Lady Mico Charity Trust were withdrawn in the early part of the year, and of the seven schools so maintained five were taken over by the Government, the school premises having been purchased by the Colony for a sum of 1,203*l.* Two of these schools were subsequently disposed of to the Roman Catholic authorities, and the remaining three continue as Government schools.

From the subjoined table, in which I have shown certain percentages and given other particulars, some idea may be obtained of the state of primary education in the Colony :—

Number of primary schools in the Colony -	28
Total population of St. Lucia - -	42,220
Number of population between the age of 5 and 15 years (which may be taken as the school age) - - - -	11,405
Total number on school rolls - - -	3,149
Average attendance - - -	1,698
Number presented for examination - -	1,160
Number passed in two subjects - - -	948
Centesimal proportion of "school-age" children (5 to 15 years) to total population - -	27

Percentage on rolls of number of "school-age" children - - - -	27·6
Centesimal proportion of attendance to number of "school-age" children - - -	14·8
Percentage of attendance of number on rolls -	53·9
Percentage of attendance presented for examination - - - -	68·3
Percentage of attendance passed in two subjects	55·8
Percentage of those presented which passed in two subjects - - -	81·7
Centesimal proportion of numbers passed in two subjects to number of "school-age" children	8·3

As a rule, the children hear English spoken only while they are in school, the language of their homes being patois, and of their churches and spiritual pastors French. It can, therefore, be easily imagined how serious are the difficulties with which educational efforts have to contend in this Colony.

The amount contributed by the Government during the year in aid of primary education was 2,075*l.*, which corresponds to a sum of 13*s.* 2*d.* per head per annum of the number of scholars on the rolls. In aid of secondary education, a sum of 200*l.*, was contributed to the funds of St. Mary's College, Castries.

Vital Statistics.

There were 1,929 births registered during the year, 158 of the number being still-births; 735 of the births were legitimate and 1,194 illegitimate, the former representing 38·10 per cent. and the latter 61·90 per cent. of the total births for the year. The birth-rate (still-births included) was 4·05 per cent. of the population. The still-births were 8·19, and the live births 91·81 per cent. of the total births.

The foregoing figures compare as in the following table with those for the year 1890:—

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total Births.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Percentage of legitimate Births.	Percentage of illegitimate.	Birth rate per cent. of population.
1890 - -	1,574	130	1,704	594	1,110	34·86	65·14	3·65
1891 - -	1,771	155	1,929	735	1,194	38·10	61·90	4.05

St. Lucia. 1891.

From this table it will be seen that, comparing the two years 1890 and 1891, the percentage of legitimate births increased from 34·86 to 38·10, and the percentage of illegitimate births consequently decreased from 65·14 to 61·90. Although the proportion of illegitimate to legitimate births is still lamentably high, yet it is satisfactory to be able to record an appreciable decrease in it, and to recognise this decrease as a hopeful evidence of an improving social and moral condition of the people.

The deaths during the year, including still-births, numbered 1,195, or, exclusive of still-births, 1,037. The death-rate (exclusive of still-births) was 2·45 per cent. of the population as against 2·35 in 1890. Of the total mortality 36 per cent. was represented by the deaths of children under one year of age. This excessive infant mortality is attributable to several causes, some of which are preventible, the chief of these latter being, in the opinion of the Registrar-General, intentional neglect before or after birth, incompetence of self-styled midwives, and protracted daily absence of mothers of the labouring and domestic class. As a primary cause, however, I think there can be little doubt that illegitimacy is the main source of the evil, and that, so long as it exists to such a deplorably large extent, infant mortality will continue excessive to an approximately corresponding degree.

It is worthy of note that there were only three deaths from snake bites during the year. The mortality from this cause for the previous 22 years gives an average of 10 deaths per annum.

The birth-rate during 1891 was above, and the death-rate below, the average of previous years; and the gain to the population arising out of the excess of births over deaths—the natural increase—was 734.

The number of marriages celebrated during the year was 396. It is satisfactory to observe that the resort to the marriage ceremony is on the increase, the marriages during 1891 exceeding those of 1890 by 112, and those of 1889 by 128.

Imports.

The total value of the imports for the year was 222,178*l.*, against 206,693*l.* in 1890, showing an increase of 15,485*l.* for the year under review. Of the total imports, 138,019*l.* worth came from the United Kingdom, 24,867*l.* from British Colonies, and 59,292 from foreign countries, the United States of America contributing 39,436*l.* of the last-named amount.

The following statement enumerates the articles of imports, which show an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value in 1891, as compared with the preceding year:—

Articles.	Increase.	Articles, &c.	Decrease.
	£		£
Ale and porter - -	774	Animals, living :	
		Oxen - - - -	2,112
Animals, living :		Cottons, linens, and woollens -	4,969
Cattle - - -	2,301	Fish, salted and dried -	802
Butter - - - -	246	Jewellery - - -	260
Coals - - - -	1,343	Machinery and other agricultural implements - -	3,433
Confectionery - - -	241	Nails - - - -	217
Flour - - - -	2,900	Salt - - - -	367
Oats and bran - - -	488	Specie - - - -	1,400
Fruits and vegetables - -	294	Wines - - - -	389
Haberdashery - - -	3,163	Wood, white pine - -	420
Iron, galvanised - -	730		
Manure - - - -	1,998		
Oil—lard, olive, &c. - -	219		
Paints and varnish - -	228		
Preserves - - -	574		
Rice - - - -	1,991		
Railway materials - -	1,062		
Silks and satins - -	352		
Shingles - - - -	244		
Soap - - - -	605		
Gin - - - -	200		
Twine - - - -	231		
Wood—pitch pine - -	1,054		

Exports.

The value of the exports during 1891 was 181,503 against 197,452 in 1890, showing a decrease in 1891 amounting to 15,949*l.*

In the following statement is shown the articles of export, in which an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value occurred in 1891 as compared with 1890, and the amount of such increase or decrease.

Articles.	Amount of increase in 1891 compared with 1890.	Articles.	Amount of increase in 1891 compared with 1890.
	£		£
Cocoa - - -	1,794	Sugar :	
Farine manioc - -	1,445	Muscovado - -	2,214
Mangoes - - -	1,230	Usine - - -	2,241
		Molasses - -	3,262
		Vegetables and provisions (fresh) - -	333
		Wood, timber and logwood	4,393
		Fuel, pimento sticks and other woods - -	478

It will be seen from the above table that three articles—cocoa, farine manioc, and mangoes—show between them an increase of 4,469*l.* Cocoa exhibits an increase of 1,794*l.* over the export of 1890, and taking the average export of this article for the five

St. Lucia. 1891.

years 1886–90, I find that the increase in 1891 compared with that average amounts to 6,730*l.*

Farine manioc (cassava flour) shows an increase of 1,445*l.* over the export for 1890, and an increase of 1,043*l.* over the average for the three years 1888–90. There does not appear to have been any export of this article in 1886 or 1887. In 1888 and 1889 the export of farine manioc was almost entirely to Colon, but in the years 1890 and 1891 the shipments were, with a very trifling exception, to the French West Indies, chiefly to Martinique.

Mangoes to the value of 2,004*l.* were shipped (and all to Barbados) during the year, representing an increase of 1,230*l.* over the value of the previous year's export, and of 1,616*l.* over that of 1889, which latter is the first year in which this article is shown as an export separately from other fruit and fresh vegetables. The export of mangoes appears to be rapidly enlarging, but I regret to say that, from an industrial point of view, this expansion is not as satisfactory as if it occurred in the case of fruits that were, to a greater degree than mangoes, the harvest and reward of foresight and intelligence, and of regular habits of industry and patient toil.

The articles which show a falling off of 200*l.* or over in the value of the quantity exported in 1891 compared with the preceding year are sugar, molasses, fresh vegetables and provisions, and woods and timbers, the decrease amounting to a total of 12,921*l.*

The following is a comparative statement of the value of the exports in 1891, of the three principal articles of export, and the average value of the exports of those articles for the preceding ten years 1881–90.

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1891 over average for 10 preceding years.	Decrease in 1891 below average for 10 preceding years.
	1891.	Average for 10 years 1881–90.		
Sugar:	£	£	£	£
Usine - - -	60,870	44,306	16,564	—
Muscovado - -	18,253	64,830	—	46,577
Molasses - -	5,334	7,046	—	1,712
Cocoa - - -	28,658	17,226	11,432	—
	113,115	133,408	27,996	48,289

From the above statement it will be perceived that in the year 1891, as compared with the average for the preceding 10 years, there was an increase in the value of the exports of Usine sugar and cocoa amounting to 27,996*l.*, and a decrease in that of the exports of muscovado sugar and molasses amounting to 48,289*l.*, leaving a difference in the way of decrease in 1891 of 20,293*l.*

The value of the imports in 1891 exceeded that of the exports by 40,675*l.* Excluding the value of coal imported and exported, the excess amounted to 72,044*l.*

Shipping.

Six hundred and fifty-one vessels entered the Port of Castries during the year, 363 of this number being steam, and 288 sailing, vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 430,787 tons.

Of the steam vessels 167 were with cargo, and 196 in ballast; 275 of the sailing vessels were with cargo, and 13 were in ballast

Of the steam vessels 330 were British, 26 French, 3 Belgian, 3 Norwegian and 1 was American. Of the sailing vessels 245 were British, 15 French, 15 Dutch, 10 American, 2 Venezuelan, and 1 was Norwegian.

The steam vessels which entered in 1891 fell short of the number for 1890 by 22, whereas, the sailing vessels exceeded those for 1890 by 50. The tonnage for 1891 was 7,589 tons less than that for the previous year. Of the 363 steam vessels which entered during the year 135 were steamers which called only for the purpose of taking in bunker coal.

The following table exhibits a statement of the number of vessels and of the amount of tonnage entered and cleared during 1891, and the averages for the previous five years :—

—	1891.		Average for five years 1886-90.		Increase in 1891 over average for five preceding years.		Decrease in 1891 compared with average for five preceding years.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.
ENTERED.								
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	167	186,212	140	147,000	27	39,212	—	—
In ballast - - -	196	230,360	150	160,778	46	69,582	—	—
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	275	12,474	206	11,629	69	845	—	—
In ballast - - -	13	1,741	31	2,734	—	—	18	993
Total - -	651	430,787	527	322,141	142	109,639	18	993
CLEARED.								
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	123	135,934	117	124,159	6	11,775	—	—
In ballast - -	241	283,898	171	183,329	70	100,569	—	—
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - - -	220	9,087	175	8,033	45	1 054	—	—
In ballast - - -	76	4,931	63	6,217	13	—	—	1,286
Total - -	660	433,850	526	321,738	134	113,378	—	1,286

Post Office.

During the year, 43,614 letters and post-cards and 4,582 articles were despatched to the United Kingdom and foreign

countries, and 42,771 letters and postcards and 75,465 articles were received. As compared with 1890 the letters and postcards despatched show an increase of 5,084, but there was a falling off of 61 in the number of articles despatched. The letters and postcards received exceeded those for the previous year by 4,512 and the articles by 27,882. The Inland Postal transactions also exhibit an appreciable increase; and, generally, he business of the Post Office Department is rapidly expanding.

Money orders to the amount of 2,112*l.* were issued, and to the amount of 728*l.* were paid during the year.

The following were the receipts from the sale of stamps, &c. :—

	£
Stamps sold - - - - -	1,807
Unpaid letters delivered - - -	28
Commission on money orders - - -	64
Rent of letter boxes - - - -	28
	£1,927

Crown Lands.

No grants of Crown Lands were made during 1891. About 50 grants, however, were in course of preparation for issue at the close of the year, the first instalment of the purchase money having been paid by the applicants, and the surveys having been completed.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The Royal Gaol, Castries, is a general and also a military prison. The sanitary state of the gaol during the year was satisfactory. The number of persons committed to prison in 1891 was 547, including 12 military prisoners. Of the number committed 413 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, seven for debt, and 127 for safe custody till trial or for want of security.

The daily average number in prison was 48·50. The number of admissions to hospital was 21, and the daily average on the sick list 2·26. There were three deaths during the year.

Subjoined is a comparative tabular statement exhibiting the figures for the years 1890 and 1891 respectively :—

—	Total number committed.	For debt.	For safe custody, &c.	For purposes of penal imprisonment.	No. of recommittals.			Daily average number in prison.	No. of admissions into hospital.	Daily average on sick list.	No. of deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or oftener.				
1890 - - -	460	19	119	341	49	11	37	50·77	10	1·61	*2
1891 - - -	547	7	127	413	56	40	57	48·50	21	2·26	3

* One executed.

It will be seen from the foregoing comparative table that the number of commitments and of re-convictions in 1891 were considerably in excess of those of 1890.

Corporal punishment was awarded four times in 1891, total number of lashes 43. In 1890 corporal punishment was ordered seven times, total number of lashes 102. In 1889 this form of punishment was awarded seven times, the total number of lashes amounting to 164.

In the month of October the gaol was appointed to be a military prison for the detention of European military prisoners undergoing short sentences.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1891 was 1,599, as against 1,237 in the previous year. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1891 largely exceeded the number for 1890, amounting to 2,035 against 1,426.

The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,167, and the number committed for trial in the Supreme Courts, 20. Of the latter number 16 were indicted, and four were not prosecuted. Of the 16 cases of indictment, a *nolle prosequi* was entered in two cases, 11 of the prisoners were convicted, and 3 were acquitted.

The following is a comparative table showing the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, &c., in 1891, and the average for the five previous years, 1886–90:—

—	1891.	Average of five previous Years, 1886–90.	Increase.	Decrease.
Number of offences reported to police - - -	1,599	1,286	313	—
Number of persons apprehended by police or summoned before the magistrate - -	2,035	1,587	448	—
Number of summary convictions	1,167	743	424	—
Number of persons committed for trial in Inferior Courts -	20	32	—	12
Number of convictions in Inferior Courts - -	11	20	—	9
Number of persons acquitted: In Inferior Courts - -	848	813	35	—
Number of persons acquitted: In Superior Courts - -	3	11	—	8
Percentage of convictions: In Inferior Courts - -	58	48	10	—
In Superior Courts - -	79	65	14	—

Hospitals.

The sanitary condition of the hospitals was very satisfactory, and no diseases of an epidemic nature appeared in the Colony during the year.

There were 2,932 patients admitted into the hospitals (exclusive of the Yaws Hospital) during the year, making, with those remaining in hospital from the previous year, 3,046 patients treated. Of these 2,643 were discharged cured, 77 were discharged relieved, and 134 died.

Of the 3,046 patients treated in hospital during the year no less than 1,017—one-third of the total number—were cases of malarial fever, the East Indian coolies and the natives appearing to be equally susceptible of contracting this form of fever. The type of the disease was generally mild, and the mortality was slight, being only 1·17 per cent. of the number treated; whereas, the death-rate for the total number of patients treated in hospital was 4·4 per cent.

Yaws Hospital.—There were 46 patients admitted into the Yaws Hospital during the year, which, with 41 patients remaining in hospital from 1890, made a total of 87 cases treated. Of this number 57 were discharged cured, and 3 died; the death-rate being 3·45 per cent.

Dispensaries.—The number of patients who received medical aid at the dispensaries was 8,305, the principal diseases treated having been malarial fevers and diseases of the digestive system.

Poor Asylum.—There were 92 destitute persons admitted into the Poor Asylum, Castries, during the year, the greater number of whom were suffering from chronic or incurable diseases, 36 inmates remained over from the year 1890, making with those admitted a total of 128 destitute persons who found food, clothing, shelter, and medical aid in the asylum during 1891. Of this number 52 were discharged relieved and 38 died, 13 of the deaths being from senile decay.

Lunatic Asylum.—This asylum is only a temporary one, in which lunatics are detained until such time as they can be transferred to the lunatic asylum at Grenada. The building is not well suited for the purpose to which it has been put, nor is its situation a very desirable one, and it is hoped that as soon as funds are available for the purpose a new and properly constructed and situated asylum will be built. Eight lunatics were admitted into the asylum during the year; of these, 1 was discharged as "relieved," 5 were transferred to the asylum at Grenada, and 1 died.

The total number of cases treated during the year in the hospitals and asylums and at the dispensaries was 11,576—somewhat over one-quarter of the number of the population of the Colony—and the total gross cost (including salaries of medical officers, &c.) of the aid and relief thus given amounted to 5,985*l.*, which gives an average of about 10*s.* 4*d.* per case, or, deducting

payments made by the sugar factories in respect of indentured coolies treated in hospital, and payments for seamen, &c., a net average cost of 9*s.* 3*d.* per case treated in the medical institutions of the Colony, or about 2*s.* 6*d.* per head of the population.

Botanical Station.

Gradual progress and improvements have been made at the Botanical Station during the year. Some cross drains were completed; the laying out a nursery was commenced; and the level part of the gardens was raised by the addition of extra soil. The growth and condition of the various trees and shrubs have been reported as satisfactory; and the unsightly appearance of parts of the garden previously left in fallow has been removed by the planting of these unoccupied spaces with banana trees and other plants.

In the early part of the year a plot of adjoining land, measuring about an acre and a quarter, was acquired by the Government for an addition to the garden, and this plot is being gradually reclaimed from its original state of swamp, and will soon be in a condition to permit of its being utilized for planting purposes.

The proceeds of the sale of plants, seedlings, flowers, &c., during the year amounted to 54*l.*

Meteorology.

The mean temperature in the shade, as shown by the observations taken at the Morne was 78·2°. The average maximum temperature for the year was 85·3°, and the average minimum temperature 71·1°.

The highest monthly maximum temperature was in August (88·2°), and the lowest monthly minimum in February (67.0).

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 75·65 inches, which was 12·46 inches less than the rainfall of 1890.

The heaviest monthly rainfall (10·69 inches) occurred in July, and the lowest (1·27 inches) in March.

General Remarks.

The early part of the year under review was exceptionally dry, the rains not having set in until an unusually late period.

The health of the Colony was good, and no disease of an epidemic nature appeared in the island during the year.

The crops suffered a good deal in the early part of the season from the drought, but recovered themselves during the latter rains.

The year was not marked by any appreciable advance in prosperity; but it is a satisfactory circumstance to note, and one of much promise, that increased atention was paid to the cultivation of the cocoa tree, and that the planting of this useful and generously repaying tree is extending.

St. Lucia, 1891.

A severe earthquake shock was experienced on the 4th of July, and on the 18th of August the island felt, to a slight degree, the influence of the disastrous hurricane that swept over and devastated a large portion of the neighbouring island of Martinique. Fortunately beyond doing some damage to the recently reclaimed land adjoining the harbour, the high wind which blew for some hours during the height of the hurricane wrought the Colony no appreciable harm. St. Lucia lay well outside the axis of the storm, and thus escaped a visitation that would have been an untold calamity to the Colony had it fallen to the fate of the island to be the victim of it.

In conclusion, I may mention that the Castries Harbour Improvement Works were completed in the month of June, and that the dredger "Dolphin," which had rendered such excellent service in deepening the harbour, and other plant and stores, were transferred at a valuation from the Harbour Works Department to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator.

Government House, St. Lucia,
12th August 1892.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 82.

GRENADA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 52.]

Sir W. HELY HUTCHINSON to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, June 1, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Colonial Secretary's Report on the Blue Book relating to this Colony for the year 1892.

2. I am aware that this report was practically ready two months ago, but its completion was delayed owing to the non-receipt of one or two of the Returns.

3. The Blue Book itself will be transmitted to your Lordship shortly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on GRENADA BLUE BOOK for 1892.

Sources of Revenue.

No alteration was made in existing taxation during the year, but the change in the land and house tax referred to in last year's report came into operation, and a new source of revenue in the shape of rental of telephones was developed. As in previous years the collection of export duties was suspended, and an additional *ad valorem* duty of 2½ per cent. was levied on articles not specified in or exempted by the tariff.

Revenue.

2. The Revenue of 1892 was 55,820*l.*, being 1,802*l.* in excess of that of 1891, which was the largest on record up to that year. The increase was due to the transfer of the police reward fund (the system of making reductions from police pay being abolished and the payment of police pensions and rewards becoming a charge on general revenue); to increased receipts from rum duty and land and house tax, consequent on improved methods of collection; to the revenue from the new telephone service; and to increased business at the Post Office. There was, however, a decrease of 1,706*l.* in Customs duties as compared with 1891, in which year the receipts were abnormal. The value of imports in 1892 was about 18,000*l.* less than in 1891, a result due in some measure to smuggling, but also to the exceptional rainfall, which caused delay in the cocoa crop.

GRENADA. 1892.

3. The receipts from rum duty and land and house tax deserve special notice. The improved excise system produced a yield of 11,775*l.*, being 1,642*l.* more than in 1891, and 6,552*l.* more than in 1887, the last year of unbridled smuggling. There was, however, an outbreak of illicit distillation at the close of the year which caused an estimated loss to the revenue of nearly 1,000*l.* The land and house tax realized 6,316*l.*—the average receipts of the ten preceding years were 4,800*l.*

4. A comparative statement of the revenues of the two years is subjoined :—

Head of Revenue.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	23,684	25,390	—	1,706
Licenses, &c. - - -	26,781	24,548	2,233	—
Fees of office - - -	927	2,028	—	1,101
Post Office - - -	1,358	1,041	317	—
Telephone - - - -	639	—	639	—
Rent of Government property -	378	390	—	12
Interest - - - -	617	297	320	—
Miscellaneous receipts - -	89	36	53	—
Transfer from Police Reward and Reserve Fund - - -	895	—	895	—
Land sales - - -	452	288	164	—
Total - -	55,820	54,018	4,621	2,819
	54,018	—	2,819	—
Increase in 1892 - -	1,802	—	1,802	—

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure was 59,260*l.*, or 2,810*l.* more than in the previous year. It will be observed from the detail given below that increases, other than nominal, appear under heads 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 17, 19, and 20; the causes are as follows:—

(1.) Issue of stock for a new loan of 50,000*l.* for public works, and of 30,100*l.* for conversion of existing debentures.

(2.) Addition of Rev. R. F. Berkeley (128*l.*) and ex-Sergeant-major Harris (38*l.*) to pension list.

(4.) Importation of special type for the Blue Book, and additional book-binding.

(7.) Increase of Chief Justice's salary by 200*l.*

(9.) Increased prison population.

(10.) Creation of another medical district, and extension of the ticket system; also to abnormal expenditure on quarantine measures and sanitation, consequent on the spread of cholera in Europe and the United States.

8/4 857

(11.) Increased grants in aid of primary and secondary education, and of libraries in the out-districts.

(15.) Increased contribution to Imperial mail subsidy.

(17.) Establishment of a system of telephone exchanges.

(19.) Larger expenditure on upkeep of roads, consequent on heavy rainfall.

(20.) Execution of a larger number of public works.

6. Decreases appear under heads 5 and 14 on account of exceptional expenditure in 1891; under police, caused by alteration of excise system; and under 18, due to reduced contribution to salary of the Director of Public Works, who resided in St. Lucia during the year, and to the abolition of the Public Works Accountant and the road surveyors.

Head of Expenditure.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt -	3,695	1,929	1,766	—
2. Pensions - - - -	907	739	168	—
3. The Governor and Legislature -	2,215	2,211	4	—
4. Colonial Secretary - - -	2,179	2,063	116	—
5. Treasury, &c. - - -	5,259	6,528	—	1,270
6. Audit Department - - -	419	444	—	25
7. Legal - - - -	4,657	4,595	62	—
8. Police - - - -	4,218	4,335	—	117
9. Prisons - - - -	1,266	1,191	75	—
10. Medical - - - -	7,246	6,708	538	—
11. Education - - - -	5,878	5,264	614	—
12. Ecclesiastical - - -	515	517	—	2
13. Charitable - - - -	498	492	6	—
14. Miscellaneous - - -	2,914	4,064	—	1,150
15. Post Office - - - -	3,200	2,337	863	—
16. Agricultural - - -	517	546	—	29
17. Telephone - - - -	639	—	639	—
18. Public Works Department -	1,341	2,249	—	908
19. Public Works, Recurrent - -	9,426	8,881	545	—
20. Public Works, Extraordinary -	2,272	1,357	915	—
Totals - -	59,260	56,450	6,311	3,501
	56,450	—	3,501	—
Increase in 1892 - -	2,810	—	2,810	—

Financial Position and Debt.

7. The available balance at the end of the year was 486*l.*, as shown in the accompanying statement of the Colonial assets and liabilities:—

Assets.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in Colonial Chest		333 0 0
On current account with Colonial Bank		2,948 0 0
Invested in South Australian 4 Per Cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value, 3,804*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*)		4,000 0 0
On deposit with London and Westminster Bank		2,464 0 0
Due from Crown Agents on current account		228 0 0
Advances representing either amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not brought to account:—		
Loans to Parochial Boards, from General Revenue	1,100 0 0	
Government of St. Lucia	1,147 0 0	
" " St. Vincent	701 0 0	
" " Trinidad and Tobago	24 0 0	
Distillery apparatus	1,514 0 0	
Materials, &c., Works Department	1,153 0 0	
Crown Agent's Advances Account	14,500 0 0	
Primary School Books	70 0 0	
Other advances	1,954 0 0	
		22,164 0 0
Arrears of Revenue due to the Colony:—		
Interest on Loans to Parochial Boards	189 0 0	
Parochial Boards (arrears of Byeway Contributions)	223 0 0	
		412 0 0
		£32,549 0 0

Liabilities.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits, as follows:—		
Savings Bank	6,864 0 0	
Immigration Fund	1,944 0 0	
Fire Insurance Fund	2,000 0 0	
Governor's Office Fund	31 0 0	
Suspense Account	337 0 0	
Post Office	276 0 0	
General Deposit Account	313 0 0	
St. Paul's Water Supply Account	368 0 0	
Sinking Fund, Public Works Loan (No. 1.)	2,156 0 0	
Public Works Loan Works Account	7,480 0 0	
Parochial Boards Loan Works Account	9,364 0 0	
		31,133 0 0
Debentures Conversion Fund		930 0 0
Surplus Assets		486 0 0
		£32,549 0 0

8. The public debt at the same date was 96,575*l.*, made up as follows:—

	£
Inscribed stock issued under Ordinance No. 5 of 1891 for public and parochial works -	50,000
Inscribed stock issued under that Ordinance to convert 28,000*l.* debentures - -	30,100
Four and a half per cent. debentures held in England, not yet converted - -	12,000
Five per cent. debentures held in St. Vincent -	4,000
Five per cent. debentures held in Grenada -	475
	£96,575

9. The average price obtained for the bulk of the new stock issued was 101*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* per cent., and the conversion of debentures was effected at the rate of 103*l.* against 100*l.* debentures. The stock bears interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, and at the close of 1892 stood on the London Stock Exchange list at 102–104. The probable capitalised saving to the Colony, resulting from the conversion, when completed, is estimated at 3,078*l.*

10. Of the total loan raised, 20,069*l.* is for parochial works, and the interest and sinking fund on this amount are, therefore, a charge on local rates, and refunded by the parochial boards to the general revenue, which is primarily responsible for their payment.

11. The Colony is also liable for the repayment in 1899 of a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for the St. George's Waterworks, on the security of the general revenue; the Parochial Board is, of course, responsible for the amount.

Local Boards.

12. The Parochial Boards are entrusted with the general management and regulation of the towns; following is a statement of their finances for the year:—

Town.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Debt.
	£	£	£
St. George's - -	1,903	2,178	6,812
Gouyave - - -	939	1,125	2,943
Grenville - - -	739	739	1,418
Sauteurs - - -	384	408	1,250
Victoria - - -	283	271	1,462
Hillsborough - -	412	323	500
Total - -	4,660	5,044	14,385

GRENADA. 1892.

13. The revenue and expenditure are taken from Returns furnished by the several wardens, and their accuracy cannot be guaranteed; the debt (except in the case of St. George's, where 1,169*l.* current liabilities are included) consists of loans from the Government for public works, the current liabilities, if any, not being known.

Public Works and Roads.

14. Twenty-one thousand three hundred and fourteen pounds was expended on public works and roads during the year, 9,616*l.* being from loan funds, and 11,698*l.* from general revenue, 6,894*l.* of the latter amount being for ordinary upkeep of roads.

15. The river at Belmont, St. Patrick's, was bridged; the reconstruction of the main road from St. George's to Grenville along the southern and eastern coast, and of the second-class bye-ways was proceeded with; and the main road to Gouyave from Grenville was completed with the exception of the bridge over the Chantilly River, which is now in hand. The reconstruction of the Mount Cenis main road in St. Mark's and the Noel's Hill main road in St. Andrews was commenced, and good progress made.

16. The new road system worked admirably throughout the year, and excellent work was done by the gentlemen who form the boards. The year was an exceptionally trying one for the roads, on account of the very heavy rainfall, and their condition, notwithstanding this, is a credit to all concerned.

17. The construction of telephone exchanges referred to in last year's report was continued during the year, and the scheme promises to be a complete success. Although the system was far from being complete at the end of the year, the revenue received was 639*l.*, which exactly balanced the expenditure for maintenance and for interest and sinking fund on the amount borrowed for construction. At the date of this report there are six exchanges in operation, with 149 instruments in connexion, and the work of construction is still in progress.

18. One thousand seven hundred and forty-four pounds was spent on the repairs, &c. of public buildings; the new library in St. George's was finished and furnished; the new public buildings at Gouyave were almost completed, and the work of reconstructing the lunatic asylum was proceeded with; excellent stables and servants' rooms were provided at Government House, and a quarantine station was erected.

Legislation.

19. Thirteen Ordinances were enacted during the year, the most important being:—

No. 1, abolishing the police reward fund, and making the payment of police rewards and pensions a charge on general revenue, to which the balance of the fund was transferred.

No. 2, providing for surveys of disputed boundaries, without litigation, under the direction of the Works Department:

No. 3, amending and consolidating the law relating to the recovery of petty debts.

No. 5, giving the Government a monopoly in the erection of telephones in the Colony, and conferring the necessary powers to regulate and control the telephone service.

No. 10, amending the medical laws by a better definition of "labourers" and "paupers," and by providing for deferred payment of medical officers' fees for attendance on labourers in certain cases.

Councils.

20. Mr. E. P. Brooks, the new Treasurer, took his seat *ex officio* at both Councils in July, and during the absence of the Colonial Secretary on leave his seat was filled by the Honourable C. C. Knollys and Colonel Sandwith, who acted for him. Other temporary vacancies on the official side were filled by Messrs. J. F. L. Payne and C. F. Anton, and among the unofficials by Messrs. John R. Bertrand, W. D. Martin, R. D. Hopkin, and D. S. DeFreitas.

21. The term for which the unofficial members of the Council were appointed expired on the 31st December, and the same members were reappointed by Her Majesty the Queen.

Establishments.

22. During the Governor's official visits to the other Colonies of his government, in the first half of the year the government was administered by Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles, the Attorney-General, by virtue of a special commission, which determined upon Mr. E. Drayton's appointment as Colonial Secretary, in June. In the latter half of the year the administration was conducted, during the Governor's absence on duty and on leave, by the following officers:—

Honourable E. Drayton, Colonial Secretary.
" E. P. Brooks, Colonial Treasurer.
His Honour V. S. Gouldsbury, Administrator-in-Chief.
Honourable C. C. Knollys, Colonial Secretary of Barbados.
Colonel J. H. Sandwith, R.M.L.I.

GRENADA. 1892.

23. Mr. L. R. Fyfe, the Colonial Secretary, died in May, much regretted, and Mr. Edward Drayton, the Treasurer, who had acted for him since October, 1890, was appointed to succeed him in June, Mr. E. P. Brooks, the late Colonial Secretary of the Falkland Islands, being appointed Treasurer in July. Mr. Drayton was compelled to take three months' leave in September—December, on account of ill-health, and his place was filled by Mr. Brooks, Mr. Knollys, and Colonel Sandwith, successively.

During the absence of the Attorney-General, on leave, Mr. J. F. L. Payne, Police Magistrate of the Southern District, acted for him.

Pensions.

24. The list was increased by the following additions :—

	£
Rev. R. F. Berkeley, late Anglican Rector of St. John's - - - - -	128
W. Harris, late Sergeant-major of Police -	38
	£166

The total of the pension list at 31st December, 1892, was 937*l.*

Vital Statistics.

25. The estimated population at the end of the year was 55,333, an increase of 2,124 since the census of 1891, and of 1,271 during the year. The birth-rate was 45·08 and the death-rate 21·83 per thousand.

26. Of the total number of deaths, 1,194, 13 per cent. were caused by zymotic fevers, 17 per cent. by diseases of the organs of respiration, and 13 per cent. by diseases of the organs of digestion. It is satisfactory to note that, notwithstanding the large increase of population in that period, the percentage of infant mortality among the deaths for the last 10 years has decreased from 31·44 in 1883 to 24·70 in 1892. This result is mainly attributable to the extension of medical relief, and the facilities afforded under the ticket system for obtaining medicine, the good work of which was crowned in the year under review by the enactment of an Ordinance which, *inter alia,* provides free medicines, as well as medical aid for labourers' children under 10 years of age.

Education.

27. An abstract of the statistics of primary education for the years 1891 and 1892 is given here.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars. On Roll. Boys.	Number of Scholars. On Roll. Girls.	Number of Scholars. Total on Roll.	Number of Scholars. Average Attendance.	Income. School Fees.	Income. Government Contributions.	Income. Voluntary Contributions.	Expenditure.
						£	£		£
Government -	9	877	633	1,510	792	109	1,248	—	1,357
Assisted :—									
Anglican - -	7	750	513	1,263	689	122	846	—	968
Roman Catholic	10	1,187	1,155	2,342	1,111	149	1,270	—	1,419
Wesleyan -	5	510	448	958	547	82	679	—	761
Presbyterian -	1	98	76	174	109	9	159	—	168
Totals for 1892-	32	3,422	2,825	6,247	3,248	471	4,202	—	4,673
„ „ 1891-	32	3,368	2,787	6,155	3,246	568	4,132	—	4,701
Increase in 1892 -	—	54	38	92	2	—	70	—	—
Decrease „ -	—	—	—	—	—	97	—	—	28

28. It will be observed that the Colony spends about one-thirteenth of its revenue on primary education, and that the assisted schools are, in reality, supported by the State.

29. On secondary education 583*l.* was spent, 405*l.* of which was in aid of the Grammar School for Boys, and the balance divided between the Girls' High School and the Roman Catholic School for Girls, which received subsidies for the first time in 1892. The total expenditure of the Boys' Grammar School is returned as 574*l.*, so that three-quarters of its cost is provided by the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

30. As will be seen from the following table, the year 1892 was remarkable for the falling off in the imports, which exhibit a decrease of more than 18,000*l.* as compared with the previous year, and of nearly 10,000*l.* as compared with the average of the five years :—

Year.	Imports. United Kingdom.	Imports. British Colonies.	Imports. Foreign Countries.	Imports. Totals.	Exports. United Kingdom.	Exports. British Colonies.	Exports. Foreign Countries.	Exports. Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1888 -	82,597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
1889 -	87,762	45,733	40,586	174,081	172,912	7,515	15,168	195,595
1890 -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
1891 -	97,895	31,512	47,523	176,930	218,600	8,672	9,371	236,643
1892 -	79,015	34,549	45,138	158,702	241,112	9,794	13,775	264,681
Average -	88,105	40,320	40,180	168,605	215,306	8,809	14,382	238,497

31. Many causes contributed to this result. There was an exceptional rainfall, which retarded the cocoa-crop and produced a consequent "tightness" of money locally; there was less expenditure from loan funds on road work, so that the labourers, instead of relying on imported food supplies, devoted more time to the cultivation of provisions; and lastly, less capital was advanced to the peasant proprietors than in former years.

32. The trade with the United States of America continues to develop under the stimulus of the direct steamer service with New York subsidised by the Colony, which brings the island within seven days' distance of that centre of commerce. The imports thence amounted to 44,241*l.* and the exports to 9,785*l.* in 1892; in 1885 the corresponding figures were 17,325*l.* and 401*l.*

33. The value of the total exports for the year was 264,681*l.*, being 28,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and 26,000*l.* more than the average of the last five years.

As will be seen from the following statement of the value of the chief exports for the last five years, 84 per cent. of the total was cocoa; spices (chiefly nutmegs) and cotton being next in importance. The sudden increase in coffee is worthy of notice; it is due to increased cultivation consequent on the efforts of the authorities at Kew Gardens and of the Government to resuscitate this product in Grenada, the failing of the crops in eastern countries offering the strongest incentive to exertion in this direction in the West Indies. As a result, the export of this article in the next few years should be considerable.

Year.	Cocoa.	Coffee.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fruit.	Firewood.	Ground Nuts.	Hides.	Live Stock.	Logwood.	Manure.	Peas.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1888 -	199,902	19	7,632	1,413	167	1,098	382	547	3,230	147	766	1,487	580	9,429	697	200
1889 -	166,178	12	6,714	1,182	151	842	260	641	3,312	273	938	431	451	10,220	2.225	280
1890 -	228,889	19	7,973	1,503	426	1,231	252	302	3,116	1,460	614	850	597	15,955	642	300
1891 -	200,267	16	8,194	1,783	600	1,096	279	434	2,696	708	171	998	560	12,598	1,905	714
1892 -	226,107	404	8,740	1,719	496	1,143	402	289	2,783	639	534	1,377	658	15,650	106	840

Shipping.

34. The number and tonnage of the vessels entered and cleared during the year is shown below :—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	149	189,587	84	116,540
Sailing Vessels - -	343	9,565	333	9,560
Totals - -	492	199,152	427	126,100
Totals for 1892 -	512	258,790	500	256,306

Prisons.

35. A comparative statement of the prison statistics for the last five years is appended :—

Year.	Number of Persons committed.				No. of persons committed who have been previously convicted.	Percentage of Committals of Persons previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions into Hospital.
	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	Totals.				
1888 -	3	47	153	203	56	36·60	55·75	15
1889 -	3	53	244	300	89	36·48	64·22	18
1890 -	2	44	196	242	74	38·27	59·86	25
1891 -	6	47	189	242	75	39·68	73·13	19
1892 -	8	56	240	304	81	33·75	76·30	27

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Daily average on Sick List.	Deaths, excluding Executions.	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Cost of a Prisoner.		
					Annual.	Daily.	For Diet, per Day.
			£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.
1888 -	2·98	1	1,328	1,256	23 14 3	0 1 3¼	3¼
1889 -	3·51	2	1,231	1,303	19 4 8	0 1 0¾	2¾
1890 -	2·56	1	1,160	1,304	19 6 7	0 1 1	2¼
1891 -	3·02	—	1,281	1,593	17 11 0	0 0 11¼	3
1892 -	5·33	3	1,358	1,611	17 17 3	0 0 11¼	3¼

36. The following analysis of the value of the work done by prisoners is interesting as showing how the system of industrial labour has thriven since its introduction in 1885. At the commencement of that year, about 90 per cent. of the prisoners' work was beyond the walls, and unremunerative; in 1892 only 20 per cent. is beyond the prisons, and they are practically self-supporting.

Work within Prison.

	£	£
Cooking and baking - - -	836	
Tailoring and sewing - - -	141	
Stone-breaking - - - -	114	
Preparing chocolate - - -	98	
Sweeping and cleaning - - -	33	
Washing - - - - -	23	
Carpentry - - - - -	16	
Shoemaking - - - - -	8	
Making brooms, &c. - - -	2	
Masonry - - - - - -	1	
	—	1,272

Work beyond Prison.

	£	£
Repairing roads - - - -	143	
Cutting grass and wood - - -	79	
Botanic Gardens - - - -	71	
Cultivating vegetables - - -	19	
Collecting stone and dry earth - -	16	
Clearing Government lands - -	11	
	—	339
		£1,611

Criminal Statistics.

37. The following table compares the figures relating to crime in 1892 with the average of the last four years:—

	1892.	Average of the last four years.	Increase.	Decrease.
The number of offences reported to the police -	720	769	—	49
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates -	2,472	2,107	365	—
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person - -	312	324	—	12
2. For prædial larceny - - -	39	31	8	—
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny - - - -	211	192	19	—
4. For other offences - - - -	673	486	187	—
The number of convictions in the superior courts :—				
1. For offences against the person -	3	6	—	3
2. For prædial larceny - - -	1	2	—	1
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny - - -	23	16	7	—
4. For other offences - - -	4	4	—	—
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In inferior courts - - - -	356	382	—	26
2. In the superior courts - - -	8	17	—	9

38. It should be noted that the figures for "Persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates" are, for the first time, correctly computed; for purposes of comparison, those relating to the previous years have been recalculated accordingly.

Agriculture and Meteorology.

39. The chief meteorological feature of the year was the heavy rainfall, 105·89 inches being recorded, or 49·20 inches more than in the previous year. Rain fell on 280 days during the year. The maximum temperature was 93 degrees, and the minimum 67 degrees.

40. It is extremely satisfactory to note that the botanical station has at last earned the right to be included as one of the factors in the development of the Colony and its products. Since it was started, in 1886, it has had many difficulties to contend with, but the unvarying sympathy and assistance it has received from the authorities at Kew Gardens, backed locally by the interest taken in it by his Excellency the Governor, and, in the last two years, by the untiring energy of the present curator, have overcome all obstacles, and not only are the gardens a credit to the Colony, but there is an ever increasing interest being taken by the agricultural community in the institution and its aims.

41. At the date of this Report Mr. G. W. Smith, the curator, in addition to his other efforts, is engaged in giving a series of popular lectures in the several districts with the object of instructing the peasant proprietors in practical agriculture and the use of manures. The lectures are well attended and the keenest interest displayed.

Savings Bank.

42. The following is a statement of the transactions of the savings bank for the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1888 - -	277	4,804	4,319	5,632
1889 - -	583	4,709	4,308	6,295
1890 - -	723	5,441	4,882	6,853
1891 - -	637	6,112	5,356	7,610
1892 - -	904	5,994	6,672	6,886

43. It will be noticed that although in 1892 there was a considerable increase in the number of depositors, the amount deposited decreased, while the withdrawals increased, and the balance at the end of the year was consequently reduced. This was caused by the abolition of the police reward fund, to which reference has already been made, which resulted in a withdrawal of 895*l.* from the St. George's Bank and affected the deposits therein during the year. That the regular progress of the bank was not disturbed is shown by the subjoined return of the number of depositors and the balances to their credit in the branch banks since their establishment in 1889 :—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Balances to Credit.
		£
1889 - - - - -	81	292
1890 - - - - -	136	814
1891 - - - - -	175	1,086
1892 - - - - -	196	1,483

Hospitals and Asylums.

44. There is nothing in the hospital statistics for the year requiring special notice. A private ward for paying patients of the better class was opened, and bids fair to be a success, two or three cases having been treated with satisfactory results. The Colony Hospital buildings need extensive repairs, which it is hoped may soon receive attention.

45. The alterations at the Lunatic Asylum were proceeded with, but even at the date of this report they are not finished; when complete, the buildings will be commodious and capable of affording proper treatment for the lunatics of the Windward Islands.

46. The St. Andrew's Hospital was thoroughly repaired during the year, and great improvements effected in its administration under the care of Dr. E. F. Hatton, who was appointed to it on the re-division of the medical districts of the Colony.

General.

47. As will be seen from this Report, the Colony continues to be prosperous and to advance, notwithstanding the existence of obstacles in the year under review. At the present date an excellent crop of cocoa is being reaped, and the good prices which are being obtained for it both in London and New York promise amply to repay the planters for the delay enforced by the exceptional meteorological conditions of 1892.

(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada, May 31, 1893.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 84.

ST. VINCENT.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 38.]

Administrator Gouldsbury to the Marquess of Ripon.

St. Lucia, July 10, 1893.

Forwarded.

V. Skipton Gouldsbury.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
June 24, 1893.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892.

2. The Blue Book is being printed and will be forwarded to your Excellency probably by next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Irwin C. Maling,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

---

1. *Taxes and Duties.*

To meet the purposes of the McKinley Treaty, considerable changes took place under this head.

On the 23rd January ordinances were passed to the following effect:—Certain imports upon which duty was previously collected were exempted from duty, whilst the duty on others was reduced by 50 or 25 per cent. This change was considered to bring about

a reduction on customs duties by 1,600*l.* To meet the deficiency in the amount on Revenue for the year already estimated, increased duty was levied on the one part upon all spirits intended for consumption whether made in the Colony or imported; and on the other part an additional export tax was levied on sugar.

By Ordinance No. 11 of 1891, which came into force on the 1st January 1892, a general licence to sell charcoal was reduced from 15*s.* to 5*s.*

By Ordinance No. 1 of 1892 the price of an hotel licence was reduced from 10*l.* to 6*l.*

Fees.

The only change under this head was a new scale of fees provided for the Registrar of Shipping, the Admeasurer of Shipping, and the Shipping Master.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

Revenue.

The Revenue of 1892 was 28,906*l.* This exceeded the Revenue of 1891 by 390*l.*, an almost nominal difference, and looking to the fiscal variations necessitated by the McKinley Treaty, a matter for congratulation. The Revenue laws passed in connection with the Treaty involved an estimated decline in certain import duties of 1,600*l.*, less an increase in duties on spirits of 6*d.* a gallon. The comparative statement given in this Report, shows that the net loss of revenue by import duties was 1,141*l.* This sum may therefore be taken as fairly representing the net loss in import duties by reduction in the tariff.

The general revenue was sustained, as against the loss through the McKinley tariff, by the increase in the duty on imported spirits, a similar increase in the excise duty on native spirit (rum), and an increase in the export duty on sugar. There was also a rally in the excise trade, aiding the revenue by the increased issue of licences and sale of rum.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of 1892 was 23,112*l.*, 388*l.* more than in 1891. The only details of the increase deserving of notice are: Under "Treasury," &c., 218*l.* towards the establishment of a revenue cruiser; under "Medical" the cost of an additional Medical Officer; under "Educational" a permanent increase in the "Grants to schools"; and under "Public Works" a decrease in repairs and outlay on the new works, which may be regarded as casual.

3. *Public Debt.*

At the close of the year the Public Debt of the Colony was 15,250*l.*, as against 14,360*l.* at the end of 1891.

The increase of debt by 890*l.* is due to the issue of debentures for a further loan of 1,500*l.* under the Kingstown Water Supply Loan Ordinance, 1889. This amount was needed to effect the cost of completion of the Waterworks for the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown; the debt for other purposes, except for Crown lands, has been steadily reduced.

The following is a statement of the public debt at the end of 1892:—

	£
1. Government House Loan - - -	1,680
2. Immigration Loan - - -	3,250
3. Public Buildings Loan - - -	600
4. Crown Lands Loan - - -	1,920
5. Public Debt Loan - - - -	2,200
6. Kingstown Waterworks Loan - -	5,600
	£15,250

4. *Public Works.*

The total expenditure on Public Works during the year was 3,389*l.* or 923*l.* less than in the previous year.

Of this sum 1,155*l.* was spent on Highways.

The following is a list of some of the principal works undertaken during 1892:—

General repairs and painting Court House.
Painting four police stations.
Renewing Chateaubelair Jetty.
Repairs to Souffriere Road.
Telephonic communication in Kingstown.
Bridge over Cumberland River.

Several repairs were also effected to the various Government buildings throughout the Colony at the cost of 193*l.*

5. *Legislation.*

Eight Ordinances were passed in 1892, the titles of which are as follows:—

No. 1. To amend the Liquor Licence Ordinances, 1886 and 1891.

No. 2. To repeal an Ordinance intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Medical Aid Ordinance, 1878," and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

No. 3. To repeal the Excise Ordinance, 1888, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

No. 4. To amend Ordinance Number Eleven of 1878 and to repeal Ordinance Number Twenty-nine of 1888.

No. 5. To amend the Imports Tariff Ordinances, 1881 and 1887.

No. 6. To authorise a loan from the General Revenue for the purchase of land adjoining the town of Georgetown and to incorporate such land and also other land with the said town.

No. 7. To amend the law relating to infant mortality.

No. 8. To exempt oil-meal from import duty.

Ordinances Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 8 were made to meet the purposes of the McKinley Treaty.

6. *Councils.*

Mr. Henry A. Hazell, an unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, resigned his seats on the 11th of January.

Mr. George Smith, Q.C., an unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, resigned his seats on the 11th of January.

Mr. Charles Ormond Hazell was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 19th of January.

Mr. Charles J. Simmons, an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, obtained leave of absence from the 12th of August to the 6th of December.

Mr. James G. Coull was appointed on the 1st of December to be, provisionally, a member of the Legislative Council.

7. *Civil Establishment.*

The following changes occurred :—

Mr. T. B. C. Musgrave was on the 1st of January appointed Superintendent of Crown Lands, and on the 23rd of April provisionally Chief Clerk in the Government Office, on the promotion to another Colony of Mr. C. F. Clements.

He was confirmed in this office on the 16th of June by the Secretary of State.

Mr. J. C. Choppin resigned the appointment of Attorney-General on the 4th of January, and Oliver Smith, Esq., M.A., was appointed by the Secretary of State to fill the office.

Dr. Martin O'Carroll, Medical Officer of No. 3 District, was suspended on the 18th of January from the performance of his duties. This was confirmed by the Secretary of State on the 15th of March.

Dr. R. A. Cleveland was temporarily appointed Medical Officer of No. 3 District consequent on the suspension of Dr. O'Carroll.

Mr. Frank W. Griffith was confirmed in the appointment of Inspector of Schools by the Secretary of State on the 18th of February.

On the 22nd of April Mr. Clifton Grannum was appointed Second Clerk in the Government Office.

Consequent on the removal of Mr. G. D. Mackie, Clerk in the Treasury, who was appointed Clerk in the Survey Office on the 11th of May, the following appointments were made:—Mr. H. A. Lewis to the Treasury, in the place of Mr. Mackie; Mr. W. E. Davis, Magistrate's Clerk, in place of Mr. Lewis; Mr. T. Dyer, Post Office Clerk, in place of Mr. Davis.

On the 12th of May Mr. Cecil F. Sitwell was appointed to act as Chief of Police during the absence of Mr. E. D. Laborde.

Mr. C. T. Hughes was appointed Clerk to the Postmaster on the 19th of May, *vice* Mr. T. Dyer promoted to St. Lucia.

Colonel J. H. Sandwith, C.B., administered the Government of the Colony from the 21st of June to 8th November, during the absence on leave of Captain I. C. Maling.

Dr. C. Jenner-Parson was appointed Acting Medical Officer of No. 4 District on the 5th of July, during absence of Dr. M. G. Pereira.

On the 2nd of August Mr. H. B. Walcott was appointed to act as Treasury Accountant during the absence of Mr. G. F. Grant.

On the 16th of August Dr. W. S. B. Austin was tranferred from District No. 2 to perform duties of Assistant Medical Officer, Kingstown, and Dr. M. G. Pereira transferred from No. 4 to No. 2 District.

The Honourable C. O. Hazell acted as Attorney-General during the absence on leave of the Honourable O. Smith from the 26th of August to the 22nd of November.

Brigade Surgeon V. S. Gouldsbury, M.D., C.M.G., was appointed Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands during the absence on leave of the Governor, and administered the Government from the 28th to the 29th of September.

8. *Pensions.*

During the year one pension was granted, viz.:—

	£
Mr. James C. Choppin, late Attorney-General -	440

The pension list has been, on the other hand, relieved by the deaths of the following pensioners:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. John Reilly, late Police Magistrate -	242	8	0
Dr. Ar[illegible] late Colonial Surgeon -	156	12	0
Miss Cu[illegible]ning, late Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths - -	18	8	4
	£417	8	4

The pension list has thus been increased by 22*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* only.

St. Vincent.
1892.

9. *Population.*

The births in the year, exclusive of still-births, numbered 1,908, and the deaths, exclusive of still-births, 1,022, giving a natural increase of 886.

The still-births were 117.

Two hundred and forty marriages were performed during the year, or 39 in excess of the previous year.

The total population of the Colony at the end of the year is estimated at 42,600.

10. *Education.*

There were 44 schools open during the year, 41 in St. Vincent, and three in the Grenadines, with an average attendance of 3,292, and a total of 5,848 names on the registers.

It is satisfactory to be able again to observe that the statistics show a considerable increase on the previous year, as may be seen from the following comparative statement:—

—	1891.	1892.
Number on rolls - - - -	5,348	5,848
Average attendance - - - -	2,925	3,292
Candidates presented at annual examinations	2,561	2,878
Passes in the standards - - -	1,928	2,494
Marks awarded - - - -	27,812	31,430

The total amount of the Government grant to primary schools was 1,817*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* This is the largest sum that has been expended since 1882, and is a favourable sign, as in 1882 there were 65 schools open, as compared with 44 in 1892, showing that large and well-managed schools earning better results are gradually taking the place of small schools.

It is to be regretted, however, that it was not possible for the proposed new Education Code to be brought into force before the close of the year.

A further sum of 131*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was granted in aid of the Kingstown Grammar School, 31*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* of which represents capitation fees at the rate of 2*l.* 10*s.* per head allowed to a girl's department attached to the school.

11. *Friendly Societies.*

There are now 21 friendly societies, five having been registered during 1892.

12. *Imports and Exports.*

Imports.

The value of the Imports in 1892 was 102,981*l.*, or 5,142*l.* in excess of the Imports of 1891. The value of Imports from the United Kingdom increased 4,865*l.*, and from British Colonies, 5,124*l.*, whilst from the United States there was a decrease of 5,056*l.* These two last items are, however, nominal, and are due to the circumstances that in 1891 there was a direct trade with the United States by steam, which was discontinued in 1892. Therefore in 1892 merchandise had to be imported viâ Barbados, and to be treated in the Customs Returns as Imports from that Colony. As a matter of fact nearly everything shown as imported from British Colonies, is imported from Barbados, and nearly every item of such things is the product of some other place. Flour, meal, beef, pork, grain, lard, lumber, kerosine oil, imported as from Barbados have the United States as their country of origin; the lumber and fish may be traced back largely to Canada; rice to the East Indies, and spirits to the United Kingdom and Holland.

The net increase of 5,142*l.* in the year's imports cannot be traced to any articles in particular, for decreases in the details of imports are as numerous as the increases. Goods free of duty, indeed, show an excess against 1891 of 6,652*l.*, and a casual glance without thought might make one regard this item as accounting for the net increase in all the imports. But it is not so; the increase in the value of "Duty Free" goods imported is the result of the transfer to that class of many kinds of goods rendered duty free under the McKinley Treaty.

Exports.

The value of the exports in 1892 amounted to 117,572*l.* This exceeded the like figures in 1891 by 18,899*l.* The trade of which this increase was made up was distributed thus:—

	£
To the United Kingdom - - -	12,468
British Colonies - - - -	13,124
	25,592
Less net decreased exports to foreign countries	6,693
	£18,899

The export trade with the United States decreased in 1892 by 8,999*l.* The whole of the sugar had been, as for some years preceding, shipped to that country; but the quantity of produce was very much reduced, and prices were almost the lowest ever realized. These two causes combined to make up the reduced figures shown.

ST. VINCENT. 1892.

The following tables will show the quantities and values of the principal products of the Colony exported, and their destination during 1892. There is also a table of comparison with the average figures of the three preceding years, which owing to many fluctuations in those years will afford a better means of comparison than with a single year.

Table of the Quantities, reduced to a common standard, of the prinicpal products of the Colony exported in 1892, *and a comparison thereof with the corresponding average figures of the years* 1889–90–91.

Produce exported.	In 1892.	In 1889-91 (Average)	Increase in 1892.	Decrease in 1892.
Sugar - - - - hhds.	3,884	5,623	—	1,739
Rum - - - - puns.	566	487	79	—
Molasses - - - - - ,,	1,366	2,155	—	789
Arrowroot - - - barrels	23,433	18,373	5,060	—
Cocoa - - - - - lbs.	129,589	102,261	27,328	—
Cotton - - - - - bales	176	100	76	—

Of the principal products exported, there is some interest to be found in tracing the course of the following figures during the five years 1888 to 1892:—

Tables of Quantities of Products Exported.

—	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Sugar - - hhds.	5,105	5,820	6,078	4,971	3,884
Arrowroot - barrels	15,458	16,732	20,846	17,540	23,433
Cocoa - - lbs.	73,862	89,329	102,771	114,683	129,589

By this table will be seen the upward progress of sugar production to 1890, and its hasty decline afterwards. Arrowroot and cocoa are now the main chances of the Colony. The price of arrowroot in the last two years has been unprecedented, and seems to indicate that the intrinsic value of the product is being better appreciated in the world's markets. As the product of arrowroot is almost wholly limited to St. Vincent and Natal, and the product of Natal had almost disappeared nearly the very moment when the Jamaica Exhibition produced its effects on the

exhibits colony of St. Vincent, it may be assumed that the St. Vincent arrowroot finds itself, all of a sudden, in a position of commercial good luck, with the knowledge that arrowroot production cannot be increased on the smallest scale inside of at least six months, and on a scale (for want of plants) likely to affect prices, for a much longer time; so that there is a good early future for those who have arrowroot estates.

Table of the Values of Products shown in the preceding table and similar comparison.

Produce Exported.		Value 1892.	Average 1889–91.	Increase in 1892.	Decrease in 1892.
		£	£	£	£
Sugar - - - -	hhds.	33,366	57,942	—	24,576
Rum - - - -	puns.	4,530	4,421	109	—
Molasses - - - -	,,	4,158	6,651	—	2,493
Arrowroot - - -	brls.	61,313	29,152	32,161	—
Cocoa - - - -	lbs.	2,700	2,152	548	—
Cotton - - - -	bales	1,029	520	509	—

Table of the Destination of the Principal Products of the Colony Exported in 1892.

Product.		Destination.		
		United Kingdom.	United States.	
Sugar - -	hhds.	—	3,382	
Rum - -	puns.	497	—	Venezuela. 60.
Molasses -	,,	—	—	French W. Indies. 1366.
Arrowroot -	brls.	17,008	6,224	
Cocoa - -	lbs.	73,320	—	British W. Indies. 57,269.
Cotton - -	bales	153	—	23.

13. *Shipping.*

The total number of sailing vessels entered during the year under review was 313. The tonnage of these vessels in the aggregate amounted to 13,566, their crews to 1,637.

The total number of sailing vessels cleared was 301, with a tonnage of 14,382, and crews 1,735.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 105, with tonnage amounting to 119,154 and crews 4,653.

Clearances of steam vessels were in all respects the same as of those entered.

Of the sailing vessels the nationalities were as follows:—

—	Entered.	Cleared.
British	283	271
American	10	10
Dutch	6	7
Venezuelan	11	11
Norwegian	2	1
French	1	1
Total	313	301

The 119 steam vessels entered and cleared were all British.

The number and tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared in 1892, as compared with 1891 are stated as follows:—

Sailing Vessels.	1891.		1892.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	322	14,410	313	13,566	9	844
Cleared	330	15,377	301	14,382	29	995

The following table will show the differences in the number and tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared as compared with the previous year —

1891.		1892.		Increase.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
101	115,992	105	119,154	4	3,162

14. *Prisons and Prisoners.*

The following table presents a comparative statement of the working of the prison during the last four years:—

Year.	Number of Commitments.	Committed for Debt.	Committed for Custody for Trial or for want of Sureties.	Committed for penal Imprisonment.	Number of Prisoners previously convicted.			Commitment for				Daily Average in Prison.	Admission to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	Five Years or more.	More than One Year and less than Five Years.	More than Three Months and less than One Year.	Three Months or less.				
1889 - -	192	2	48	142	19	3	20	1	4	7	130	22·9	1	·12	1
1890 - -	170	3	48	119	4	8	10	3	8	2	106	20·0	2	·3	1
1891 - - -	176	1	40	135	16	7	9	1	3	4	127	26·25	1	·38	—
1892 - - -	186	3	54	129	17	10	23	3	7	18	101	33·20	2	·27	—
Total - -	724	9	190	525	56	28	62	8	22	31	464	102·35	6	1·07	2
Average -	181	2	47·5	131·25	14	7	15·5	2	5·5	7·75	116	25·58	1·5	·26	·5

St. Vincent.
1892.

15. *Criminal Statistics.*

There were 1,346 persons summoned before the magistrates, a decrease of 134 as compared with the numbers of the previous year.

The cases were disposed of in the magistrates' courts as follow:—

Discharged for want of prosecution - -	539
Dismissed on the merits - - - -	153
Summary convictions - - - -	625
Committed for trial - - - -	29

Of the persons convicted in the magistrates' courts 493 were fined, 24 underwent imprisonment in default of payments of fines, and 44 peremptory imprisonments, 21 were whipped and 43 were bound over with or without sureties or submitted to some other trivial punishment. There were 21 convictions in the Superior Court, 11 of which were of offences against property and 10 of assault. Of the total number, 129 persons, committed during the year for the purpose of penal imprisonment, there were 50 against whom previous convictions were recorded.

16. *Savings Banks.*

The following table gives a summary of the Savings Bank transactions during the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At credit of Depositors on December 31.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 - -	833	3,516 4 5	3,035 10 0	10,318 6 2
1889 - -	920	3,865 10 3	6,019 15 11	8,640 2 7
1890 - -	956	4,607 8 11	4,224 16 2	8,797 1 4
1891 - -	938	5,215 16 8	5,474 5 9	8,714 13 3
1892 - -	946	4,843 5 6	4,750 14 2	8,957 10 6

The rate of interest allowed to depositors is 2½ per centum per annum.

17. *Crown Lands.*

In addition to the routine duties consequent on the work done up to the end of 1891, I am glad to be able to say that considerable progress has been made in the Trigonometrical Survey of the island commenced in 1891. During the year, also, 74 applicants received allotments, the total acreage surveyed being 505 acres. A

great deal more work would doubtless have been accomplished had not the duties of the Office of Director of Surveys of the Windward Islands been performed throughout the year in conjunction with those of the office of Director of Public Works of the Windward Islands, as during the first half of the year Mr. Reeve, the Director of Surveys, acted for Mr. Messervy, the Director of Public Works, absent on account of ill health, whilst during the latter half Mr. Messervy acted for Mr. Reeve, himself obliged to go home on sick leave.

The scheme is progressing favourably and the people are evincing a great desire to avail themselves of the benefit of possessing land of their own, whilst, on the one hand, lack of ready money amongst the people prevents sales from being more rapidly effected; on the other hand, the fact that applications for land are steadily received, fairly shows that the majority of applicants, while anxious to purchase lands, are delayed by having to save or by other efforts obtain sufficient money to pay the necessary survey fee, an indication, patent enough, that the advantage offered to the peasant is not unperceived.

18. *Hospitals.*

The number of patients in the Colonial Hospital at the close of the year 1891 was 59, viz., 31 males and 28 females.

The admissions in 1892 were 400, of whom 263 were males and 137 females. There were, therefore, 459 patients treated during the year, the daily average being 58·5.

There were 61 operations performed during the year, of which, it is satisfactory to note, only one case succumbed.

The following table gives the number of cases treated under the classes stated, with the number of deaths, as compared with 1891:—

Diseases treated.	1891.		1892.	
	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
General - - -	118	16	117	17
Local - - - -	291	15	284	14
Injuries - - -	54	1	58	1
Total - - -	463	32	459	32

(Signed) Irwin C. Maling,
Administrator.

St. Vincent, 24th June 1893.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 86.

ST. LUCIA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 53.]

Administrator GOULDSBURY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

St. Lucia,
July 19, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book of St. Lucia for the year 1892.

2. I hope to be able to forward manuscript copies of the Blue Book to your Lordship by next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1892.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

During the year five Ordinances were passed altering or affecting the customs and excise duties.

In the early part of the year an Ordinance (No. 5) was passed giving effect to the provisions of the reciprocity clause of the McKinley Tariff Act, under which a large number of articles which theretofore had been subject to duty were admitted duty free and the duty on a considerable number of other articles of import was reduced in some cases by 25 per cent., and in others by 50 per cent., of the former duties chargeable on them.

The loss of revenue resulting from the exemptions and reductions effected by this Ordinance was estimated by the United States authorities at 2,500*l.* and by this Government at a little over 3,000*l.* per annnm.

The actual loss, however, for the eleven months of 1892 during which the Ordinance was in operation was 3,823*l.* or at the rate of 4,171*l.* per annum.

St. Lucia. 1892.

In order to compensate for the loss of revenue consequent on the McKinley Tariff Agreement, the duty on rum and spirits (except brandy) was increased. The excise duty on rum was raised, by Ordinance No. 4, from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* per proof gallon, and, by Ordinance No. 5, the customs duty on gin, rum, whiskey, and other spirits (except brandy, the duty on which was already 8*s.*) was raised from 6*s.* 8*d.* to 8*s.* per proof gallon.

The amount realised by the increased excise duty on rum and customs duty on rum and other spirits was, for the eleven months during which the Ordinances were in operation, 2,564*l.*, or at the rate of 2,797*l.* per annum.

The amount estimated to be obtained by the increase in the excise and customs duty on rum and other spirits was not realized in consequence of the general shrinkage in trade, and the falling off in the consumption of these articles by the community owing to the scarcity of money arising from the partial failure of the cocoa crop, the low price of produce generally, and the diminution in the expenditure on public works by the Imperial and Colonial Governments.

By Ordinance No. 10 the import duty on Usine and Muscovado sugar was reduced from a penny to a halfpenny per pound, with the object of lowering the price of sugar to the consumer by introducing the element of competition between the outside markets and the sugar factories of the island, which competition had hitherto been precluded by the high import duty on sugar, and the absence of which had resulted in the retail price of sugar being higher in St. Lucia than even in England and in other countries which do not produce sugar.

By Ordinance No. 17 the holder of any licence under the Liquor License Ordinance was prohibited from selling any spirits of less strength than 25 per cent. under proof; and by Ordinance No. 18, the *ad valorem* duty on articles subject to it was increased from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent., this latter Ordinance having been passed in consequence of the serious falling off in the revenue which had taken place during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year 1892 amounted to 48,297*l.* and 54,934*l.* respectively, the expenditure thus exceeding the revenue by 6,637*l.*

The estimated revenue and expenditure were respectively 52,420*l.* and 53,846.

The actual revenue fell short of the estimated revenue by 4,123*l.*, and the actual expenditure exceeded the estimated expenditure by 1,088*l.*

The revenue for 1892 fell short of that for the previous year by 1,029*l.*, and the expenditure exceeded that for 1891 by 1,028*l.*

In the following table are shown the principal heads of revenue, under which there was a considerable increase or decrease in 1892 compared with the preceding year :—

Heads of Revenue.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
1. Customs	—	4,261
2. Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues	—	304
3. Licences, Excise, &c.	867	—
4. Fees of Court, office, &c.	300	—
5. Miscellaneous	—	539
6. Materials and Stores (sale of)	276	—
7. Land Sales (transferred from special fund to credit of General Revenue)	488	—

The subjoined table shows the principal heads of expenditure under which there was a considerable increase or decrease in 1892, compared with 1891 :—

Heads of Expenditure	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
1. Treasury and Customs	—	204
2. Audit Department	—	423
3. Port and Marine	576	—
4. Education	353	—
5. Miscellaneous—Military Duty allowance, &c.	1,795	—
6. Post Office	444	—
7. Public Works Department	—	948
8. Materials and Stores	—	2,125
9. Public Works Recurrent	—	856
10.* Crown Lands Department	772	—

* New head of expenditure formerly shown under head "Colonial Surveyor."

The decrease in the revenue for 1892, compared with the previous year, was the result of several causes, the principal being the operation of the McKinley Tariff Agreement, the large

reductions in expenditure on Public Works by both the Imperial and Colonial Governments, the partial failure of the cocoa crop, the low price obtained for produce, and the general declension in trade.

The increase in the expenditure for 1892 as compared with the preceding year, viz., 1,028*l.*, was chiefly due to the purchase of new buoys and moorings for Castries Harbour, the erection of leading mark lights, the increased military duty allowance, the increased subsidy to the coasting steamers, and the increased contribution to the Imperial postal subsidy.

The revenue and expenditure for the year 1892 compare as follows with the revenue and expenditure for 1891, and with the average of the revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years 1886–90:—

—	1892.	1891.	Average for five years 1886–90.
	£	£	£
Revenue - - - -	48,297	49,326	43,956
Expenditure - - - -	54,934	53,906	44,481

Assets and Liabilities.

The subjoined statement shows the assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December 1892:—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
	£		£
Cash - - - -	130	Savings Bank Deposit Account -	7,704
Colonial Bank Current Account -	3,071	Castries Town Fund - -	439
" Deposit Account -	3,500	Towns and Villages Fund - -	1,262
Investments on account of Savings Bank - - - - -	5,000	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund - - - -	1,776
Investments on account of Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund - - - - -	1,504	Imperial Post Office Reward Fund -	23
Miscellaneous Advances -	12,253	Post Office Money Order Account -	296
London and Westminster Bank -	76	Grenada Intercolonial Account -	1,125
Bank of England - - -	3	St. Vincent Intercolonial Account -	6
		Immigration Fund - - -	3,452
		Crown Agents' Current Account -	10,891
	£25,537	Sinking Fund - - - -	79
Stores, Surplus Account -	1,849	Balance Surplus Assets - -	333
	£27,386		£27,386

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 147,850*l.*, and was made up as shown below :—

Debts.	Amount due at end of year 1892.	Amount of original Debt.	Source from which interest and Sinking Fund are paid.
	£	£	
1. Central Sugar Factory Loans -	30,800	40,000	General Revenue.
2. Immigration Loans - -	21,600	23,000	Immigration Fund.
3. Harbour of Castries Improvement Loans - - -	84,000	84,000	General Revenue.
4. Public Works Loans - -	11,450	11,450	Do.
	£147,850	£158,450	

The sum of 1,000*l.*, was paid off during the year by the redemption of drawn debentures. The public debt at the end of the year was equal to a little over three times the amount of the revenue for the year, and represented an indebtedness equal to 3*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank during the year 1892 amounted to 6,955*l.*, the number of depositors at the end of the year, being 905, thus giving an average of 7*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* per depositor. The withdrawals amounted to 9,212*l.*

The large excess of the withdrawals over the deposits was caused by the withdrawal and transfer to India of the amounts deposited by the Indian immigrants who were repatriated towards the latter end of the year.

The total amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year was 7,704*l.*

Municipalities and other Public Bodies.

The town of Castries is governed by an elective Town Board consisting of eight members. All the other towns and villages are under the supervision and management of Town Wardens, acting under the directions and control of the Governor in Council.

St. Lucia. 1892.

The total revenue of the towns and villages for the year 1892 amounted to 3,820*l.*, and the expenditure to 5,265*l.*

The revenue is derived principally from house tax, the rates being levied upon the assessed annual rental, or value for rental, of the property.

The rate varies from 5 per cent. in some of the villages to 8 per cent. in others and in the towns of Castries, Soufriére, and Vieux-Fort.

Military.

The only expenditure of the Colony in respect of the troops was 1,974*l.*, paid as an allowance in lieu of duty-free goods.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 34,613*l.*

Public Works.

The Public Works executed during the year consisted as usual of works of new construction and of works of maintenance and repair.

The following were the principal works of new construction carried out during the year:—

The construction of a road leading from the Morne Road to site of the proposed new Government House; the erection of leading marks and lights to indicate the line of safe entrance into the harbour; the addition of timber fenders to the North Wharf; the construction of a new jetty at Soufriére; and the erection of village latrines.

Under the head of maintenance and repairs, the following may be enumerated as the principal works executed:—

The upkeep and repair of roads and bridges; general repair of Government buildings, that of the Victoria Hospital being the most extensive; and the repair of the jetties at Vieux Fort, Laborie and Choiseul.

The following works, which partook partly of the character of new construction and partly of that of repair, were also executed during the year, viz.:—The construction of a new face to the Western Wharf by the erection of a new line of piling in the front of the old facing, which was weak and defective, and the deepening of the water alongside; the extension of the jetties at Vieux Fort and Choiseul; and the laying down of new moorings in Castries Harbour.

Of all the works executed during the year the refacing of the Western Wharf was the most extensive and important, involving an outlay of 4,889*l.*, ensuring the stability of the wharf for years, and, by permitting of the deepening of the water alongside,

enabling vessels up to 18 feet of draught to utilize this wharf by loading and discharging cargo at it.

The amount spent on Public Works during the year was 16,266*l.*, of which expenditure 7,370*l.* was paid out of General Revenue and the balance of 8,896*l.* out of Public Works Loans.

Legislation.

Eighteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, and these, together with an Ordinance (Coroners' Ordinance, 1891) passed on the 29th December 1891, were promulgated in the Colony during the year under review.

The titles of these Ordinances are as follows :—

(1.) An Ordinance to make provisions for deterring prisoners from persistently malingering, and to promote prison discipline.

(2.) An Ordinance to repeal the Castries Loan Ordinance, 1885.

(3.) An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to Coroners and Fire Inquiries.

(4.) An Ordinance to amend the Tax Ordinance, 1875.

(5.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881.

(6.) An Ordinance to amend the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1871.

(7.) An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886.

(8.) An Ordinance to amend the Spirits Ordinance, 1886.

(9.) An Ordinance to amend the Harbour Master Ordinance, 1888.

(10.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881.

(11.) An Ordinance to amend the Army (Colonial Allowance) Ordinance, 1888.

(12.) An Ordinance to provide for the Enrolment of Coast Defence Volunteers.

(13.) An Ordinance to legalise the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the General Revenue for the service of the year 1891, in addition to the sums already sanctioned under the Appropriation Ordinance, 1891.

(14.) An Ordinance to amend the Castries Ordinance, 1888.

(15.) An Ordinance to naturalise Gottfried August Ludwig Graf as a British subject.

(16.) An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Saint Lucia for the year 1893.

(17.) An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886.

(18.) An Ordinance to repeal the Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance, 1889, and to make other provisions in place thereof.

(19.) An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorised to be raised by the Government of Saint Lucia, and to provide for the creation of Saint Lucia Inscribed Stock.

Of the Ordinances promulgated during the year the most important were :—The Coroners' Ordinance, 1891, which amends and consolidates the law relating to Coroners and to Fire Inquiries; the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881, Amendment Ordinance, 1892, which was passed to give effect to the provisions of the reciprocity clause in the McKinley Tariff Act; and the General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, 1892, which provides for the creation of St. Lucia Inscribed Stock, and for the conversion into Inscribed Stock to be issued under the provisions of this Ordinance of all or any of the St. Lucia Loans, whether in the form of Stock or Debentures.

Civil Establishments.

His Excellency Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson was absent on leave from the Windward Islands from the 9th September to the 8th November, during which period I administered the General Government.

Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, Attorney-General, administered the Government of St. Lucia during my absence at Grenada from the 9th to the 30th September, to which Colony I had proceded to be sworn in an Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

Mr. Low, who had been acting as Treasurer in Grenada, resumed his duties as Stipendiary Magistrate of the First District on the 19th of August. He left this Colony on the 6th of December to assume his duties as Commissioner of Tobago, to which post he had been appointed.

Mr. Dix, Magistrate of the Second District, was appointed to act as Magistrate of the First District consequent on Mr. Low's departure for Tobago; and Mr. Elliot, the Magistrate of the Third District, performed the duties of Magistrate of the Second District in conjunction with his own, on Mr. Dix being removed to the First District.

Captain Hughes, the Chief of Police, left the Colony on leave on the 20th of May, and during his absence Mr. Laborde, Chief of Police at St. Vincent, performed his duties. Captain Hughes was subsequently appointed to the command of the police at the Gambia, and Mr. Granville Ponsonby was appointed Chief of Police and Inspector of Prisons.

Mr. Ponsonby arrived in the Colony on the 20th of December, and took over the charge of the Police and Prisons Departments

from Mr. Laborde. Mr. Bartlett, Keeper of the Royal Gaol, resigned his appointment in October, and Mr. Lash, Superintendent of Prisons, Grenada, performed the duties of keeper until the arrival in November of Mr. Heels, who had been appointed Keeper of the Gaol *vice* Mr. Bartlett.

Legislative Council.

Mr. Ozanne left the Colony on leave in January, and Mr. Battam was appointed to act during his absence.

Mr. Ozanne resigned his seat in March, and Mr. Battam was appointed to the vacancy.

Mr. C. Chastanet was absent for six months, during which time Mr. Graff acted.

Mr. J. Macfarlane resigned his seat in July, and Mr. W. Peter as appointed to the vacant seat.

Mr. E. DuBoulay was on leave for six months; Mr. Henry Devaux acted during his absence.

Mr. S. Barnard was appointed to the Council in October.

Mr. Messervy was appointed to act during the absence on leave of Mr. Reeve in November.

Pensions.

With the exception of the death of Mr. J. W. King, formerly Sub-Inspector of Revenue and Police, and who was the recipient of a pension of 40*l.* per annum, there was no change in the pension list during the year.

Population.

Both the birth-rate and death-rate for the year 1892 were below those for the preceding year. The gain to the population resulting from the excess of births over deaths was 602, raising the number of the population by this natural increase to 43,310 at the end of 1892.

Immigration.

The report for 1892 of the Protector of Immigrants shows that there were 522 indentured Indian coolies in the Colony at the close of the year.

The number of births and deaths during 1892 were respectively 25 and 16, and one indentured coolie was sent back to India.

The birth-rate was 4·6, and the death-rate 2·8 per cent., showing a higher birth-rate and a lower death-rate than the averages for previous years.

The birth and death rates among the indentured coolies compare with those for the general population as follows :—

	Per-centage.	
	Coolies.	General Population.
Birth-rate - - - -	4·6	3·76
Death-rate - - -	2·8	2·85

It will be observed from the above table that both the birth and death rate were higher among the coolies than among the general population, the death-rate being, however, only fractionally (0·45 per cent.) higher.

In August 137 time-expired immigrants, including children, were repatriated, having sailed in the ship "Jumna" for India.

It is worthy of note that these return immigrants carried away as savings the very considerable sum of 2,138*l.* One coolie had to his credit as much as 170*l.*, another had 143*l.*, and two were the possessors of above 100*l.* each.

In 1891, 627 acres of Crown lands in the neighbourhood of Castries were reserved for the purpose of forming an Indian settlement, and several grants for lots varying from five to ten acres in extent were issued during the year 1892. The land is granted on very reasonable terms, the price being only 1*l.* an acre, the payment being by instalments spread over a period of five years.

The immigrants who have taken up lots on the Reservation have begun to clear and cultivate their properties, and such have been their diligence and industry that some of them have already been able to secure good crops, the surplus of which they disposed of at remunerative prices. It is a fact of some interest and significance, that amongst these crops were to be found potatoes (English) of a most excellent quality; and also of interest to know that two full crops at least of this tuber could be grown and gathered in the twelve months. I hope to be able before long to establish the nucleus of another Indian coolie settlement in the neighbourhood of Vieux Fort at the south end of the island, and am having lands surveyed in that locality for that purpose.

Education.

All the schools in the Colony with two exceptions are primary schools. There were 33 primary schools on the list of assisted schools during the year. Of these 21 were Roman Catholic, 4 were Government, 4 were Indian Mission, 1 was Anglican, 1 was Wesleyan, and 2 were private aided schools.

During the year one Indian Mission school, that at Crown Lands, was closed, and five additional schools were placed on the list of assisted schools, three of them being Roman Catholic and two Indian Mission.

Four of the primary assisted schools are infant schools; two of them being in Castries, and two in Soufriere.

The Inspector of Schools reports that "the general condition of "the schools shows steady progress in improvement," and there is every reason to believe that the improvement will become accelerated as the children acquire and become more familiar with the English language.

The work of education in this Colony must necessarily be one of somewhat slow progress. It has, at least, one great difficulty to contend with, namely, ignorance on the part of both the parents and children of the language in which the latter are taught.

It is, however, satisfactory to know that progress is being made, and a hopeful reflection that the main factor in the retardation of advancement will be a constantly decreasing quantity until, in a generation or two, it finally disappears.

From the subjoined statement some idea may be gathered as to the state of primary education in the Colony :—

Number of primary schools in the Colony -	23
Total population of the Colony - -	43,310
Total number of children on school rolls at end of year - - - - - - -	4,156
Average attendance - - - -	2,357
Number presented for examination - -	1,644
Number passed in two subjects - - -	1,330
Centesimal proportion on rolls to total population - - - -	9·59
Percentage of attendance of number on rolls -	56·7
Percentage of attendance passed in two subjects	56·4
Percentage of those presented which passed in two subjects - - - -	80·9

Vital Statistics.

There were 1,760 births and 1,158 deaths registered during the year; the difference, viz., 602, being the natural increase of the population for the year. This increase raised the population to 43,310 at the end of 1892.

Of the 1,760 births 907 were male and 853 female.

The illegitimate births outnumbered the legitimate by 320, and constituted 59·09 per cent. of the total births. In the previous year the illegitimate births formed 61·90 per cent. of the total births

The still births numbered 156, and amounted to 9·73 per cent. of the live births, or one in every 11·28 of the total births.

The birth-rate, exclusive of still births, bore the proportion of 3·76 per cent. to the population. The percentage for 1891 was 4·05.

The foregoing figures for 1892 compare with those for the year 1891 as follows :—

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total Births.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Percentage of legitimate Births.	Percentage of illegitimate.	Birth-rate per cent. of population.
1891 - -	1,771	155	1,929	735	1,194	38·10	61·90	4·05
1892 - -	1,604	156	1,760	720	1,040	40·91	59·09	3·76

It will be seen from the above table that the total births for the year fell short of those for 1891 by 169, and that the percentage to population decreased from 4·05 to 3·76. On the other hand, it will be observed that the proportion of legitimate to illegitimate births rose from 38·10 per cent. in 1891 to 40·91 per cent. in the year under review.

The deaths during the year numbered 1,158, being 37 less than in 1891. The death-rate (exclusive of still-births) was 2·35 per cent. of the population. In the preceding year it was 2·37. The death-rate for 1892 was about the normal rate, as the average death-rate for the previous five years 1887–91 was 2·26.

The deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 35·23 per cent. of the total deaths.

In 1891 the percentage was 36. The rate of infant mortality is very high, and will continue excessive so long as the several causes which contribute to its existence remain in unabated operation. In my report for 1891, I enumerated some of these causes, naming illegitimacy as the principal one.

The number of marriages celebrated during the year was 246. This number compares very unfavourably with that for 1891, viz.: 396, and is 70 less than the average for the three years 1889–91.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

As compared with the previous year there was a serious falling off in the imports during the year 1892, the decrease, expressed in value, amounting to 49,153*l.*

The total value of the imports in 1892 only reached the sum of 173,025*l.*, whereas in the years 1890 and 1891 the value of the imports amounted to 206,693*l.* and 222,178*l.* respectively. If, however, the comparison be extended over a larger number of years, a different result is obtained.

Taking the average of the five years 1887–91 the average yearly value only amounts to 171,481*l.*, being 1,544*l.* less than the value of the imports for the year 1892. The decrease, therefore, in the year 1892 should be regarded, at least partly, more as a reversion to a normal or average volume of imports than a retrogression of the Colony in the way of trade and commerce.

Of the total imports, amounting to 173,025*l.* in value, 103,859*l.* worth came from the United Kingdom; 30,360*l.* from British Colonies; and 38,806*l.* from foreign countries; of which last named amount the United States of America contributed 22,030*l.*

The following table enumerates the imports which show an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value in 1892, compared with the previous year and the amount of the increase or decrease:—

Articles.	Amount of increase in 1892 compared with 1891.	Articles.	Amount of decrease in 1892 compared with 1891.
	£		£
Ale, beer, porter &c. -	238	Animals: Cattle and oxen	553
Animals: Sheep - -	219	„ Mules and asses	2,624
Bloomer - - -	280	Biscuits - - -	228
Cement - - -	302	Butter: Oleomargarine -	255
Cutlery - - -	203	Candles: Sperm -	328
Wines - - -	226	Cheese - - -	668
		Coals - - -	2,827
		Coffee - - -	314
		Confectionery - -	348
		Cottons and woollens -	3,741
		Fish, salted and dried -	1,937
		Flour, Wheat - -	2,045
		Haberdashery - -	1,515
		Hardware - -	1,113
		Leather: Boots and shoes	790
		Machinery and agricultural implements -	1,470
		Manures - - -	1,422
		Medicines - -	267
		Machinery for coasting steamers - -	357
		Oats and bran - -	217
		Paints and varnish -	273
		Preserves - -	800
		Rice - - -	2,103
		Shingles - - -	269
		Silks and satins - -	645
		Soap - - -	699
		Wood—pitch and white pine - - -	639

Exports.

The value of the exports for 1892 was 179,056*l.*, showing a decrease of 2,447*l.* compared with the preceding year, but an

increase of 22,881*l.* compared with the average yearly value of the exports for the five years 1887–91.

In the following table are shown the articles of export in which an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value occurred in 1892 compared with the previous year, and the amount of such increase or decrease :—

Articles.	Amount of increase in 1892 compared with 1891.	Articles.	Amount of decrease in 1892 compared with 1891.
	£		£
Ammunition - -	370	Coals - - -	8,780
Rum - - -	320	Cocoa - - -	5,188
Sugar : Usine - -	15,344	Corn - - -	332
Molasses - - -	2,246	Farine manioc - -	487
		Mangoes - -	1,696
		Rice - - -	1,115
		Iron, Galvanized -	903
		Sugar, Muscovado -	3,597
		Woods, Logwood -	1,334

It will be observed that, as compared with the previous year, there was a large increase in the value of the Usines sugar, and a considerable decrease in that of the Muscovado sugar, exported during 1892, and that a serious falling off occurred in the case of cocoa. This latter decrease is attributable to the shortness of the crop, owing to the season having been a very unfavourable one for cocoa.

The mangoe crop was also a very poor one, and resulted in a falling off to the amount of 1,696*l.* in the value of the exports of this fruit as compared with the preceding year.

The subjoined table exhibits a comparative statement of the value of the exports in 1892 of the three principal articles of exports, and the average yearly value of the exports of these articles for the preceding ten years 1882–91.

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1892 over average for 10 preceding years.	Decrease in 1892 below average for 10 preceding years.
	1892.	Average for 10 years 1882–91.		
Sugar :	£	£	£	£
Usine - - -	76,214	48,097	28,117	—
Muscovado - -	14,656	55,926	—	41,270
Molasses - -	7,580	6,559	1,021	—
Cocoa - -	23,470	18,335	5,135	—
	121,920	128,917	34,273	41,270

It will be observed from the above statement that, as compared with the average for the preceding ten years, there was an increase in the value of the exports of Usine sugar, molasses, and cocoa amounting in the total to 34,273*l.*, and a decrease in that of the export of Muscovado sugar amounting to 41,270*l.*, showing a difference in the way of decrease in the year under review of 6,997*l.*

Of the total exports amounting to 179,056*l.* in value 44,757*l.* worth were exported to the United Kingdom; 7,153*l.* to British colonies, 84,446*l.* to foreign countries, of which last-named amount the United States absorbed 56,402*l.*, and the remainder, viz., 42,700*l.*, was the value of the bunker coal exported.

The value of the exports in 1892 exceeded that of the imports by 6,031*l.*; whereas, in the preceding year the position was reversed, the value of the imports exceeding that of the exports by 40,675*l.*

Shipping.

Six hundred and one vessels entered, and the same number cleared, at the Port of Castries during the year. Of those that entered 246 were sailing and 355 steam vessels; and of those that cleared 249 were sailing and 252 steam vessels.

The aggregate tonnage of the vessels entered during the year amounted to 398,249 tons.

The number of vessels which entered in 1892 fell short of that for 1891 by 50, 42 fewer sailing and 8 fewer steam vessels entering in 1892; and there was a decrease of 32,538 tons in the aggregate tonnage.

Of the sailing vessels, 229 were with cargo, and 17 were in ballast; and of the steam vessels 157 were with cargo and 198 were in ballast.

Of the 355 steam vessels which entered during the year, 109 called for the purpose only of taking in bunker coal, and 68 regular traders coaled, making a total of 177 steamers which coaled at this port during the year.

The 246 sailing vessels which entered were composed of vessels of the following nationalities:—British 200, French 25, Italian 2, Danish 2, American 5, Dutch 11, Norwegian 1; and the 355 steam vessels which entered were made up of 313 British, 3 French, 4 Russian, 3 Belgian, and 3 German.

The subjoined statement shows the number of vessels and amount of tonnage entered and cleared during 1892, and the averages for the previous five years.

—	1892.		Average for five years 1887–91.		Increase in 1892 over average for five preceding years.		Decrease in 1892 compared with average for five preceding years.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.
ENTERED.								
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	229	12,380	222	12,192	7	188	—	—
In ballast - - -	17	1,889	24	2,597	—	—	7	708
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	157	171,110	154	164,866	3	6,244	—	—
In ballast - - -	198	212,870	166	185,071	32	27,799	—	—
Total - -	601	398,249	566	364,726	42	34,231	7	708
CLEARED.								
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	226	10,578	189	8,664	37	1,914	—	—
In ballast - - -	23	4,013	60	6,031	—	—	37	2,018
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - - -	89	98,636	130	137,986	—	—	41	39,350
In ballast - - -	263	276,954	191	192,330	72	84,624	—	—
Total - -	601	390,181	570	345,011	109	86,538	78	41,368

Post Office.

During the year 1892 there was a notable increase in the transactions of the Post Office, compared with previous years, 48,471 letters and post-cards having been despatched to, and 47,423 letters and post-cards having been received from, the United Kingdom and foreign countries, and 22,617 inland letters and post-cards having passed though the Post Office, making a total of 118,511 letters and post-cards dealt with.

The following comparative statement shows the number of letters, post-cards, newpapers, &c. dispatched and received each year for five years 1888–92:—

1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.	
Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.
75,391	35,[illegible]14	86,363	56,961	90,743	59,523	102,997	87,998	118,511	94,036

Money orders to the amount of 4,353*l.* were issued, and to the amount of 994*l.* were paid, during the year, these sums being a considerable increase on the transactions of the previous year.

The following were the receipts from the sale of stamps, commissions on money orders, &c. :—

	£
Stamps sold - - - - -	2,167
Unpaid letters delivered - - -	28
Commission on money orders - - -	70
Rent of letter boxes - - - -	27
	£2,292

being 365*l.* in excess of the amount received in the year 1891.

Crown Lands.

Grants of Crown lands to the number of twelve in the country and five in towns were made during the year, the total acreage granted being 75¼ acres.

There were 96 applications for grants during the year, the lots applied for varying from 5 to 10 acres. Owing to the long absence from the Colony of the Director of Surveys, partly on sick leave and partly on duty in St. Vincent and Grenada, as much progress as could be wished was not made in dealing with the many applications for Crown grants.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The Royal Gaol, Castries, is a military as well as a general prison, soldiers undergoing a sentence of not more than 14 days being confined therein. It is also used as a place of temporary detention for soldiers undergoing longer terms of imprisonment, pending transfer to Barbados.

The sanitary state of the gaol was satisfactory, and no disease of an epidemic nature occurred during the year.

The number of persons committed to prison in 1892 was 579, including 43 military prisoners. Of the number committed, 451 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, and 128 for safe custody till trial, or for want of security. There were no committals for debt.

The daily average number in prison was 49·65, being 1·15 in excess of the average for the preceding year.

There were 18 admissions to hospital, and the daily average on the sick list was 1·70.

There were 3 deaths during the year, the same number as in 1891.

The following comparative table shows the foregoing particulars for the years 1890, 1891, and 1892 respectively:—

Year.	Total number committed.	For debt.	For safe custody.	For purposes of penal imprisonment.	Number of those committed who have been formerly convicted.			Daily average number in prison.	Number of admissions into hospital.	Daily average on sick list.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.				
1890 - - -	460	19	119	341	49	11	37	50·77	10	1·61	*2
1891 - - -	547	7	127	413	56	40	57	48·50	21	2·26	3
1892 - - -	579	—	128	451	45	29	60	49·63	18	1·70	3

* One executed.

It will be seen from the foregoing figures that the commitments during the year were in excess of those respectively for 1890 and 1891, and that, while the re-convictions were more numerous than those for 1890, they were fewer than those for 1891.

The increase in the number of commitments in 1892 as compared with the previous year was made up of commitments of soldiers for military offences.

Corporal punishment was awarded four times during the year. The total number of lashes inflicted was 45.

Criminal Statistics.

As compared with the preceding year, there was an increase of 92 in the number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1892, the number amounting to 1,691, against 1,599 for the previous year.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before a magistrate was slightly in excess of the figures for 1891, and largely in excess of the average for the five years 1886–90.

The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,143, and the number committed for trial in the Superior Courts 23. Of the number of persons committed for trial in the Superior Courts, three were not indicted, twowere discharged for want of prosecution, a *nolle prosequi* was entered in one case, eight were convicted, and nine were acquitted.

The following comparative table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, &c. in 1892 and 1891 respectively, and the averages for the five years 1886–90:—

—	1892.	1891.	Average for Five Years, 1886–90.
Number of Offences reported to Police	1,691	1,599	1,286
Number of persons apprehended by police or summoned before the magistrate	2,015	2,035	1,587
Number of summary convictions	1,143	1,167	743
Number of persons committed for trial in the Superior Courts	23	20	32
Number of persons acquitted in Inferior Courts	849	848	813
Number of persons acquitted in Superior Courts	9	3	11
Percentage of convictions in Inferior Courts	52	53	48
Percentage of convictions in Superior Courts	47	79	65

Hospitals.

As in my report for 1891, I am able to state that the sanitary condition of the hospitals was very satisfactory.

With the exception of the prevalence for a short time in the early part of the year of a mild type of influenza, no disease of an epidemic nature appeared in the Colony during 1892.

There were 2,809 patients admitted into the hospitals (exclusive of the Yaws Hospital) during the year, making with those remaining in hospital from the preceding year, viz., 171, a total of 2,980 patients treated. Of this number 2,631 were discharged cured, 81 were discharged relieved, and 134 died.

Of the 2,980 patients treated in the hospitals during the year 975 were cases of malarial fever.

As in the previous year, the type of the disease was of a mild nature, and the mortality was but slight, being only 1·02 per cent. of the number treated. The deaths amongst the total number of patients treated in hospital during the year were at the rate of 4·49 per cent.

Yaws Hospital.—There were 55 patients admitted into the Yaws Hospital during the year, which, with the 27 patients remaining in hospital at the close of 1891, made a total of 82 cases treated.

Of the 82 cases treated 38 were discharged cured, 1 was discharged uncured, and 4 died; the deaths being at the rate of 4·88 per cent. of the number treated.

Dispensaries.—The number of persons who received medical aid at the Dispensaries during the year, was 8,917, being 612 in excess of the number treated in the year 1891. The principal diseases treated were malarial fevers and diseases of the digestive system.

Poor Asylum.—There were 78 destitute persons admitted into the Poor Asylum, Castries, during the year, which number, with the 38 inmates remaining over from 1891, makes a total of 116 destitute persons who received food, shelter, clothing, and medical attendance in the institution during 1892. Many of those remaining over from the previous year, and of those admitted in 1892, were afflicted with chronic or incurable diseases. Of the number (116) who were afforded aid in the institution during the year, 52 were discharged relieved, and 27 died, leaving 37 remaining in the asylum at the end of the year under review.

The death-rate was 23·27 per cent., a lower death-rate than that for previous years.

The Medical Officer of the Poor Asylum reports that, whereas formerly there was an excessive mortality from diarrhœa amongst the inmates of the asylum, a marked decrease in the number of deaths from that disease has taken place since 1890, in and from which year the inmates were and have been supplied with rain water stored in a concrete tank, instead of, as formerly, with river water drawn from the Castries town hydrants.

Lunatic Asylum.—This asylum is only a temporary one in which lunatics are detained until they can be transferred to the General Lunatic Asylum at Grenada.

Four lunatics were admitted into the asylum in 1892. Of these two were discharged cured, one was discharged as "relieved," and one died.

The total number of cases treated during the year in the hospitals and asylums and at the dispensaries was 12,101, at a total cost (including salaries of medical officers, hospital attendants, &c.) amounting to £6,105, which gives an average of 10*s.* 1*d.* per case, and an average of 2*s.* 10¾*d.* per head of the population.

Botanical Station.

The work carried out during the year was principally of a routine nature, and the gradual filling up of the swampy plot of land adjoining the garden was proceeded with.

The growth and condition of the various trees and shrubs were satisfactory, and the plantations of cocoa and nutmegs throve exceedingly well.

The proceeds of the sale of plants, seedlings, fruit and flowers amounted to 36*l.*

Meteorology.

The mean temperature in the shade, as shown by the observations taken at the Morne at an elevation of 790 feet above sea level, was 76·7°. The mean maximum temperature for the year was 82·7°, and the mean minimum 70·8°.

The highest monthly mean maximum temperature (84·3°) was in September, and the lowest mean monthly minimum (69·0°) in February.

The absolute maximum temperature (89·2°) occurred in the months of January, August, and September; and the absolute minimum (59·6°) in August.

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 109·67 inches, the rains having been unusually abundant, and in excess of the average yearly rainfall.

The heaviest monthly rainfall (20·12 inches) occurred in June, and the lowest (2·67 inches) in February.

General Observations.

The year under review was not a very prosperous one for St. Lucia. The cocoa crop was a short one, and the price of sugar was low. Although the sugar crop was not a deficient one the low price obtained for it made it a poorly remunerative one.

Among minor exports that of managoes was comparatively small, in consequence of an extensive failure in the crop of that fruit.

Owing to causes which I have enumerated elsewhere in this report, the revenue for the year fell short of the estimated revenue by a considerable sum, and there was a general falling off in the trade of the Colony throughout the greater part of the year.

The prevalence of cholera in Europe necessitated the adoption of quarantine precautions and restrictions in this as in the other West Indian Colonies, but as the period of quarantine for vessels arriving from infected or suspected ports was of a shorter duration than that fixed by the other West Indian Islands, St. Lucia was placed in the invidious and inconvenient position of being quarantined by our neighbours, both British and foreign.

It would, I think, be very expedient and advisable if all the West Indian Colonies adopted similar quarantine periods in cases of epidemics.

In conclusion, I am glad to be able to report that cocoa is being largely planted in many parts of the island; and as the price of that commodity is a very remunerative one, and the soil

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

and climate of St. Lucia are well adapted for its growth, there is every reason to hope that prosperous days await the Colony in the not far distant future.

(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator-in-Chief.

Government House, St. Lucia,
19th July 1893.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

RECEIVED
SEP 17 1894
Library, Navy Dept.

No. 108.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 84.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1894.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1894.

[C.—7319.-6.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 108.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 84.)

Sir Chas. Bruce to the Marquess of Ripon.

My Lord, Grenada, May 26, 1894.

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Colony of Saint Vincent for the year 1893, together with the report of the Administrator.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Chas. Bruce.

1. *Taxes, Duties, and Fees.*

No changes were made under these heads during 1893, with the exception of an Order in Council, which exempted from import duty "all official goods for Foreign Consulates," in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1893.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

Revenue.

The Revenue for the year was 27,914*l.*, being just slightly in excess of he amount estimated for.

The only head which showed a falling off to any extent was Customs, 910*l.*

This was balanced by increases under Licences and Internal Revenue, 410*l.*, and Post Office, 555*l.*

Small increases and decreases under various other heads practically balancing each other.

The fall in Customs Revenue is due to general depression in trade during the year, especially in the dry goods trade.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year was 29,439*l.*, 1,525*l.* in excess of the Revenue, or 1,676*l.* in excess of the estimate for the year.

The heads under which increases show are :—

Post Office, 596*l.*, due to increase of subsidy and transit charges.

Telephones, 156*l.*, additions to staff.

Audit, 103*l.*, two years' charge paid in 1893.

Hospitals, 204*l.*, necessary additional maintenance.

Miscellaneous, 132*l.*—Official Telegrams, 96*l.*; Town rates on Government buildings, 36*l.*

Public Works Extraordinary, 412*l.*—Repairing Layou Public Buildings, 182*l.*; Buccament Cemetery, 60*l.*; Experimental Distillery at Lower Diamond, 172*l.*

3. *Public Debt.*

At the close of 1893 the Public Debt of the Colony was 16,240*l.*, as against 15,250*l.* at the end of 1892.

The increase of the debt by 990*l.* is due to the raising of 1,500*l.* new debentures under the Kingstown Water Supply Loan Ordinance, 1889, necessary to refund the general revenue which had advanced the amount necessary to complete the new Waterworks, and also by the issue of debentures for a new loan of 1,000*l.*, authorised by the Georgetown Water Supply Loan Ordinance of 1893, which sum was required to repay the Treasury for having advanced to the Town of Georgetown 1,000*l.* out of the Revenue of the Colony; except the debt for Crown lands, all the other loans have been steadily reduced.

The following is a statement of the Public Debt at the end of 1893 :—

	£
Government House Loan - - -	1,520
Public Buildings Loan - - -	400
Crown Lands Expenditure Loan - -	1,920
Public Loan - - - - -	1,850
Immigration Loan - - - -	2,750
Kingstown Water Supply Loan - -	6,800
Georgetown Water Supply Loan - -	1,000
	£16,240

4. *Public Works.*

The expenditure on Public Works during the year was 3,382*l.*, a sum very similar to the previous year, without counting the cost (about 1,000*l.*) of the telephone line to Windward; 1,121*l.* was spent on the roads.

Among the principal works undertaken in 1893 were the following:—

General repairs to public buildings.
Repairs to Government Office, Kingstown.
Re-building Layou Police Station.
Fitting up a close still at Lower Diamond.
Sanitary improvements, Colonial Hospital.
Fixing railings, Kingstown Jetty.
New Cemetery, Buccament.
Repairs, Kingstown Prison.

5. *Legislation.*

Ten Ordinances were passed in 1893, the titles of which are as follows:—

No. 1. To legalize the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, in addition to the sums granted by the "Appropriation Ordinance, 1891."

No. 2. To provide for the service of the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.

No. 3. To provide for the exemption from import duty of official goods imported for the use of foreign Consulates.

No. 4. To make further and better provision for the promotion of education.

No. 5. To legalize the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-two, in addition to the sum granted by the "Appropriation Ordinance, 1891."

No. 6. To amend the "Kingstown Harbour Regulation Ordinance, 1885."

No. 7. To protect the Government telephone lines erected in this Island.

No. 8. To amend "the Public Officers Security Ordinance 1890."

No. 9. To raise a loan to repay to the general revenue of this Colony a loan made by it to the town of Georgetown under the "Georgetown Water Supply Ordinance, 1891."

No. 10 To raise a loan to meet the past and future expense of establishing the telephone system in this Island.

The more important of these measures were the following:—

No. 4. Education.—Under this Ordinance an improved system of education was introduced.

No. 7. Telephone.—This Ordinance gave powers for the protection, &c. of the newly created Government telephone lines.

St. Vincent. 1893.

Nos. 9 and 10.—Ordinances raising loans to refund the revenue for advances made by it for the Georgetown Waterworks and the establishment of telephones.

6. *Councils.*

The few changes that occurred under this head were :—

Mr. C. Ormond Hazell as Acting Attorney-General became *ex officio* a member of the Executive Council, and Mr. Geoffrey P. St. Aubyn, while acting as Treasurer during the absence on leave of Mr. F. B. Griffith, and again when acting as Attorney-General, became *ex officio* a member of the Executive Council.

Mr. C. J. Simmons was re-appointed by Her Majesty the Queen an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, 1st January, 1893.

7. *Civil Establishment.*

The following changes occurred :—

His Excellency the Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G., left the Government of the Windward Islands on 30th June on promotion.

His Excellency Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G., assumed the Government of the Windward Islands on 25th October, and of St. Vincent on 18th November.

Captain Maling C.M.G., resigned his appointment on 30th June.

Mr. Edward Drayton administered the Government of St. Vincent from 1st to 3rd July.

Colonel J. H. Sandwith, C.B., assumed the Government of the Colony on 4th July.

Mr. Musgrave from 1st June performed the duties of Superintendent of Crown Lands only. Mr. Griffith was appointed to act as Chief Clerk during his absence.

Mr. Grannum left the Colony on 2nd June on promotion. Mr. Rice was appointed to act as Second Clerk, Government Office.

Mr. St. Aubyn, Police Magistrate, Kingstown District. acted as Treasurer, during the absence on vacation leave of Mr. Griffith, from 3rd to 20th November.

Mr. Emett acted as Chief Landing Waiter during the absence on leave of Mr. Isaacs. Mr. Brown acted as Second Landing Waiter.

Mr. Osment acted as Chief of Police from 1st to 3rd January.

Mr. Mayers was appointed to act as Inspector of Schools, while Mr. Griffith performed the duties of Chief Clerk, Government Office.

Mr. O. Hazell performed the duties of Attorney-General from 1[illegible]th June to 30th November, during the absence of Mr. O. Smith; Mr. St. Aubyn acted in the same capacity from 1st December.

Mr. Dalrymple acted as Clerk to the Registrar during the absence on leave of Mr. Huggins.

Mr. W. E. Davis acted as Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Kingstown District, during the absence on leave of Mrs. Checkley.

8. *Pensions.*

During the year one pension has been granted viz.:—

	£
Scipio T. Hunt, late police constable - -	15

The pension list has, on the other hand, been relieved by the deaths of the following pensioners:—

	£	s.	d.
William Cupid, late police constable -	18	15	0
William Goodridge, " " -	26	13	4
Rev. H. Flint, of over 21 years' service as curate of St. George's Cathedral -	50	11	1
	£95	19	5

9. *Consuls.*

Senor M. Bermudez Lecuna was appointed Consul for the Republic of Venezuela, but resides at Grenada.

10. *Population.*

The total population of the Colony at the end of 1893 was computed to be 43,300.

The births, marriages, and deaths in the year were:—

Births, 1,832, add 98 still-born.
Marriages, 238.
Deaths, 1,128, add 98 still-born.

the birth-rate and death-rate per thousand being respectively 44·2 and 26·2.

Owing to an epidemic of bilious remittent fever in the Grenadines during last autumn, the death-rate amongst those Islands rose to 30·6, or exactly double that of 1892; except for this difference, the remaining districts of St. Vincent preserved their nominal rates, and again proved the exceeding healthy climate that this Colony is noted for.

11. *Education.*

There were 45 schools open during the year, 41 in the Island of St. Vincent and four in the Grenadines,—the school in Mayreau Island, which was closed in 1892, having been re-opened—with an average attendance of 3,219, and a total of 5,958 names on the registers.

From the subjoined comparative statement it may be satisfactorily observed that the statistics show a considerable increase on the previous year, except in the return of "Average Attendance."

—	1892.	1893.
Number on rolls - - - -	5,848	5,958
Average attendance - - - -	3,292	3,219
Candidates presented at annual examinations	2,878	3,015
Passes in the standards - - -	2,494	2,729
Marks awarded - - - -	31,430	42,771

The total amount of the Government grant to primary schools was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Results - - - -	1,044	7	0
Capitation Fees - - -	742	8	8
Pupil Teachers - - -	121	10	0
Rent, Repairs, Furniture - -	24	0	0
	£1,932	5	8

The rules under the new Education Ordinance came into force in October. A classification of the teachers has taken place, and certificates have been granted them according to their qualifications. It may be added that the system of payments is different from the plan adopted under the old rules, where teachers were paid by results and capitation fees on average attendance. Under the new scheme, teachers are paid under four headings:—(i.) Capitation; (ii.) Results; (iii.) Discipline bonus; (iv.) Class certificate. It seems that, with the new Education Ordinance, the grant for Education will have to be considerably increased later on.

A further sum of 121*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* was granted in aid of the Kingstown Grammar School, 21*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* of which represents capitation fees allowed on the girls' department which is attached to the school.

12. *Imports and Exports.*

Imports.

The value of the Imports during 1893 amounted to 93,424*l.*, or less than in 1892 by 9,557*l.*

	£
The Imports from the United Kingdom fell off -	7,926
and from the Colonies - - - -	4,124
Together	12,050
But from foreign countries (United States, 2,510*l.*, less decreases from other places, 17*l.*) there was a net increase of - - -	2,493
thus leaving a net general decrease of -	£9,557

The decrease in the value of Imports from the United Kingdom was of goods liable to "*ad valorem*" duty, not enumerated, chiefly what are known as "dry goods" (4,507*l.*); also, machinery (1,039*l.*), Government importations (1,323*l.*); sundry other items complete the difference.

The decrease in the Imports from the British Colonies is referable to no particular items, but is general.

These decreases may be regarded as nominal, being due to importations direct from the United States of goods which would otherwise have appeared as being imported from Barbados.

In this way, also, the increase of Imports from the United States may be accounted for.

Exports.

The value of the Exports in 1893 was 114,694*l.*, a decrease as compared with 1892 of 2,878*l.*

	£
The value of Exports to the United Kingdom decreased - - - - - -	10,528
and to the Colonies - - - - - -	772
Together	11,300
But those to foreign countries increased by (net)	8,422
making the net difference - -	£2,878

as shown above. The increased export to the United States was 11,780*l.*, but there was a large decrease in respect of other foreign places. The increase in the value of Exports to the United States was due up to the amount of 10,339*l.* to increased price of sugar. The whole of that product, 3,319 hogsheads (less three hogsheads), was shipped to that country.

The following tables of the chief products of the Colony exported will be of some interest :—

Table of Quantities exported reduced to the common Standard.

—	1893.	1892.	Increase, 1893.	Decrease, 1893.
Sugar - - - - hhds.	3,619	3,884	—	265
Rum - - - - puns.	242	566	—	324
Molasses - - - casks	749	1,367	—	618
Arrowroot - - - barrels	22,310	23,433	—	1,123
Cocoa - - - - lbs.	130,854	129,589	1,265	—
Cotton - - - - lbs.	33,249	49,396	—	14,147

Table of Destination of the Products given in the preceding Table.

—	United Kingdom.	British* Colonies.	United States.	Other Colonies.
Sugar - - - - hhds.	—	—	3,616	3
Rum - - - - puns.	206	6	—	30
Molasses - - - - casks	25	25	533	166
Arrowroot - - - barrels	15,860	6,067	66	317
Cocoa - - - - lbs.	73,764	56,238	672	180
Cotton - - - - lbs.	14,400	18,849	—	—

* Almost entirely Barbados.

13. *Shipping.*

The total number of sailing vessels entered during the past year was 303.

The tonnage of these vessels in the aggregate amounted to 12,897 tons ; their crews to 1,682.

The total number of sailing vessels cleared was 304, with a tonnage of 13,505, and crews 1,748.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 109, with tonnage amounting to 123,840, and crews 4,679.

The same number of steam vessels cleared as were entered.

Of the sailing vessels the nationalities were as follows :—

Nationality.	Entered.	Cleared.
British - - - - - -	276	278
American - - - - -	7	5
Venezuelan - - - - -	11	11
Dutch - - - - - -	7	7
French - - - - - -	2	2
Norwegian - - - - -	—	1
Total - - -	303	304

All the steam vessels entered and cleared were British.

The following is a comparative statement of the sailing vessels entered and cleared during the last two years :—

—	1892.		1893.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - - -	313	13,566	303	12,897	8	669
Cleared - -	301	14,382	304	13,505	3	877

The following table also shows the differences in the number and tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared as compared with the previous year :—

1892.		1893.		Increase.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
105	119,154	109	123,840	4	4,686

14. *Agriculture.*

Under this heading reference must be made to the Botanic Station which shows great progress since its re-establishment in 1890, when a portion of the grounds of the Old Botanic Garden of St. Vincent, which was the first of its kind in the West Indies, and started in 1765, but allowed in 1849 to go out of cultivation, was again turned into use.

It is most interesting to note that the present Botanic Station is of great assistance to the Colony, and of growing importance to the planters, who are able to study the various experiments conducted for the benefit not only of the planter class, but also of the peasant proprietors.

During the last year grants of coffee and cocoa plants have been made to the purchasers of Crown Lands, to encourage the growth and produce of those valuable trees, which should ere long add considerably to the revenue of the Colony and the prosperity of the planters themselves.

The authorities of Kew Gardens give every assistance, not only in giving advice but also in furnishing valuable seeds and plants, and in the hands of the indefatigable and energetic Curator, Mr. H. Powell, the future success and development of the Botanic Station is assured, and it is to be hoped that the minor industries of fruit products throughout the Island will receive greater attention than has lately been the case.

During the fall of the year, a small Meteorological Station was formed in the gardens, and reliable observations were recorded for the last quarter.

Though sugar is still the chief staple product, the cultivation of arrowroot is largely on the increase, and, after the introduction of a better class of machinery, since 1890, the quality of arrowroot has much improved.

Much greater attention has lately been paid to the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, and spices, and several new plantations are now commencing to bear with a hopeful promise for the future; the frequent visits of the Curator to different localities, and his practical lessons on planting and pruning, given on the spot, are productive of much good.

15. *Crown Lands.*

Though only seven grants were actually made in 1893, as compared with 74 in 1892, there were no less than 108 fresh applications for grants, representing an area of 676 acres, as against 505 in the previous twelve months, whilst new villages have been laid out in convenient sites, from which 32 village lots have been sold in addition to the 108 applications mentioned above.

The sum of 1,147*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* was paid into the Treasury in 1893 (929*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* since the 1st June) in connexion with the survey and allotment scheme, showing a satisfactory working, especially during the latter half of the year, when money is always more plentiful amongst the peasantry.

The compulsory-cultivation clauses are being carried out satisfactorily, and the crops of 1896 should show a marked increase in the exports of cocoa, nutmegs, and coffee from lands which hitherto have returned no revenue to the Colony.

The scheme being now well established, its success in dealing with the question of unemployed and unoccupied lands is assured, both from a philanthropic and a financial point of view.

The movement, moreover, which is more or less a social revolution, is being accomplished without friction in this Colony, very little opposition being shown, even by those whose personal interests may be deemed antagonistic to that part of the scheme which establishes an independent class of small proprietors on the boundaries of their estates.

This favourable result in St. Vincent should have an important influence on the same problem which still remains to be solved in some of the West Indian Islands.

Great interest in the progress of the scheme was shown by Mr. Reeve, the Director of Surveys, who, ably assisted by Mr. Musgrave, Superintendent of Crown Lands, worked hard to develop the resources of this fertile Island.

16. *Prisons and Prisoners.*

The following table presents a comparative statement of the working of the prison during the last four years :—

Year.	Number of Commitments.	Committed for Debt.	Committed for Custody, for Trial, or for want of Sureties.	Committed for Penal Imprisonment.	Number of Prisoners previously convicted.			Commitment for				Daily Average in Prison.	Admission to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Three or more.	Five Years or more.	More than One Year and less than Five Years.	More than Three Months and less than One Year.	Three Months or less.				
1890 -	170	3	48	119	4	8	10	3	8	2	196	20·0	2	·3	1
1891 -	176	1	40	135	16	7	9	1	3	4	127	26·25	1	·38	—
1892 - -	186	3	54	129	17	10	23	3	7	18	101	33·20	2	·27	—
1893 - -	149	2	41	106	19	9	29	1	12	3	90	31·27	3	·45	—
Total -	681	9	183	489	56	34	71	8	30	27	424	110·72	8	1·40	1
Average -	170·25	2·25	46	122·25	14	8·5	18	2	7·5	6·75	106	27·68	2	·35	·25

17. *Criminal Statistics.*

There was an increase of 287 in the number of offences reported to the police, the total being 1,633, against 1,346 in 1892; the increase shows under the headings of Prædial Larceny and other offences, but does not in any way signify that crime is more rife than heretofore.

The following table explains how the cases were disposed of in the magistrates' courts:—

Discharged for want of prosecution - - -	506
Dismissed on the merits - - - - -	214
Summarily convicted - - - - -	885
Committed for trial - - - - - -	28

The cases tried in the Superior Court were disposed of as follows:—

Judgment for the Crown - - - - -	21
Judgment for prisoner - - - - -	5
Cases not prosecuted - - - - - -	8

The 21 convictions were for the following offences:—

For rape - - - - - - - -	1
„ other offences against the person - - -	5
„ robbery with violence - - - - -	1
„ other offences against property - - -	14

18. *Hospitals.*

At the close of 1892 there were 60 patients in Hospital, 40 being males and 20 females.

In 1893 there were 441 admissions of patients, 301 males and 140 females, so that a total of 501 were treated, giving a daily average of 62·5, a slight increase over 1892.

Ninety-nine operations were performed, and it is with satisfaction a note can be made that only one death resulted.

The accompanying table shows number of cases treated under the different classes, with the number of deaths, as compared with 1892:—

Diseases treated.	1892.		1893.	
	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
General - - -	117	17	125	11
Local - - - -	284	14	308	30
Injuries - - -	58	1	68	1
Total - - -	459	32	501	42

19. *Literary Institutions.*

The St. Vincent Public Library, which had become moribund, was revived in 1892, and re-opened last year in Kingstown by the aid of a Government grant.

At the end of 1893 there were 103 subscribers, who evinced, by their daily attendance, great interest in the reading rooms and library, thus proving what a boon the institution is to a large number of residents.

20. *Savings Banks.*

The following table shows the transactions of the Savings Bank for the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At Credit of Depositors at 31 December.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1889 - -	920	3,865 10 3	6,019 15 11	8,640 2 7
1890 - -	956	4,607 8 11	4,224 16 2	8,797 1 4
1891 - -	938	5,215 16 8	5,474 5 9	8,714 13 3
1892 - -	946	4,843 5 6	4,750 14 2	8,957 10 6
1893 - -	1,001	4,514 0 3	5,154 4 0	8,317 6 9

The rate of interest allowed to depositors is 2½ per centum per annum, and the total amount of interest that accrued to depositors was 188*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

21. *Friendly Societies.*

The number of Friendly Societies registered now amounts to 29, showing an increase of eight on last year: nine societies having been added to the list and one discontinued. Most of these have been in existence two or three years, but were only registered, in accordance with the Friendly Societies Act, during 1893.

22. *Telephones.*

A great advance was made in the telephone system, especially during the latter half of 1893.

At the close of the year there were five exchanges, with 100 connections, proving the system, though far from complete, to be a complete success.

The work of construction still continues, the only drawback being the difficulty of supplying the requisite plant quick enough to meet the demands of intending subscribers.

It is impossible at present to say anything more of the financial aspect of the telephone system than that the revenue will amply balance the expenditure.

23. *Post Office.*

The total revenue of the Post Office was 1,516*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, showing an increase of 300*l.* on 1892; however, against this must be set off an increased expenditure, due, however, to conveyance of mails beyond the Colony.

The actual postal business shows a steady advancement, 82,259 letters and cards having been posted in 1893, as against 76,670 in 1892.

Four new branch Post and Money Order Offices were opened in 1893, and, from the amount of work done, fully justify the additional expenditure on account of the advantages in the shape of postal communications throughout the Colony.

(Signed) J. H. Sandwith,
Administrator.

St. Vincent, 18th May 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 124.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 86.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1895.

[C.—7629.-7.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	"
92	Mauritius	"
93	Labuan	"
94	British Honduras	"
95	Lagos	"
96	Sierra Leone	"
97	Fiji	"
98	Rodrigues	"
99	St. Helena	"
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	"
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	"
107	Hong Kong	"
108	St. Vincent	"
109	Gibraltar	"
110	Bahamas	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–4

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

Transfer 2
JUL 1 1942
Accession

No. 124.

ST. LUCIA.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 86.]

Sir CHARLES BRUCE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, September 6, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of the St. Lucia Blue Book for the year 1893, together with the Report of the Administrator, Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Gouldsbury, C.M.G.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. BRUCE.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1893.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

With the exception of a reduction amounting to one-half in the fee payable by vessels for services rendered by the harbour master between the hours of seven o'clock p.m. and six a.m., no alteration was made in the rate or incidence of any tax, duty, or fee during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year under review amounted to 51,598*l.* and 49,271*l.* respectively, the revenue exceeding the expenditure by 2,327*l.* This contrasts very favourably with the financial results of the preceding year, which showed an excess of expenditure over revenue of no less a sum than 6,637*l.*

The estimated revenue for 1893 was 49,731*l.*, and the estimated expenditure 49,437*l.*

The actual revenue exceeded the estimated revenue by 1,867*l.*, whereas the actual expenditure was less than the estimated expenditure by 166*l.*

The revenue for 1893 exceeded that for the preceding year by 3,301*l.*, while the expenditure fell short of that for 1892 by 5,663*l.*

The principal heads of revenue under which there was a considerable increase in 1892, as compared with the previous year, are shown in the subjoined table.

Heads of Revenue.	Increase in 1893.
	£
Customs - - - - - -	3,147
Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues - - -	992
Licences, Excise, &c. - - - - -	1,222
Miscellaneous - - - - -	454

The following table shows the principal heads of expenditure under which there was a considerable increase or decrease in 1893 as compared with the preceding year :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Increase in 1893.	Decrease in 1893.
	£	£
Charges on account of Public Debt - - -	893	—
Port and Marine Department - - - -	—	424
Prisons - - - - - -	281	—
Medical - - - - - -	—	225
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	—	1,754
Public Works Department - - - -	—	516
Public Works Recurrent - - - -	—	2,342
Public Works Extraordinary - - - -	—	1,747

The revenue and expenditure for 1893 compare as follows with the average yearly revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years, 1888–92 :—

—	1893.	Average for Five Years 1888–92.	Increase in 1893 over Average for preceding Five Years.
	£	£	£
Revenue - - - -	51,598	47,523	4,075
Expenditure - - - -	49,271	48,706	565

It will be seen that in 1893 there was a considerable increase in the revenue as compared with the average yearly revenue for the previous five years, and that, although there was also, in relation to a similar comparison, an increase in the expenditure in 1893, the increase was much smaller than that which occurred in the case of the revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December 1893:—

Assets.	£	Liabilities.	£
Cash in hand	147	Savings Bank Deposit Account	9,812
Colonial Bank Current Account	5,321	Castries Town Board	552
" Deposit Account	4,500	Towns and Villages Funds	1,358
Investments on account of Savings Bank	5,000	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,843
Investments on account of Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,504	Imperial Post Office Fund	103
Miscellaneous Advances	4,694	Post Office Money Order Account	321
Crown Agents' Current Account	243	Immigration Fund	714
London and Westminster Bank	488	Grenada Intercolonial Account	335
Bank of England	1,686	Prison Manufacturing Account	55
	£23,583	Public Works Loan Works Account	4,914
Stores, Surplus Account	1,639	Workyard Account	67
		The Jetties Fund	91
		Lands Sales Fund	433
			£20,598
		Sinking Funds	2,174
			£22,772
		Surplus and Deficit Account	2,450
	£25,222		£25,222

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at the end of the year 1893 amounted to 159,202*l.*, and was made up as shown in the subjoined statement:—

Debts.	Amount due at end of Year 1893.	Amount of original Debt.	Source from which Interest and Sinking Fund are paid.
	£	£	
St. Lucia Central Factory Loans	29,900	40,000	General Revenue.
Immigration Loans	21,500	23,000	Immigration Fund.
Harbour of Castries Improvement Loans	83,300	84,000	General Revenue.
Public Works Loans	24,502	24,502	Do.
	£159,202	£171,502	

The sum of 1,700*l.* was paid off during the year by the redemption of drawn debentures. The public debt at the close of the year was equal to somewhat over three times the amount of the revenue for the year, and represented an indebtedness amounting to 3*l.* 12*s.* 0½*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank during the year 1893 amounted to 7,995*l.*, being 1,040*l.* in excess of deposits for the previous year.

The number of depositors at the close of the year was 1,128, being an increase of 223 over the number of depositors at the end of 1892.

The average sum per depositor was 7*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*

The withdrawals amounted to 5,887*l.*, and the total amount to the credit of depositors at the close of 1893 was 9,812*l.*

Municipalities and other Public Bodies.

The town of Castries is governed by an elective Town Board consisting of eight members. All the other towns and the villages in the Colony are under the supervision and management of Town Wardens, subject to, and acting under, the directions and control of the Governor in Council.

The total revenue of the towns and villages for the year 1893 amounted to 4,432*l.*, and the expenditure to 4,093*l.*

The revenue of the towns and villages is derived chiefly from house-tax, the rates being levied upon the assessed annual rental, or value for rental, of the property.

The rate varies from 5 per cent. in some of the villages to 8 per cent. in others, and in the towns of Castries, Soufriere, and Vieuxfort.

Military.

The only expenditure of the Colony in respect of the troops was 1,794*l.* paid as an allowance in lieu of duty-free goods.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 35,223*l.*

Public Works.

The works carried out by the Public Works Department during the year comprised works of new construction and works of maintenance and repair.

The only works of new construction executed during the year were the building of a Treasury strong and fire-proof room, and the construction of a road leading from the Morne road to the site of the proposed new Government House.

Under the head of maintenance and repairs the following is an enumeration of the principal works executed in 1893 :—

General repairs of Public Buildings; upkeep and repair of roads and bridges, and dredging in Castries Harbour.

In consequence of the falling off in the revenue of 1892 and the deficit at the close of that year, strict economies had to be observed in the expenditure of 1893, and no public work of importance was undertaken. The amount spent on the repair and upkeep of roads was only just sufficient to keep them passable.

The amount expended on Public Works during the year was 4,132*l.*, of which the sum of 3,785*l.* was defrayed out of general revenue, 140*l.* out of loans, and 207*l.* out of Town and Village Funds.

Legislation.

Fifteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, none of which were disallowed by Her Majesty.

Of the Ordinances passed during the year only one is of more than local interest, viz, "The Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1893." This Ordinance amends the law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes, by bringing it into line with the Imperial law, and so securing uniformity of law on the subject with the United Kingdom, and with the Colonies which have adopted a similar course.

Civil Establishment.

His Excellency Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, having been appointed Governor of Natal and Zululand, left for England on the 29th of June, and I assumed the administration of the General Government from the 30th June and continued to administer it until the arrival of Sir Charles Bruce on the 24th October.

Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, Attorney-General, administered the Government of St. Lucia during my absence at Grenada from the 1st to the 8th July, to which Colony I had proceeded to be sworn in as Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

Dr. C. Dennehy, Colonial Surgeon, was absent on leave for six weeks, during which time Dr. O. Galgey acted as Colonial Surgeon.

Legislative Council.

Mr. Battam left the Colony on three months leave of absence in June.

Mr. Du Boulay was absent from the Colony from the 6th July to the 5th October.

Dr. C. Dennehy, Colonial Surgeon, acted in the place of Mr. Low from the 14th April to 10th July. He was appointed a member of the Council on the 11th of July, *vice* Mr. Low, resigned.

Mr. Chastanet was absent for six months, during which time Mr. Graf acted.

Mr. Reeve was absent for six months, during which time Mr. Cropper acted.

Messrs. Lloyd, Chastanet, and Du Boulay were re-appointed members of the Council on the 9th of March.

Pensions.

There was no alteration in the Pension List during 1893.

Population.

The number of births during the year was the largest on record, there being a total of 2,161 births—1,110 males and 1,051 females. The gain to the population arising out of the excess of births over deaths was 890, thus raising the population by natural increase to 44,200 at the end of 1893.

Immigration.

There were 730 indentured East Indian Immigrants in the Colony at the close of the year, of which number 554 were adults, 395 of these being males and 159 females.

Excluding the East Indian immigrants who arrived in the Colony on the 10th December 1893, the births and deaths amongst the indentured coolies during the year were 37 and 15 respectively, giving a birth-rate of 6·7 per cent., and a death-rate of 2·5 per cent., the birth-rate being higher, and the death-rate lower, than the averages for previous years.

The birth and death rates amongst the indentured coolies compare as follows with those of the general population :—

	Per-centage.	
	Indentured Coolies.	General Population.
Birth-rate - - - -	6·7	4·52
Death-rate - - - -	2·5	2·47

It will be seen from the above statement that the birth-rate amongst the indentured coolies was 2·18 per cent. higher than that amongst the general population, while the death-rate was only 0·03 per cent. higher.

On the night of the 10th of December, the ship "Volga" with Indian immigrants on board arrived off the port of Castries after a quick and so far safe voyage from Calcutta; but, unfortunately, owing to keeping too close inshore the vessel went aground at the Vigie Point and became a total wreck. Providentially there was

not much wind blowing and the sea was comparatively smooth, so that, with the aid of the ship's boats and those from shore, every soul on board was safely landed without the occurrence of a single accident.

Of the immigrants on board, 487 were for Jamaica and 156 were for this Colony. The coolies for Jamaica remained in this Colony from the 10th to the 22nd December, on the afternoon of which latter date they were despatched for their destination in the ship "Jumna."

Education.

With two exceptions, all the schools in the Colony are primary schools.

There were in 1893 thirty-one primary schools on the list of assisted schools, which with four Government schools made a total of thirty-five primary schools in operation in the Colony at the close of the year. Of these schools, twenty-two were Roman Catholic, four were Government, four were East Indian Mission, two were Anglican, two were undenominational, and one was Wesleyan.

Two new schools were opened during the year, namely, an Anglican school in Castries and a Roman Catholic school at Etangs in the neighbourhood of Soufriere.

An East Indian Mission school which had been established at Crown Lands (part of Central Factory Estate) but which had been closed in the end of 1892 by the action of the present authorities of the estate (the mortgagees) was reopened in February 1893, but was again closed by the same authorities in October of that year.

Four of the primary schools are infant schools, two of them being in Castries and two in Soufriere.

The Inspector of Schools reports that the year 1893 was one of general progress in school work, and calls attention to the remarkable decrease in the failures in 1893 compared with those in the previous year; the failures in 1893 amounting only to 59 out of 1,873 pupils presented for examination, or 3·15 per cent., against 314 failures in the year 1892 out of 1,644 presented, or 19·1 per cent.

The following comparative statement gives certain particulars and percentages which will serve to show what progress has been made in primary education since 1891:—

—	1891.	1892.	1893.
Total population of St. Lucia - - -	42,200	43,310	44,200
Number of primary schools in the Colony -	28	33	35
Total number of children on school rolls -	3,149	4,156	4,544

——	1891.	1892.	1893.
Average attendance - - - -	1,698	2,357	2,458
Number presented for examination - -	1,160	1,644	1,873
Number passed in two subjects - -	948	1,330	1,814
Centesimal proportion on rolls to total population - - - - -	7·46	9·59	10·28
Percentage of attendance of number on rolls -	53·9	56·7	54·1
Percentage of attendance presented for examination - - - -	68·3	69·7	76·2
Percentage of attendance passed in two subjects	55·8	56·4	73·8
Percentage of those presented which passed in two subjects - - - -	81·7	80·9	96·8

Speaking generally, there is much room for improvement in the various school premises and in the accommodation afforded by them, but as funds become available so will improvements in equal measure be effected.

Another consummation much to be desired is an improvement in the methods of instruction. At present there is, as a rule, no regular intelligent system followed, and owing, at least in part, to an insufficiency in the number of teachers, there is not as much of individual teaching as could be wished. Again, there is but little attempt at the cultivation of the reasoning faculties, an omission which becomes at once apparent when the pupil is asked a question involving in its answer the exercise of something more than the faculty of mere memory.

In the course of time, when teachers who have themselves been properly instructed how to teach become available, an improvement in methods and results will follow, and in the meanwhile the present teachers will from time to time be enjoined to make strenuous efforts to advance along the road towards the desired improvement.

Vital Statistics.

There were 2,161 births and 1,271 deaths registered during 1893, the excess of births over deaths, viz., 890, being the natural increase of the population during the year, and by which the population was brought up to a total, at the end of the year, of 44,200.

Of the 2,161 births 1,110 were males and 1,051 females.

The illegitimate births exceeded the legitimate by 465, there having been 1,313 illegitimate to 848 legitimate births. The illegitimate thus formed 60·76 and the legitimate 39·24 per cent. of the total births.

The still births numbered 201, or 10·25 per cent. of the live births; there being one still birth in every 10·75 of the total births.

Excluding still-births, the birth-rate for the year was 4·52 per cent. of the population.

This birth-rate compares favourably with that for the previous, and five preceding years, as the following statement will show:—

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total Births.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Percentage of legitimate Births.	Percentage of illegitimate Births.	Birth-rate per cent. of Population.
1890 - -	1,574	130	1,704	594	1,110	34·86	65·14	3·65
1891 - -	1,771	158	1,929	735	1,194	38·10	61·90	4·05
1892 - -	1,604	156	1,760	720	1,040	40·91	59·09	3·76
1893 - -	1,960	201	2,161	848	1,313	39·24	60·76	4·52

The births in 1893 exceeded those recorded in any previous year, and the birth-rate advanced in proportion.

The deaths during the year, excluding still-births, amounted to 1,070, giving a death-rate of 2·42 per cent. The deaths and death-rate in the previous year were, exclusive of still births, respectively 1,002 and 2·31. The death rate for 1893 was slightly above the average for the preceding five or six years.

The deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 40·36 per cent. of the total deaths. The rate of infant mortality was very high in 1893, exceeding that for 1891 by 4·36 and that for 1892 by 5·13 per cent.

There were 265 marriages in the year. This number is 19 in excess of the marriages celebrated in 1892, but falls short of those which took place in 1891 by 131.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The total value of the imports for the year was 168,978*l.*, being 4,047*l.* less than the amount for 1892, and 2,503*l.* less than the average for the five years 1887–91.

Of the total imports, expressed in value, 86,838*l.* came from the United Kingdom; 26,602*l.* from British Colonies, and 55,538*l.* from Foreign Countries.

Of the 26,602*l.* worth of imports from British Colonies 20,556 worth came from Barbados, being more than three times the total from all the other British Colonies.

Next in amount comes Canada with 3,200*l.*, Jamaica with 894*l.*, St Vincent with 577*l.*, and so on through an unequally descending scale until the sum of 3*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* is reached, which expresses the value of the imports from Bermuda.

The following table shows the respective values for 1893 and for the five preceding years of the imports to St. Lucia from

British Colonies from which St. Lucia received imports of the value of 200*l.* or upwards in any one of those years:—

Countries.	Value of imports therefrom.					
	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Barbados - -	20,556	21,213	18,724	22,141	19,003	18,245
Canada - -	3,200	5,375	782	48	300	Nil
Jamaica - -	894	1,435	637	702	212	565
St. Vincent - -	577	223	3,256	225	5,983	2,052
Trinidad - -	510	399	513	610	2,333	151
Demerara - -	137	1,206	650	313	287	1,761

Of the total of 55,538*l.* worth of imports from foreign countries 36,550*l.* worth came from the United States of America, 9,957*l.* from France, 1,459*l.* from Germany, and the remainder from other foreign countries, including foreign West India Islands.

The subjoined table enumerates the imports, which show an increase or decrease of 200*l.*, or over, in value in 1893, as compared with the imports for the preceding year, and the amount of such increase or decrease.

Articles.	Amount of Increase in 1893 compared with 1892.	Articles.	Amount of Decrease in 1893 compared with 1892.
	£		£
Animals: Cattle -	1,156	Ale, beer &c. - -	349
„ Mules - -	303	Bags, empty - -	983
Bacon and Hams -	228	Bloomer and other chemicals used in the manufacture of sugar -	279
Beef and Pork - -	430	Butter - - -	657
Oleomargarine - -	1,595	Cement - - -	350
Boots and shoes - -	854	Machinery and agricultural implements -	4,595
Coals - - -	4,144	Manure - - -	4,893
Copper - - -	502	Puncheons and casks -	401
Cottons and woollens -	1,525	Ropes and cordage -	288
Fish, salted and dried -	2,417	Twine - - -	273
Flour, wheaten - -	432	Wood—pitch and white pine - - -	1,174
Glassware - - -	215		
Haberdashery - -	791		
Medicines - -	265		
Oats - - - -	865		
Oil; Olive, Cotton-seed, and Lard - -	403		
Rice - - -	999		
Soap - - -	674		

Exports.

The value of the exports for 1893 amounted to 221,646*l.*, against 179,056*l.* for 1892, being an increase in 1893 of 42,590*l.* Compared with the average for the five years 1887–91, the increase the amounts to 65,471*l.*

Of the 221,646*l.* worth of exports shipped during the year, 55,217*l.* went to the United Kingdom, 5,212*l.* to British Colonies, 118,000*l.* to Foreign Countries, and the remainder, 43,217*l.*, was value of the bunker coal shipped.

Amongst British Colonies, Barbados and Canada were our best customers, taking exports to the value of 2,434*l.* and 2,073*l.* respectively; and of Foreign Countries our best customers were the United States of America and France, which took exports to the amount of 65,367*l.* and 44,572*l.*, respectively.

In the following table are shown the articles of export in which an increase or decrease of 200*l.*, or over, in value occurred in the year 1893 as compared with the previous year, and the amount of such increase or decrease :—

Articles.	Amount of Increase in 1893 compared with 1892.	Articles.	Amount of Decrease in 1893 compared with 1892.
	£		£
Coal - - - -	384	Ammunition - -	370
„ Bunker - - -	517	Animals—horses -	201
Cocoa - - - -	15,440	Farine manioc - -	1,032
Fruits fresh - - -	282	Rum - - -	295
Logwood - - -	34,041	Molasses - -	2,824
Pimento sticks - - -	743	Vegetables and Provisions (fresh) - -	373
Fuel and other woods -	448		

It will be perceived from the above table that, comparing 1893 with the previous year, there was a large increase in 1893 in the export of cocoa and logwood, and a considerable decrease in the export of farine manioc and molasses.

The subjoined table exhibits a comparative statement of the value of the exports in 1893 of the four principal articles of export, and the average value of those articles for the preceding ten years 1883–92:—

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1893 over Average for 10 preceding Years.	Decrease in 1893 below Average for 10 preceding Years.
	1893.	Average for 10 Years 1883–92.		
	£	£	£	£
Sugar :				
Usine - - -	76,106	50,929	25,177	—
Muscovado - -	14,463	42,784	—	28,321
Molasses - -	4,756	5,947	—	1,191
Cocoa - - -	38,910	19,671	19,239	—
Logwood - -	37,752	5,022	32,730	—
	171,987	124,353	77,146	29,512

St. Lucia. 1893.

The foregoing table shows that, compared with the average exports of similar products for the decennial period 1883–92, there was a large increase in 1893 in the export of usine sugar, cocoa, and logwood, amounting in the total to 77,146*l.*; and a large decrease in the export of Muscovada sugar, and a considerable decrease in that of molasses, amounting in the total to 29,512*l.*; giving a difference, in the way of a net increase in 1893, of 47,634*l.*

The value of the exports in 1893 exceeded that of the imports by 52,668*l.* Excluding the value of coal imported and exported, the excess amounted to 30,037*l.*

Shipping.

Six hundred and fifty-four vessels entered, and 651 cleared, at the port of Castries during the year. Of those that entered, 251 were sailing and 403 were steam vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 485,816 tons.

Of the sailing vessels that entered, 213 were with cargo and 38 were in ballast; and of the steam vessels, 192 were with cargo and 211 were in ballast.

The nationality of these vessels was as follows:—

—	Sailing Vessels.	Steam Vessels.
British - -	208	341
French - -	24	25
United States - -	4	1
Dutch - -	6	—
Norwegian - -	4	1
Swedish - -	3	—
Italian - -	1	—
Columbian - -	1	1
Russian - -	—	4
Belgian - -	—	17
German - -	—	2
Portuguese - -	—	1

The number of vessels which entered in 1893 exceeded that for the previous year by 53; the increase being made up of five sailing, and 48 steam, vessels, and there was an increase of 87,567 tons in the tonnage.

The following table shows the number of vessels and the amount of tonnage entered during 1893, and the averages for the preceding five years, 1888–92:—

Entered.	1893.		Average for Five Years 1888–92.		Increase in 1893 over Average for Five preceding Years.		Decrease in 1893 compared with Average for Five preceding Years.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	213	13,805	227	14,469	—	—	14	664
In ballast - - -	35	5,703	20	2,575	18	3,128	—	—
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	192	212,881	155	167,639	37	45,242	—	—
In ballast - - -	211	253,427	189	224,447	22	28,980	—	—
Total - -	654	485,816	591	409,130	77	77,350	14	664

Post Office.

During the year 49,815 letters and post-cards were despatched to the United Kingdom and other places outside the Colony, and 54,349 letters and post-cards were received therefrom; 42,716 inland letters and post-cards passed through the Post Office, making a total of 146,880 letters and post-cards dealt with by the Department.

Book packets, samples, and circulars to the number of 98,500, and parcels to the number of 1,511, passed through the Post Office during the year.

The following is a comparative statement, showing the number of letters, post-cards, papers, and books despatched and received in 1893 and in each of the five preceding years:—

1888.		1889.		1890.	
Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book-Packets.
75,391	35,714	86,363	56,961	90,748	59,523

continued.—

1891.		1892.		1893.	
Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Book Packets.
102,997	87,998	118,511	94,036	146,880	98,500

It will be seen from the above table that, in a period of five years, the number of letters and post-cards passing yearly through the Post Office has nearly doubled, and that of papers and books and packets has more than doubled.

Money orders to the amount of 4,593*l.* were issued, and to the amount of 872*l.* were paid, during the year.

The following were the receipts from the sale of stamps, commissions on money orders, &c.

	£
Stamps sold - - - - -	2,161
Unpaid letters delivered - - -	30
Commission on Money Orders - -	77
Rent of letter boxes - - - -	26
	£2,294

being 2*l.* in excess of the amount received in 1892.

Crown Lands.

Grants of Crown Lands to the number of 16 in the country and 14 in towns were made during the year under report, the total acreage granted being 260 acres.

The Crown now possesses about 12,678 acres, and estates comprising an area of 12,233 acres are now in process of being escheated.

Gaols and Prisons.

The Royal Gaol, Castries, is a general prison and also a military prison for soldiers undergoing a military sentence not exceeding fourteen days. It is also used as a prison of detention for military prisoners, sentenced by court-martial to longer terms of imprisonment than fourteen days, while awaiting transfer to Barbados.

The number of persons committed to prison in 1893 was 909, a number largely in excess of that for previous years. Of the committals, 59 were those of soldiers committed by sentence of a court-martial.

Of the number committed, 610 were for purposes of penal imprisonment, 298 were for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and one was for contempt of Court.

The daily average number in prison during the year was 70·3, being 20·67 in excess of the daily average for the year 1892.

There were fourteen admissions to hospitals, and the daily average on the sick list was 1·81, a slight increase of 0·11 over the daily average for the preceding year.

There were two deaths during the year, giving an annual death-rate of 2·84 per cent.; or 0·42 per cent. higher than the general death-rate for the year amongst the population at large.

Corporal punishment was awarded four times during the year, and the total number of lashes inflicted was 68.

The subjoined table shows the figures for the years 1890 to 1893 respectively:—

Year.	Total number committed.	For debt. (Contempt of Court.)	For safe custody.	For purposes of penal imprisonment.	Number of those committed who have been previously convicted.			Daily average number in prison.	Number of admissions into hospital.	Daily average on sick list.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.				
1890 - - -	460	19	119	341	49	11	37	50·77	10	1·61	*2
1891 - - -	547	7	127	413	56	40	57	48·50	21	2·26	3
1892 - - -	579	—	128	451	45	29	60	49·63	18	1·70	3
1893 - - -	909	1	298	610	127	65	78	70·30	14	1·81	2

* One executed.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1893 amounted to 2,130, as against 1,691 in 1892 and 1,599 in 1891.

Of the number of offences reported, 516 were for offences against the person, 121 for prædial larceny, 190 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, and 1,303 were for other offences.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before a magistrate in 1893 amounted to 2,226, exceeding the number for the previous year by 211.

The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,209, and the number committed for trial in the Superior Courts 39. Of the latter number, 37 were indicted, 2 were not indicted, 27 were convicted, and 10 were acquitted.

The following table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, &c. in 1893 and 1892 respectively, and the averages for the five years 1887–91:—

—	1893.	1892.	Average for Five Years, 1887–91.
Number of offences reported to police -	2,130	1,691	1,339
Number of persons apprehended by police or summoned before the magistrates - - - -	2,226	2,015	1,634
Number of summary convictions - -	1,209	1,143	817
Number of persons committed for trial in the superior courts - -	39	23	30
Number of persons acquitted in inferior courts - - - -	978	849	788
Number of persons convicted in superior courts - - - -	27	8	10
Number of persons acquitted in superior courts - - - -	10	9	10

The number of committals to prison in 1893 largely exceeded that for 1892, and still more largely exceeded the average for previous years. Several causes combined to bring about this increase, the principal being the advance of Castries as a coaling port, the establishment of a garrison in its neighbourhood, and the influx from the neighbouring West Indian Colonies of persons of loose and bad character.

A certain proportion of the increase in the committals was made up of the committal of road tax defaulters for non-payment of the road tax, and of indentured East Indian Immigrants for such offences as absence from the estates without leave, and for neglecting or refusing to work.

A large proportion of the total committals to prison was for minor offences, and of the 27 persons convicted in the Royal Court, 12 were soldiers of the West India Regiment, who were convicted for rioting.

Hospitals.

In my reports for the years 1891 and 1892, I was able to state that the sanitary condition of the hospitals of the Colony was very satisfactory, and I am glad to be able to report that, throughout 1893, this desirable sanitary condition of the hospitals continued without exception to obtain.

No diseases of an epidemic nature appeared in the Colony during the year under review, and the general health of the community at large was good.

The Colonial Surgeon in his report for the year writes as follows:—

"The general health of the island has been very good, and to "the most casual observer the adipose and muscular condition "of the West Indian, and the rubicund appearance of the "European, troops, their general set up and elastic step, indicate "a vigour and tone that speak well for the general health of the "climate under fair hygienic conditions."

There were 2,397 patients admitted into the hospitals (exclusive of the Yaws Hospital) during the year, making, with those remaining in hospital from the preceding year, viz., 129, a total of 2,526 patients treated. Of this number 2,076 were discharged cured, 154 were discharged relieved, and 144 died.

Of the 2,526 patients treated in hospital during the year, 731, or 28·9 per cent., were cases of malarial fever. The type of this disease was generally mild, and the mortality was but small, amounting only to 1·37 per cent. of the number treated.

The death-rate for the total number of patients treated in hospital during the year was 5·7 per cent.

Yaws Hospital.

There were 41 patients admitted into the Yaws Hospital during the year, which, with 38 patients remaining in hospital from the previous year, made a total of 79 cases treated. Of this number, 48 were discharged cured, and 6 died, the deaths being at the rate of 7·6 per cent. of the number treated.

Dispensaries.

The number of patients who received medical and surgical aid at the several dispensaries in the Colony was 10,228. The principal diseases treated were, as in previous years, malarial fevers, and diseases of the digestive system.

Poor Asylum.

There were 66 destitute persons admitted into the Poor Asylum, Castries, during the year, making, with the number remaining in the asylum at the close of 1892, viz., 37, a total of 103 destitute persons whose wants were supplied and infirmities were relieved or alleviated in the asylum during the year.

The numbers who found shelter, food, and medical aid in the asylum during the years 1891 and 1892 were, respectively, 128 and 116.

Most of the inmates suffered either from chronic and incurable diseases or from senile decay.

Of the number (103) who received aid in the asylum during the year, 41 were discharged relieved, and 14 died, leaving 48 remaining in the asylum at the close of the year 1893.

The death-rate was 13·59 per cent., being the lowest death-rate recorded for many years past.

Lunatic Asylum.

This asylum, which is situated at Soufriere, is a temporary one in which lunatics are detained until they can be transferred to the Central Lunatic Asylum at Grenada. Eight lunatics were admitted into the asylum in 1893, and of these three were discharged cured.

General.

The total number of cases treated during the year under review in the hospitals and asylums and at the dispensaries was 12,946, at a total cost (including salaries of medical officers, hospital attendants, &c.) of 5,879*l.*, which gives an average of 9*s.* 1*d.* per case, and an average of 2*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population.

Botanical Station.

The work carried out at the Botanical Station during the year was of the usual routine nature, and considerable progress was made in filling up the adjoining swamp to a level with the garden.

The various trees and shrubs continue to thrive, and notably so in the case of the palms.

Specimens of the following fibres were prepared at the Station:—

Sisal hemp.
Manilla hemp.
Bowstring hemp.
Mauritius hemp.

The sisal hemp fibre was over 5 feet in length, and was strong and of good colour.

The amount realised by the sale of plants, flowers, &c. was 47*l.*

Meteorology.

The mean temperature in the shade, as shown by the observations taken at the Morne, at an elevation of 745 feet above sea level, was 76·8.

The mean maximum temperature for the year was 83·2, and the mean minimum 70·5.

The highest monthly mean maximum temperature (80·8) occurred in September and October, and the lowest monthly mean minimum (67·5) in March.

The absolute maximum temperature (87·6) occurred in the months of August and November, and the absolute minimum (57·2) in March.

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 113·6 inches, being in excess of the average rainfall for several previous years.

The heaviest monthly rainfall (18·51 inches) occurred in July, and the lowest (3·18 inches) in March.

General Observations.

The year under report was a fairly prosperous one for the Colony, the crops having been good and the prices obtained, especially for cocoa and logwood, having been higher than the average for several previous years. The value of the cocoa and logwood exported in 1893 exceeded that of the exports of these articles in 1892 by 15,440*l.* and 34,041*l.* respectively. Compared with the previous year, there was an increase in 1893 in the number of vessels which entered the port of Castries amounting to 53, and in the tonnage there was an increase of 87,567 tons.

The revenue for the year exceeded that for 1892 by 3,301*l.* and on the transactions of the year there was a balance to the credit of the Colony of 2,327*l.*

The planting of cocoa, both in land formerly devoted to the cultivation of the sugar cane and in land hitherto uncultivated, continues to increase from year to year, but, although the increase so far as it goes is satisfactory, it is not of such amplitude as could be wished, and the quantity of cocoa at present grown falls far short of the potentialities of the island as a cocoa-producing country.

The year was unmarked by any destructive atmospheric or telluric disturbance, and, as I have already remarked, was a healthy and fairly prosperous one for the Colony.

V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator.

No. 128.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 82.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1895.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1895.

[C.—7629.-11.] *Price* 1*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
95	Lagos	1892
96	Sierra Leone	"
97	Fiji	"
98	Rodrigues	"
99	St. Helena	"
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	"
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	"
107	Hong Kong	"
108	St. Vincent	"
109	Gibraltar	"
110	Bahamas	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 128.

GRENADA.

[For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 82.]

Sir CHAS. BRUCE to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, October 27, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1893.

2. The Revenue of the year 1893 was raised from the same sources as in 1892 without additional taxation. It amounted to 59,210*l.*, as compared with 55,818*l.*, the revenue of 1892. The Expenditure was 58,039*l.*, as compared with 59,570*l.* in 1892. The surplus of Revenue was therefore 1,171*l.*; but this surplus was due to the fact that in the month of December duty was paid on all the available stock of rum in bond, in anticipation of an increase of duty, to take effect from the 1st of January 1894, by the substitution of the proof gallon for the liquid gallon as the measure of collection. The other heads of Revenue which showed improved receipts were Customs, Interest and Telephones.

3. The economy of expenditure was effected chiefly in the Department of Public Works, in which there was a decrease of over 2,800*l.* as compared with 1892. On the other hand, the charge on account of the Public Debt exceeded the charge of the previous year by about 900*l.* The balance of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st of December was 2,273*l.*

4. The Public Debt at that date amounted to 96,100*l.*, inclusive of loans secured on the General Revenue of the Colony, but for which Local Boards are responsible. During the year, debentures to the amount of 6,300*l.* bearing interest at 4½ per cent. were converted into Inscribed Stock bearing interest at 4 per cent., and a small balance of 475*l.*, 5 Per Cent. Debentures held in Grenada was redeemed.

5. The value of the Colony's exports rose to 316,063*l.*, as compared with 264,643*l.* in 1892. The average value of exports for the four years preceding 1892 was 232,000*l.* The export of cocoa amounted to 93,668 cwt., of the estimated value of 281,000*l.*, as compared with 75,369 cwt., of the value of 226,100*l.*, exported in 1892. In 1883 the export of cocoa was 46,351 cwt., of the value of 139,053*l.* In 1873 there were exported 24,151 cwt. of cocoa, of the value of 61,811*l.*

GRENADA. 1893.

6. The export of spice (nutmegs) in 1893 is returned at 2,086 cwt., of the value of 14,546*l.*, as compared with 2,235 cwt., of the value of 15,650*l.*, exported in 1892. In 1883 the export of spice was 957 cwt., of the value of 5,360*l.* In 1873, 170 cwt. of spice were exported, of the value of 1,275*l.* The present price of nutmegs has made proprietors cautious about the extension of this cultivation.

7. Sugar has ceased to be an export of significance. It is noteworthy that in a Colony in which sugar was a few years ago the staple export, the export in 1893 amounted to only 1,170 cwt., of the value of 731*l.*; while the import amounted to 2,061 cwt., of the reputed value in the local market of 2,564*l.* In 1892 the export was only 170 cwt. In 1883 the export was 36,995 cwt. of the value of 25,896*l.*; in 1873 there were exported 72,366 cwt. of sugar of the value of 56,386*l.* The sugar industry is at present almost exclusively confined to the manufacture of Muscovado for local consumption, molasses and rum. In 1893 local stills yielded 62,807 gallons of rum, of the reputed value of 7,851*l.*

8. The export of cotton and cotton seed, the principal produce of the Island of Carriacou, was less than in 1892, owing to an unfavourable season. The cultivation of coffee is extending, but the export of 1893 fell short of that of 1892.

9. Among the minor agricultural industries which appear to be of steadily growing promise may be mentioned the cultivation of fruit, plantains and kola. The export of fruit, chiefly to Trinidad, has increased five-fold during the last few years. The hope entertained that the subsidy given to a direct line of steamers to New York would open a flourishing fruit trade with America, has not been realised, but the direct steamer service gave a general stimulus to commerce with the United States. The volume of this trade in 1893 was, however, not quite equal to the trade of 1892.

10. The value of imports during the year amounted to 166,678*l.*, as compared with 158,702*l.* in 1892. The imports in detail show no variation of importance.

11. Aggregating exports and imports, the volume of foreign trade amounted to 482,741*l.* of which the United Kingdom claims 376,255*l.*, British Colonies 46,357*l.*, the United States 53,063*l.*, France and the French colony of Martinique 5,122*l.*

12. No Public Work of importance was commenced or completed during the year; but the telephone system was extended, and has proved a great success. When one of Her Majesty's Ships visits the port of St. George, an apparatus is placed on board, and within half an hour the Commander is placed in communication with every part of the Island. The Public Roads continued to be well maintained under the Road Boards.

13. The legislation of the year included three Ordinances of general interest. An Ordinance was passed to amend and consolidate the laws relating to Primary Education. The Board of Education constituted under this enactment is engaged on a

Revised Code of Rules for the management of Primary Schools. An Ordinance was also passed to adapt the law of the Colony to the Imperial Act relating to bills of exchange, cheques, and promissory notes. At the end of the year the tonnage due levied on vessels entering the Port of St. George was abolished, and a water-rate charged on water supplied to vessels in the Port.

14. The estimated population of the Colony on the 31st of December was 56,413, showing a natural increase at the rate of rather less than two per cent. per annum on the population enumerated by the census of 1891. The births of the year were almost exactly divided between legitimate and illegitimate. It is satisfactory to add that the illegitimate birth-rate has showed a steady decline for four years. The death-rate of the year was 24·96 per 1,000; the average rate for the last six years was 23·55 per 1,000. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, with the exception of an outbreak of fever of malarial type in Carriacou in the autumn.

15. The criminal statistics for the year show an increase in the convictions for petty offences, but this appears to be due, to a large extent, to increased activity on the part of the Police. Convictions for using foul or abusive language materially swell the statistics under this head. I am inclined to think that the prison population of the Colony might with advantage be reduced by the adaptation of local legislation to the principles governing the treatment of first offences in England.

16. The transactions of the Savings Bank were disturbed in 1892 by circumstances connected with the system of police pensions and rewards; they have now resumed their regular course of progress. In 1888 the number of depositors was 277, with a balance at credit of depositors, on the 31st of December, of 5,632*l.*; in 1893 the number of depositors was 716, with a balance at their credit, on the 31st of December, of 7,994*l.*

17. On the whole, it may be said that the year 1893 was a year of prosperity and progress in Grenada.

I have, &c.

CHARLES BRUCE.

483

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 144.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894.

(For Reports for 1893 *see* Colonial Reports [Annual] Nos. 108, 124 and 128.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1895.

[C.—7847-5.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	1893
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–4
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"
128	Grenada	"
129	Sierra Leone	"
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	"
139	Bahamas	"
140	Barbados	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
142	Malta	"
143	Gambia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 144.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

[For Reports for 1893 *see* Colonial Reports (Annual) Nos. 104, 124, and 128.]

Sir CHARLES BRUCE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Grenada, June 8, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the Blue Books of the Colonies included in the Government of the Windward Islands for the year 1894.

GRENADA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue of the year 1894 amounted to 63,062*l.* and was the largest on record; the expenditure was 59,594*l.* The revenue and expenditure for 1893, and the average of the five years 1888–92, were as follows:—

—	1893.	1888 to 1892.
	£	£
Revenue - - - -	59,210	52,185
Expenditure - - - -	58,039	53,577

Assets and Public Debt.

2. The surplus assets of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 7,546*l.*, a satisfactory accumulation of over 5,000*l.*

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

having taken place since the 31st of December, 1893. The Public Debt at the close of the year was as follows:—

	£
4 per cent. stock - - -	- 87,400
4½ per cent. debentures - -	- 4,700
5 per cent. debentures - - -	- 4,000
	£96,100

By Ordinance 2 of 1894 a further issue of stock to the amount of 21,100*l.* was authorised, but no issue has yet been made, the necessary advances having been obtained locally and by the Crown Agents at advantageous rates of interest. The Colony has also guaranteed the repayment by the St. George's Town Board of a debt of 2,431*l.* The Public Debt of the Colony represents a little less than twice the revenue of the year, and an indebtedness of a little more than 2*l.* per head of the population.

Public Works and Roads.

3. It has been the consistent and successful policy of the Government of Grenada for some years to enhance the value of the lands of the Colony in every district by the construction and maintenance of serviceable roads, so that even out-lying estates may have facilities for bringing their produce to market. In pursuance of this policy, a sum of 8,496*l.* was expended during the year in the re-construction of roads and the construction of bridges and culverts. The construction of the works necessary to secure a supply of water to the town of Grenville was commenced and vigorously pushed forward during the year. The scheme will not only be of advantage in the way of providing the residents of the district with pure water, but will be of value to shipping, and promises such additional facilities for the protection of property against fire as will, it is hoped, enable proprietors to insure at easy rates of premium. The completion of the extension and partial reconstruction of the Lunatic Asylum provides an institution very creditable to the Colony, and sufficient at present to accommodate in ample comfort lunatics from all the Windward Islands.

Legislation.

4. The most important enactment of the year was an Ordinance to Consolidate and Amend the Customs Laws of the Colony.

Health and Vital Statistics.

5. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year; the death rate being 20·89 per 1,000, as compared with 24·96

in 1893 and an average rate of 23·55 for six previous years. The birth rate was 43·31 per 1,000. The estimated population at the end of the year was 57,692, showing an increase of 1,279 during the year. The percentage of legitimate compared with illegitimate births is steadily, if slowly, improving, as shown by the following figures:—

Percentage.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Legitimate - -	44·77	48·64	49·57	51·12	52·33
Illegitimate - -	55·23	51·36	50·43	48·88	47·67

The Yaws Hospital was reopened during the year.

Education.

6. The work of primary instruction was carried on by 34 schools with 6,723 children on the registers and an average attendance of 3,608. The number of children on the registers represents, therefore, nearly 12 per cent. of the population. The Government expenditure on primary schools amounted to 4,808*l.* or about 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per head of the children in average attendance.

On higher instruction the Government expenditure was limited to 593*l.* in the form of Grants-in-aid to the St. George's Grammar Schools for boys and two High Schools for girls.

Shipping.

7. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1894 was as follows:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - -	180	229,289	179	226,319
Sailing vessels - -	407	12,573	345	12,574
Totals - -	587	241,862	524	238,893

During the year a scheme was set on foot for coaling steamers in the inner harbour of St. George, which offers the advantages of

a free port perfectly secure in all weather, and of established healthiness; a plentiful supply of pure water; and cheap provisions. The first cargo of coal arrived on the 1st January, 1895, and ships are swiftly and economically coaled alongside.

Meteorology.

8. It was unfortunate that a year of drought, materially affecting the prosperity of the Colony, should have been signalised by extraordinary damage from rainfall. The rainfall for the year, registered at Richmond Hill, amounted to only 68 inches, compared with 84 inches in 1893 and 105 inches in 1892. On the 28th of September a rainstorm occurred which caused the rivers in the parish of St. Andrew's to swell with extraordinary violence, carrying away a considerable area of cultivated land and doing great damage to bridges and causeways.

Immigration.

9. With the decline of the Sugar Industry, immigration from the East Indies to Grenada ceased, and no indentured coolies have been received since 1885. By the terms of their indenture, Immigrant Coolies were entitled, after ten years' residence, to a return passage to India or to a bounty of 10*l.* in lieu of passage. In 1894 the last of the Immigrants who came to the Colony under indenture were repatriated or accepted bounty in substitution.

Imports and Exports.

10. The value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the five years ended 31st December, 1894, is exhibited in the following table:—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	93,258	37,284	40,332	170,874
1891 - - -	97,895	31,512	47,523	176,930
1892 - - -	79,015	34,549	45,138	158,702
1893 - - -	83,175	37,729	45,774	166,678
1894 - - -	99,973	35,418	61,607	196,998

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	241,221	8,882	16,199	266,302
1891 - - -	218,600	8,672	9,371	236,643
1892 - - -	241,112	9,794	13,775	264,681
1893 - - -	293,080	8,629	14,354	316,063
1894 - - -	176,241	4,421	8,952	189,614

The increase of imports is, to a large extent, attributed to the increasing use of American foodstuffs in substitution of local produce in the form of plantains and the vegetables known under the general name of "ground provisions." The tendency was further promoted in 1894 by the excessive drought, which restricted the growth of local produce. The value of imports from the United States in 1894 amounted to 60,036*l.*, compared with 44,184*l.* in 1893. Of the total imports 50 per cent., were from the United Kingdom and 30 per cent. from the United States.

The drought, which increased the value of imports, and consequently the Revenue from duties of Customs, materially reduced the volume of exports. The value of the principal exports compared with the exports of 1893, was as follows:—

—	1894.		1893.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Cocoa - - -	72,623	168,498	93,688	281,000
Spices (Nutmegs) -	1,917	9,583	2,087	14,546

General.

11. It is noteworthy that the largest Revenue on record, chiefly due to increased income from duties of Customs, has coincided with a decrease in the quantity of the principal staples exported and a considerable fall in price. In addition to the increased revenue from Customs, due to the substitution of American foodstuffs for local produce, the volume of imported foodstuffs has

been swelled to an appreciable extent by the money put in circulation by payment of wages in connection with the construction of the Grenville Water Works, and the extraordinary expenditure on roads and bridges. In comparison with the financial position and immediate prospects of Colonies mainly dependent on the sugar-cane, Grenada has been fortunate. In my report on the Blue Book for 1893, I showed that sugar had ceased to be an export of significance, the value of sugar exported having fallen from 56,386*l.* in 1873 to 731*l.* in 1893. In 1894 the value of the sugar exported fell to 50*l.* The sugar industry is now chiefly confined to the manufacture of muscovado and rum for local consumption, and for both of these commodities there is a sufficient local demand at very remunerative prices.

Notwithstanding the continuous fall in the price of cocoa, land under cultivation in cocoa and nutmegs sells at very high prices. The value of lands under cocoa promises to be maintained by the efforts made to meet falling prices by superior cultivation and more careful preparation, with a view to secure a higher market price for Grenada cocoa by a high and uniform standard of quality. As regards the lands of the Colony generally, their value is being steadily enhanced by the extension of subsidiary agricultural industries of coffee, fruit, plaintain, and kola cultivation. Attention is also being turned to logwood. All these industries, except logwood, were temporarily affected by the drought during 1894, but are of excellent promise for the future.

491

ST. LUCIA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

12. The Revenue of the year 1894 amounted to 56,590*l.*; the Expenditure to 54,500*l.* The Revenue and Expenditure of the year 1893, and the average Revenue and Expenditure of the five years, 1888 to 1892, were as follows:—

—	1893.	Average, 1888 to 1892.
	£	£
Revenue - - - -	51,598	47,523
Expenditure - - - -	49,271	48,706

The Revenue exceeded the Revenue of 1893 by 4,992*l.* There was an increase of 2,331*l.* under the head of Customs, and of 451*l.* from Excise and Licenses. The Revenue was swelled by a casual receipt of 1,637*l.*, being an instalment of the purchase money of the Dredger "Dolphin" sold to the Government of Guadeloupe.

The Expenditure of 1894 exceeded the Expenditure of the previous year by 5,129*l.* There was an increase of Expenditure under the head of Public Works, amounting to 4,500*l.*, exclusive of special expenditure on account of damage to roads and bridges, caused by a severe gale and floods in the month of October. An extraordinary expenditure of 1,738*l.* on Public Works and relief was due to this disaster.

Military Expenditure.

13. The Imperial Expenditure during the year for Military purposes amounted to 38,673*l.* The Colonial Expenditure was limited to 1,788*l.*, paid as an allowance to the troops in lieu of exemption from duties of Customs.

Assets and Public Debt.

14. The Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Colony, on the 31st of December, shows a surplus of 4,655*l.* The Public Debt at the same date amounted to 179,280*l.*, of which 66,480*l.* were converted during the year into 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock at

a premium of 2*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* The sum of 2,000*l.* was paid off by the redemption of drawn debentures. The Public Debt at the close of the year represented an indebtedness of a little over three times the Revenue of the year, and of 3*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

15. The deposits in the Savings Bank at the close of the year amounted to 9,548*l.*, showing an excess of 1,553*l.* over the deposits at the close of 1893.

Public Works.

16. In view of the increasing importance of St. Lucia as a fortified coaling station, the health of the Town of Castries, and its ability to supply ships with provisions and pure water, and to put coal on board with economy and despatch, are matters of the first public concern. It is fortunate therefore that the Town Board of Castries has shown itself to be a body of intelligent energy in the prosecution of many useful labours on behalf of the Town. Several recent visitors, and among them Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., have assured me that they have been astonished at the improvement of the Town during the last few years. During the year 1894 the efforts of the Board to secure the healthiness of the Town have been assisted by the Government undertaking the reclamation of an area of swamp bordering the Botanic Garden. In the month of July, I had the pleasure of opening an admirable enclosed market, erected by the Board. The market is most conveniently situated for the supply of fresh provisions to the shipping, and the regulations made by the Board are designed to ensure the sound and healthy quality of the commodities offered for sale.

Throughout the year, and especially towards its close, the preliminary labours necessary for the carrying out of a scheme for the supply of pure water to the residents of Castries and the shipping were prosecuted with energy. The surveys and gaugings carried on during the year seem to prove conclusively that a sufficient and constant supply of water, of admirable purity, can be brought into Castries from the gathering grounds of La Sorciere and Piton Flore. Plans and estimates have since been prepared, and arrangements are being made for the early execution of the scheme. The fact of St. Lucia being now frequently visited by ships of the navies of European and American Powers has given additional reason for the construction of a suitable Government House where the colonists, the resident military officers, the naval officers on the station, the officers of Foreign powers and visitors generally may meet in friendly intercourse. I am glad, therefore, to be able to report that the building of Government House is proceeding with rapidity. Several minor but useful public works were carried out during the year.

Crown Lands.

17. Grants of Crown Lands, to the number of 40 in the country and 23 in towns and villages, were made during the year, the total acreage granted being 461 acres. According to the latest return made by the Crown Lands Department, the Crown Lands extend to 9,850 acres, and 8,548 acres are in process of escheat. The disposal and cultivation of these lands may be looked to as a reliable source of future prosperity. On this subject, I venture to transcribe from a local publication, "The Voice of St. Lucia," a passage which is not, I think, an exaggeration of fact:

"We have fertile land enough lying unproductive in the hands of the Crown in St. Lucia to support, without drawing anything from outside, twice the population of Barbados. When one realises that the plantain produces to the acre 44 times more food than the potato, and 131 times more than wheat; that cassava-meal (*farine manioc*) yields per acre six times more nutritive matter than wheat; that the banja-yam is more nutritious, bulk for bulk, than the potato; and when one at the same time reflects that the plantain can be grown practically over the whole island; that the cultivation of the cassava is simple and inexpensive, and the returns very large; that the bread-fruit literally covers the land; that Indian corn will give three crops a year; that the banja-yam grows in wild abundance in our woods, conviction will be compelled that our claim for the capacity of St. Lucia to support a large population solely with her own products is something more than mere boasting."

Health and Vital Statistics.

18. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, the death rate being 20·4 per 1000. In 1893 the death-rate was 24·2, a rate slightly in excess of the average for the preceding six years. The birth-rate was 45·2 per 1000. The estimated population at the end of the year was 45,095, showing an increase of 895 during the year. The percentage of legitimate and illegitimate births during the last five years have been as follows:—

—	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Legitimate - -	34·86	38·10	40·91	39·24	40·71
Illegitimate - -	65·14	61·90	59·09	60·76	59·24

Of 2,649 patients treated in hospital 27·1 per cent. were cases of malarial fever of the mild type of previous years, although the percentage of deaths, 2·23, was larger than in the two preceding years.

The Yaws Hospital was repaired during the year and 67 cases were treated. Of this number, 45 were discharged cured, and two died.

Immigration.

19. No new Immigrants were introduced from the East Indies during 1894, and in the month of September 450 immigrants, equivalent to 410 statute adults, were repatriated. The repatriated immigrants lodged in the treasury, for transmission through the usual channel to India the sum of 2,989*l.*, and the protector reported that the women were more than usually ornamented with jewellery. The time expired immigrants entitled to return passages during the year amounted to 889, but 317 accepted the usual bounty in substitution of a return passage; 36 remained in the Colony, but have not yet claimed bounty; the remainder, viz., 112, were the children of those who accepted bounty. At the close of the year there were in the Colony 708 indentured immigrants.

Education.

20. The work of primary instruction was carried on by 35 schools with 4,239 children on the registers and an average attendance of 2,607. The number of children on the registers represents, therefore, [illegible] of the population. The Government contribution to primary schools amounted to 2,572*l.*, or a little over 19*s.* 8*d.* per head of the children in average attendance. In the way of higher instruction, Government contributed 200*l.* in aid of St. Mary's College or Castries Grammar School.

Shipping.

21. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1894 was as follows:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - - -	386	467,445	386	467,445
Sailing Vessels - -	247	22,473	252	24,431
Total - -	633	489,918	638	491,876

Of the 386 steamers entered and cleared 325 were British, 27 French and 19 Belgian. The amount of bunker-coal shipped may be taken as some indication of the extent to which the Port of Castries is used as a coaling station. In 1894 the shipment was 39,764 tons; in 1893 it was 37,580 tons.

495

Meteorology.

22. The total rainfall reported for the year amounted to 81·55 inches, less by 32 inches than the rainfull for 1893, notwithstanding that in the month of October 21·09 inches were recorded. In October there was a strong gale, accompanied by a very heavy downfall of rain, which caused destructive floods in several parts of the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

23. The value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the last five years are shown in the annexed table :—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	129,683	24,555	52,455	206,693
1891 - - -	138,019	24,867	59,292	222,178
1892 - - -	103,859	30,360	38,806	173,025
1893 - - -	86,838	26,602	55,538	168,978
1894 - - -	93,780	31,933	61,425	187,138 *

* Exclusive of Wrecks (404*l.*).

Exports (Including Specie).

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	61,087	6,071	74,600	141,758 †
1891 - - -	57,177	6,151	87,056	130,384 †
1892 - - -	44,757	7,153	84,446	136,356 †
1893 - - -	55,217	5,212	118,001	178,430 †
1894 - - -	43,062	11,297	91,535	145,894 †

† Exclusive of value of Bunker Coal supplied to shipping.

The value of Imports for the year was 187,542*l.*, exceeding the value of the Imports for 1893 by 18,564*l.* The average value of the Imports for the five years 1890 to 1894 was 191,602*l.*

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

To the value of Imports from British Colonies, amounting to 31,933*l.*, Barbados contributed 24,439*l.*, a little over three-fourths; Canada contributing 3,447*l.*; Saint Vincent 1,661*l.*; Jamaica 1,036*l.*

To the value of Imports from Foreign Countries, amounting to 61,425*l.*, the United States of America contributed 41,789*l.*; France 11,491*l.*; the Spanish West Indies 3,272*l.*; the French West Indies 1,982*l.*; Germany 1,600*l.*

Of Exports to British Colonies of the total value of 8,272*l.*, exclusive of specie, Canada took goods to the value of 5,365*l.*; Barbados to the value of 2,352*l.* The value of Exports to Canada more than doubled the value of the preceding year.

Of Exports to Foreign Countries of the total value of 91,535*l.*, France took goods to the value of 48,629*l.*; the United States to the value of 35,991*l.*

The following table gives a comparative statement of the value of the exports of the four principal staples of the Colony in 1894 and 1893, together with the average for ten preceding years:—

—	1894.	1893.	Average 1883 to 1892.
Sugar:—	£	£	£
Usine - - -	53,678	76,106	50,929
Muscovado - -	12,483	14,463	42,784
Molasses - - -	3,722	4,756	5,947
Cocoa - - . -	28,512	38,910	19,671
Logwood - - -	37,359	37,752	5,022
	135,754	171,987	124,353

The quantities exported in 1893 and 1894 were as follow:—

Year.	Usine.	Muscovado.	Molasses.	Cocoa.	Logwood.
	lbs.	lbs.	Gallons.	lbs.	Tons.
1893 -	8,011,200	1,928,400	253,680	1,037,300	6,292
1894 -	7,668,400	2,377,800	223,320	983,200	7,116

The aggregate export of sugar (Usine and Muscovado) in 1894 was 10,046,200 lbs.; in 1893 it was 9,939,600 lbs. It is evident that the serious decrease of the value of the staple products exported in 1894 was the result of falling prices and not of diminished production.

497

General.

24. In truth the great concern of the year in St. Lucia, as throughout the West Indies, was the depreciation of agricultural products, and especially sugar. The statistics recently published in several colonies prove conclusively that for some time the selling price of sugar has been generally below the cost of production. The continuance of such a state of things has, of course, only been possible owing to the system of subsidies adopted by foreign Governments, which guarantees the producer a margin of profit though selling below the cost of production. Independently of falling prices, the season of 1894 was not favourable to agriculture. A long period of drought was succeeded by a gale and disastrous floods in October, and although the consequences of these accidents do not fall within the range of the present report, they should not be lost sight of in reviewing the circumstances of 1894 in relation to their probable effect on the circumstances of 1895.

The effects of the drought, which was widespread throughout the West Indies, have been generally felt in a reduction of the yield of the sugar-cane. To what extent the reduction of the yield of the recently completed crop in St. Lucia may be assignable to the drought or to the subsequent flood respectively it may not be easy to determine. The measures which have been proposed to aid the agricultural industry of St. Lucia, in the peril of its existence, are still under consideration and need not be discussed in this Report.

From a Revenue point of view, the year 1894 was a good year. To whatever extent the general circulation of money may have been affected by the depreciation of staple products, the loss was largely made good by expenditure on Military Works and a comparatively large expenditure on Public Works by the Civil Government. Business connected with the growing activity of St. Lucia as a coaling station has also placed a good deal of money in circulation among the labouring population. The very considerable increase in Savings Bank deposits during the year seems to confirm this view of the case.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

ST. VINCENT.

Revenue and Expenditure.

25. The Revenue of the year 1894 amounted to 28,574*l.*, and the Expenditure to 30,976*l.* The Revenue and Expenditure of the year 1893 and the average of the five years 1888 to 1892 were as follows :—

—	1893.	Average 1888 to 1892.
	£	£
Revenue - - - -	27,914	26,972
Expenditure - - - -	29,439	25,857

The Revenue fell short of the Expenditure by 2,402*l.*; but exceeded the Revenue of 1893 by 660*l.* There was a marked increase from Import Duties, chiefly from Flour, although the total value of Imports decreased.

The Expenditure exceeded that of 1893 by 1,537*l.* It included a sum of 772*l.*, expended on the reconstruction of stills for the protection of the Revenue, a part of which is recoverable.

Public Debt.

26. The Public Debt at the close of the year amounted to 19,380*l.*, having been increased since the 31st of December, 1893, by the following loans:—

	£
Kingston water supply - - -	1,000
Town of Kingston - - - -	1,500
Telephones - - - - -	2,200
	£4,700

The two first loans were raised to provide for the refund of advances made from the general revenue of the Colony; the last

for an extension of the telephone system. The Public Debt represented an indebtedness of a little over two-thirds of the revenue of the year, and of about 8*s.* 9*d.* per head of the population.

Public Works.

27. No public work of any importance was undertaken, except the reconstruction of stills already alluded to.

Legislation.

28. In connection with the reconstruction of stills, an Ordinance was passed to consolidate and amend the Excise Law. At the close of the year an ordinance was passed to repeal the provisions of the Sugar Duty Ordinance, 1892, by which an additional export duty of 3*s.* 8*d.* on the large hogshead was imposed to recoup the General Revenue for the loss incurred to meet the requirements of the McKinley Tariff Treaty arrangements; those arrangements have ceased to exist.

Health and Vital Statistics.

29. The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, the death-rate being 20·9 per 1,000. In 1893 the death-rate was 26·2, but this represented an excess over the normal rate caused by an epidemic of bilious remittent fever in the Grenadines. The birth-rate was 46·4. The estimated population at the end of the year was computed to be 44,000, showing an increase of 700 during the year.

Crown Lands.

30. The allotment of Crown Lands in small areas, under recent regulations, has been steadily proceeded with. These Regulations provide for the sale of blocks of not less than 5 acres (and as a rule not more than 20 acres are included in one allotment), subject to the condition, under penalty of forfeiture, that in three years not less than half of the area must be planted in cocoa, nutmegs, coffee or some other economic cultivation. The price at present charged is 2*l.* per acre, payable in five annual instalments, or 30*s.* per acre if paid in full on taking possession. I am informed that since 1891 between 2,000 and 2,500 acres have been allotted, and that some 75 per cent. of the allotments are believed to be in cultivation.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

Imports and Exports.

31. The total value of imports during 1894 was 91,009*l.*, or 2,415*l.* less than in 1893. The Imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies have fallen off, while there has been an increase of imports from Foreign Countries and, in particular, from the United States.

The value of exports has enormously decreased. In 1893 the value of exports amounted to 114,694*l.*, in 1894 a total value of 87,374*l.* shows a decrease of 27,320*l.*

The following table gives the quantities and values of the principal exports in 1893 and 1894 :—

—	1894.		1893.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Arrowroot - Brls.	29,119	38,278	22,310	50,807
Sugar - - Hhds.	3,135	27,270	3,619	43,705
Rum - - Puns.	275	2,200	212	1,694
Cocoa - - Lbs.	174,519	3,272	130,854	3,271
Vegetables and Fruit (plantain) - -	—	2,965	—	2,445
Spices - - -	—	878	—	1,223

The table shows clearly that, although there is a decrease in the production of sugar, the great falling-off in the value of exports is due to low prices.

I annex a table prepared by Administrator Mr. Thompson at my request, showing the quantities and values of the principal exports for the year 1894 and for the quinquennial period from 1880. It gives the following total values of exports:—

	£
1880 - - - - -	158,946
1885 - - - - -	130,341
1890 - - - - -	104,744
1894 - - - - -	87,374

Table of Principal Exports in the year 1880, 1885, 1890 *and* 1894.

—	1880.			1885.			1890.			1894.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Average Price.	Quantity.	Value.	Average Price.	Quantity.	Value.	Average. Price.	Quantity.	Value.	Average. Price.
		£			£			£			£	
Arrowroot -	14,599 brls.	21,987	1*l*. 10*s*. p. brl.	19,702 brls.	34,967	1*l*.15*s*.6*d*.p.brl.	20,872 brls.	31,270	1*l*. 10*s*. p. brl.	29,119 brls.	38,278	1*l*. 6*s*. p. brl.
Molasses - -	1,804 puns.	7,362	4*l*. per pun.	1,533 puns,	3,631	2*l*. 5*s*. p. pun.	1,790 puns.	5,853	3*l*. 5*s*. p. pun.	405 puns.	1,012	2*l*. 10*s*. p. pun.
Rum - -	1,060½ puns.	10,605	10*l*. per pun.	1,774 puns.	8,167	4*l*. 12*s*. p. pun.	550 puns.	4,406	8*l*. p. pun.	275 puns.	2,200	8*l*. per pun.
Sugar - - -	9,168 hhds.	110 636	12*l*. per hhd.	8,124 hhds.	74,543	9*l*. 3*s*. p. hhd.	6,290 hhd.	53,062	8*l*. 8*s*. p. hhd.	3,135 hhds.	27,270	8*l*. 14*s*. p. hhd.
Cocoa - - -	35,868 lbs.	640	4·28*d*. per lb.	57,456 lbs.	955	4*d*. per lb.	102,771 lbs.	1,835	4·28*d*. per lb.	174,519 lbs.	3,272	4·5*d*. per lb.
Cotton - - -	23,520 lbs.	490	5*d*. per lb.	35,040 lbs.	584	4*d*. per lb.	25,218 lbs.	420	4*d*. per lb.	28,308 lbs.	530	4·6*d*. per lb.
Vegetables and fruits - - -	—	106	—	—	240	—	—	1,195	—	—	2,965	—
Whale-oil - -	462 brls.	586	1*l*. 5*s*. per brl.	484 brls.	534	1*l*. 2*s*. per brl.	587 brls.	587	1*l*. per brl.	473 brls.	473	1*l*. per brl.
Spices - -	—	—	—	—	528	—	—	433	—	—	1,223	—
Pigeon-peas - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	514 brls.	514	—	269 brls.	336	—
Total Exports:— Foreign produce-	—	4,429	—	—	1,755	—	—	1,133	—	—	950	—
Local produce -	—	154,517	—	—	128,586	—	—	103,611	—	—	86,424	—
Total - - -	—	158,946	—	—	130,341	—	—	104,744	—	—	87,374	—

Meteorology.

32. The rainfall at the Botanic Garden Station was 91 inches, being 21 inches lower than any record during the last five years.

General.

33. In common with other West Indian Colonies, St. Vincent has suffered severely from the falling prices of its staple products. What I have said on the subject of sugar in my Report on St. Lucia, applies with equal force to St. Vincent and, indeed, I can find no better illustration of the position than the circumstance that the principal proprietor in St. Vincent assured me that his loss in working his estates during the year 1894 amounted to over 6,000*l.* St. Vincent has indeed suffered more seriously than many other Colonies, owing to the absence of such improved machinery as has elsewhere materially reduced the cost of production. In 1893 the sugar-cane was in some districts severely attacked by the disease *Trichosphœria Sacchari.* The curator of the Botanic Garden is of opinion that, however seriously the drought may have affected the yield of the sugar cane, it has kept down this disease.

The bounty system is not responsible for the fall in the price of arrowroot, the cultivation of which has very largely increased in St. Vincent. Presumably the great fall in the value of inferior qualities is due to a general improvement in the method of cultivation and preparation adopted in other countries; the result being a very large production, or perhaps over production, of arrowroot of superior quality. It is, therefore, satisfactory to be able to report that an important improvement has been effected in the preparation of arrowroot by the introduction of a self-emptying washing machine. It is said to work admirably and to lessen materially the cost of preparation.

Steady progress continues to be made in extending and improving the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, fruits and vegetables (sweet potatoes, yams, tannias, &c.,) spices, kola and other agricultural products in substitution of, or at least in supplement of, sugar. With reference to coffee, Mr. Powell, the Curator of the Botanic Garden, has frequently pointed out the suitability of the mountain lands of the Island for Arabian, and of the rich, moist low lands for Liberian, coffee, and he reports that extraordinary planting operations in this direction have latterly been undertaken. At present coffee figures for a considerable sum in the imports, and in an agricultural Colony, where the whole community is more or less dependent on the soil, no commodity should appear on the import list which the soil and climate of St. Vincent are admirably adapted to produce.

The present condition of St. Vincent certainly demands prudence and economy, but I see no reason for discouragement as regards

the future prosperity of the Colony. In the late Sir Robert Hamilton's Report on Dominica, there is a passage which has seemed to me not inappropriate to St. Vincent, and I venture to repeat it. He says:—"There is no royal road to increasing the "wealth and prosperity of the island. This can only come from "an increased production in it of articles for which there is a "constant demand. A beginning in this direction is already "observable, and when once the corner has been fairly turned "the increase will go on at an accelerated pace. With an "increase of production the revenue will increase, and means will "become available for improving and extending the means of "communication throughout the Island. The people are not "wanting in energy and resource, and they will have to exercise "both, in the present condition of the Island, in getting their "produce to market."

I have, &c.
CHAS. BRUCE.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 179.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 144 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
October 1896.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1896.

[C.—8279.-3.] *Price* 2*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
142	Malta	1894
143	Gambia	"
144	Windward Islands	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	"
146	Gibraltar	"
147	Falkland Islands	"
148	Hong Kong	"
149	Straits Settlements	"
150	Lagos	"
151	Seychelles	"
152	Basutoland	1894–5
153	Fiji	1894
154	St. Helena	"
155	Ceylon	"
156	Mauritius	"
157	Labuan	"
158	Gold Coast	"
159	British Guiana	"
160	Sierra Leone	"
161	Jamaica	1894–5
162	British Honduras	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	1894–5
164	Newfoundland	1895
165	Gambia	"
166	Bermuda	"
167	Leeward Islands	"
168	British New Guinea	1894–5
169	Zululand	1895
170	Sierra Leone	"
171	Gibraltar	"
172	Malta	"
173	Barbados	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
175	Falkland Islands	"
176	St. Helena	"
177	Bahamas	"
178	Hong Kong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.

No. 179.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 144.)

SIR CHARLES BRUCE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Grenada, July 6, 1896

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the Blue Books of the Colonies under my government for the year 1895.

Before dealing with the Colonies individually, it will be convenient for me to refer to a few points touching the general interests of the Windward Islands.

The agricultural story of the year may be told in few words—short crops and low prices. The collective value of exports from the three colonies amounted to 340,868*l.*, against 422,882*l.* in the year 1894. The result was a restricted circulation of money and a diminished demand for imported goods. Consequently the collective value of imports in 1895 amounted to only 364,052*l.*, against 475,146*l.* in 1894. As a result, the collective Revenue of the Colonies amounted to 132,491*l.*, against 148,226*l.* in 1894.

Uniformity of legislation in matters relating to quarantine was secured during the year by the passing of practically identical Ordinances on the lines recommended by the British Guiana Conference in 1888, and generally followed by subsequent legislation in the West Indies. The laws relating to the custody and care of lunatics were also assimilated, a measure which necessarily accompanied the completion of the Central Asylum in Grenada where patients from all the Islands are maintained in ample comfort.

The rate of postage between all the Islands in the Windward group was reduced from 2½*d.* to 1*d.*

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

GRENADA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year 1895 amounted to 58,468*l.*; the expenditure to 63,675*l.* The revenue and expenditure for 1894 and the average of the five years 1889–93 were as follows:—

—	1894.	Average 1889 to 1893.
	£	£
Revenue - - - - -	63,602	53,571
Expenditure - - - - -	59,594	55,700

Assets and Public Debt.

The excess of expenditure over the revenue of the year was covered by the Colony's surplus assets.

The year 1894 had closed with a surplus of 7,113*l.*, of which 4,000*l.* was appropriated to the redemption of 5 per cent. Debentures, held by the trustees of the Graham Bequest Fund in St. Vincent. The balance was fortified during the year by the transfer to Revenue of 2,000*l.* from a deposit known as the Fire Insurance Fund, no longer required in consequence of policies of insurance having been effected on the Government buildings. The year 1895 closed with a nominal surplus of assets of 587*l.* During the year 21,000*l.*, of 4 per cent. Stock were issued under authority of the Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1894, at a premium of 10 per cent., and 500*l.* of 4½ per cent. Debentures were converted into 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock at par. At the close of the year the Public Debt amounted to 113,000*l.*, and consisted of 109,000*l.*, of 4 per cent. Stock and 4,200*l.* of 4½ Debentures. The Colony was also liable at the close of the year for the repayment of 2,431*l.*, borrowed by the St. George's Town Board. The accumulated sinking fund invested by the Crown Agents amounted to 2,522*l.* The Public Debt represent a little less than twice the revenue of the year, and an indebtedness of a little less than 2*l.* per head of the population.

Imports and Exports.

The decrease of revenue was chiefly caused by diminished receipts from import duties, duty of excise on rum, and liquor licenses; and these diminished receipts were in the main due to causes which led to, and resulted from, a serious falling off in the value of exports. The revenue from Customs fell from 30,121*l.* in 1894 to 24,826*l.* in 1895.

In explanation of the following tabular statements, showing the value of the imports and exports of 1895 compared with previous

years, I must premise that the values for 1895 have, for the first time in this Colony, been computed with an additional percentage to represent, in the case of imports, the cost of freight, packages, and insurance; and in the case of exports, the cost of packages.

Imports.

—	Without percentages.			With percentages.
	Average 1890–4.	1894.	1895.	1895.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	90,663	99,973	63,929	78,079
British Colonies - -	35,299	35,418	34,567	42,151
Foreign countries -	48,075	61,607	45,792	55,482
Totals - -	174,037	196,998	144,288	175,712

Exports.

—	Without percentages.			With percentages.
	Average 1890–4.	1894.	1895.	1895.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	234,051	176,241	139,097	140,736
British Colonies - -	8,080	4,421	5,519	5,616
Foreign countries -	12,530	8,952	25,407	25,668
Totals - -	254,661	189,614	170,023	172,020

Leaving out of consideration, for the purpose of comparison, the added percentages, it will be seen that the value of exports in 1895 was 170,023*l.* as compared with 189,614*l.* in 1894, and 254,661*l.* the average value of exports in the quinquennial period 1890–94. This serious falling off was chiefly due to a short cocoa crop and low prices. The amount of the cocoa crop for the seasons from 30th September 1890 to 30th September 1895, was approximately as follows:—

1890–91 - - - -	71,979 Cwt.
1891–92 - - - -	72,053 „
1892–93 - - - -	79,758 „
1893–94 - - - -	89,462 „
1894–95 - - - -	68,829 „

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

It follows that the crop of 1894–95 fell short of the crop of 1893–94, which, however, was the largest on record, by over 20,000 cwt., and fell short of the average crop of the period 1890-94 by nearly 10,000 cwt.

The following figures have been given me as representing approximately the average prices of Grenada cocoa in the London market for the seasons 1890–95:—

	s. s.	
1890–91 - - -	59 to 63	per cwt.
1891–92 - - -	55 to 62	„
1892–93 - - -	76 to 79	„
1893–94 - - -	58 to 63	„
1894–95 - - -	44 to 48	„

Assuming 60*s.* and 46*s.* to have been the average prices for the last two crops respectively, the value of the cocoa crop of 1894–95 fell short of the value of the crop of 1893–94 by about 110,000*l.* The result was a restricted circulation of money, and the diminished revenue from import and spirit duties. I pointed out in my report on the Blue Book for 1894 that the large revenue from imports in that year was to a great extent attributed to the use of American flour and foodstuffs in substitution of local produce in the way of plantains and vegetables known under the general name of "ground provisions," sweet potatoes, yams, tanias, &c., and I observed that this tendency was promoted in 1894 by long-continued drought, which restricted the growth of local produce. The abundant rains of 1895 have enabled the small proprietors to resume the cultivation of ground provisions with success, and this movement has been encouraged by the restricted circulation of money for the purchase of imported foodstuffs. It is necessary to bear this in mind in considering the relative well-being of the population in 1894 and 1895. The want of purchasing power indicated by the falling off of revenue from imports and spirits has been to some extent compensated by a cheap and abundant supply of wholesome home-grown food.

The following comparative statement of imports of vegetable foodstuffs shows an all-round decrease in 1895.

Article.	1894.	1895.	Decrease in 1895.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Bread - - - -	244,135	204,375	39,760
	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Flour (Wheaten) - -	31,087	26,499	4,588
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Meal - - - -	385,987	202,890	183,097
Rice - - - -	1,361,244	1,021,368	339,876

After cocoa, spices, principally nutmegs, rank as an important export, and the volume and value of this export compare very favourably with the export of previous years:—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwts.	£
1893 - - -	2,087	14,546
1894 - - -	1,917	9,583
1895 - - -	3,640	20,982

There was no material change in the volume and value of the exports of minor industries. These exports fluctuate annually.

Of 55,481*l.* value of imports from foreign countries, the United States claim no less than 54,735*l.* These imports consisted mainly of vegetable food supplies, salt meat, mineral oil, and oleomargarine.

The value of exports to the United States amounted to only 4,686*l.*, towards which cocoa contributed 3,874*l.*, and spices 567*l.*

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1895 were as follows:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - - - -	189	240,088	189	240,293
Sailing Vessels - - -	458	14,889	461	14,884
Totals - - -	647	254,977	650	255,177

In 1894 the number of steamers entered was 180, and the number of sailing vessels 407. The increased number of steamers was due to the facilities offered for coaling by the construction of a wharf alongside which 22 steamers were coaled.

Public Works and Road.

Two important public works were completed during the year, the Sendall Tunnel and the Grenville Water Works. The Sendall Tunnel joins the Carenage or inner harbour of St. George's with that part of the town in which the Market Square and the principal shops are situated. The harbour and Market Square were previously connected by precipitous streets and the substitution of a tunnel for the toilsome ascent and descent up

and down which goods had to be transported has conferred a boon on the community which is thoroughly appreciated. In order to complete the original scheme a new street has been opened between the eastern mouth of the tunnel and the streets leading to the Market Square. The new street is protected from the sea by a massive stone wall. The tunnel was commenced in 1889, but the works were suspended for some years.

The Grenville Water Works, commenced in 1894, were completed during the year and the scheme, besides furnishing an abundant supply of pure water to the residents of Grenville and the shipping, affords a provision for the protection of property against fire which will, it is hoped, enable proprietors to insure at easier rates of premium. Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., the consulting engineer of the works, visited them shortly before their completion and reported that they were thoroughly well constructed, adding that when finished they would be as complete as those of any town in Europe. The service of the St. Paul's and Richmond Hill Water Works was during the year extended by laying a new supply pipe, and a considerable district was thus brought within the area of supply.

While these important works were being completed the necessary preliminary steps were taken with a view to carrying out further useful undertakings as soon as funds are available. Mr. Chadwick prepared reports on a scheme for supplying the town of Gouyave with water; on a scheme for lighting the town of St. George by electricity; and on the reclamation of the swamp-lands of Grenville. An examination of the harbour of St. George's was also undertaken by Mr. G. H. Stephens, and a scheme prepared for the construction of a wharf to enable vessels to discharge and load alongside, instead of by means of lighters. Such a wharf would materially increase the commodiousness of the port for coaling purposes. A large expenditure was incurred during the year in the repair and reconstruction of roads and bridges damaged by inundation in 1894 and 1895. A complete reconstruction of the streets of the town of St. George's was commenced and partly executed during the year by the Town Board.

The total expenditure on Public Works amounted to 21,004*l.*, of which 12,592*l*, was paid out of general revenue for roads and buildings, 6,054*l.*, out of loans for Colonial Public Works, and 2,358*l.*, out of loans for Parochial Public Works

Meteorology and Forestry.

A record of rainfall in each district of the Colony was for the first time obtained in 1895. The greatest rainfall gauged was 193 inches at the Grand Etang on the central ridge of the Island, 1,790 feet above mean sea level; the lowest, 78·75 inches, at the Richmond Hill Station, 506 feet above mean sea level. On the 30th of September a rainstorm of great severity visited the northern districts of Grenada and the Island of Carriacou. In

Grenada, roads, bridges, and telephone lines were swept away by the flood, the damage under these heads being estimated at over 5,000*l*. Many acres of cultivated land were also laid waste or carried away. A catastrophe of the same kind in 1894 had already called my attention to the necessity of providing against the denudation of the forest lands of the Colony by the extension of clearings for purposes of cultivation.

It is universally admitted that such clearings, if undertaken without proper precautions, are the fruitful cause of torrents and generally increase surface drainage to the detriment of springs and permanent water courses; and I cannot doubt that the extension of clearings on the slopes of the mountain ridges of Grenada is tending to produce such results. Mr. Hooper, of the Indian Forest Department, who reported on the forests of Grenada in 1887, advised the strict preservation under forest of so much of the central ridge of the Island as is included within the Crown lands and certain other portions in the immediate vicinity, of which it would be to the general interest for the Government to assume the ownership. The uncertainty prevailing concerning the limits of the Crown lands around the Grand Etang has been a difficulty in carrying out Mr. Hooper's proposal, but steps have now been taken to remove this difficulty by the determination and demarcation of the boundary of the Crown Lands.

Mr. Hooper's Report closed with the following paragraph :—

"The administration of the forests, in whoever's hands it is placed, to be successful, must command the cordial co-operation of the estate owners; and from short acquaintance with them, I am sure that, once the matter is understood by them, they will not withhold their active assistance both in resigning to the inalienable charge of Government the backlands, which in many instances are a source of expense rather than of profit (sixpence an acre being the annual assessment on uncultivated land) to their present owners, and in paying a careful attention to the preservation of their forests, in the management of which they might be assisted by the forest officer. By so doing they would confer a benefit on themselves and on the community at large."

The Government, while taking measures for the preservation of the Crown lands, has asked for the cordial co-operation of owners of estates in the matter, and there can be no doubt that it will be accorded. It is to be apprehended, nevertheless, that the great extension of clearings and cultivation on the higher slopes during the years succeeding 1887 will make the accomplishment of forest reservations less easy than it would have been at that time.

Agriculture.

Early in the year Professor Harrison, Government Analyst of British Guiana, visited Grenada to select and report on sample soils from different districts of the colony, with reference to the products for which they are best suited and the manures necessary to correct their deficiencies. The thanks of this Colony are due

to the Government of British Guiana for placing Mr. Harrison's services at our disposal, and to Mr. Harrison himself for the interest he took in the work and for his reports. The Curator of the Botanic Garden accompanied Mr. Harrison on his tour through Grenada and Carriacou, and had thus an excellent opportunity of meeting planters and proprietors and taking notes of the agricultural position of the Colony. A commission was appointed during the year to report on the measures which it might be advisable to take in the agricultural interests of the Colony in consequence of the serious fall in the price of cocoa. Sittings of the commission were held in the different parishes and much information collected. The report of the commission has now been received and published, and the recommendations made seem to be generally prudent and practicable. The Curator of the Botanic Garden reports that the proceedings of the commission drew the attention of planters to the cultivation of coffee, and in consequence the supply of young plants at the garden was insufficient to meet the demand. Strenuous efforts are being made to meet it in the near future. The Botanic Garden continues its efforts to encourage the distribution of good qualities of agricultural and horticultural plants in aid of the established staple products of the Colony. Among other minor industries the cultivation of kola is increasing. Experiments are being made in the cultivation of tobacco.

A short crop of cocoa and low prices have for the time arrested our prosperity. Propitious seasons will, it may confidently be hoped, restore the abundant measure of previous crops, but it would be imprudent to calculate on the certainty of a return to the superior prices of two years ago. What can be done, however, is to obtain for Grenada cocoa the highest possible market price by such improved methods of preparation as will give our cocoa a reputation for uniform superiority of quality. It seems probable that the establishment of central *boucans*, under the management of experts, might do much towards the attainment of this end. If this end can be attained there seems to be a future of excellent promise for cocoa in Grenada, but the experience of the year seems once more to enforce the lesson that the fortunes of the colony cannot be safely limited or restricted to the cultivation of one product. The recommendations of the commission to which I have referred are all in favour of adding new agricultural industries to the resources of the Island. This is a lesson which the Kew authorities have long taught, and through the agency of botanical stations and gardens they do much to make it possible to promote the encouragement of subsidiary industries in aid of, or it may be, in time, to take the place of, established staples. A long colonial experience has taught me to appreciate to the full the Imperial service done by the Director of the Kew Gardens and his staff.

Vital Statistics.

The population of the Colony on the 31st of December was estimated at 59,101, showing an increase of 1,409 over the previous

year. The number of births exceeded those of any previous year recorded by the Registrar, and indicated a birth rate of 44·9 per 1,000. The death rate, 20·8 per 1,000, was the lowest recorded for many years. The marriage rate, reflecting the industrial depression, fell from 7·25 per 1,000 in 1894 to 5·20. It naturally followed that the per-centage of illegitimate births was somewhat higher than in the previous year.

Education.

A consolidating and amending Education Ordinance was passed in 1895, but did not come into operation till the 1st of January 1896. A new Code of Regulations for elementary schools is being prepared under the Ordinance, by which it is hoped that the standard of education may be raised, so that the Government may secure greater efficiency in return for the public expenditure.

Elementary education was carried on during the year in 37 schools, with 7,025 children on the registers, and an average attendance of 3,569. The number on the registers represents nearly 12 per cent. of the population. The Government expenditure on elementary education amounted to 5,354*l.* On secondary education the Government expenditure was limited to 614*l.* in the form of grants in aid of the St. George's Grammar School for boys and two high schools for girls. The expenditure on education amounted to 6,723*l.*, nearly 11·5 per cent. of the whole revenue of the Colony.

Savings Bank.

A comparison of the following table with the tables in which I have given the amount of cocoa exported and the price for the last five years shows that the transactions of the Savings Bank sympathised with the depression of the year :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors on 31st December.
		£	£	£
1893 - -	716	7,305	6,394	7,994
1894 - -	959	7,307	7,893	7,602
1895 - -	885	5,563	6,666	6,408

Legislation.

Several Ordinances relating to the public health of the Colony were passed; including the Quarantine Ordinance, the Public Health Ordinance, by which local authorities in sanitary matters have been established, the Streams Pollution Ordinance, the Grenville Water Supply Ordinance, and I may perhaps include

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

under this head the Lunatics Ordinance. An Ordinance was passed to consolidate and amend the Education Laws. By the St. George's Town Board Ordinance, a Board was created to administer the affairs of the town, in substitution of the old Parochial Board, half of the members being elected by the ratepayers and half nominated by the Governor. By the Ordinance the receipt and payment of all moneys are entrusted to the Treasury; the functions and powers of the Board being in this and other respects assimilated to those of the Castries Town Board of St. Lucia. For the protection of the town of St. George against fire, an Ordinance creating a Fire Brigade was passed.

SAINT LUCIA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year amounted to 48,564*l.*; the expenditure to 57,579*l.*, the expenditure thus exceeding the revenue by 9,015*l.* The revenue and expenditure for the year 1894, and the average yearly revenue and expenditure for the years 1889–93, were as follows:—

—	1894.	Average, 1889 to 1893.
	£	£
Revenue - - - -	56,590	51,209
Expenditure - - - -	54,500	51,588

The revenue of the year was not affected by any alteration of duties or taxes. The payment of export duties was suspended during the year as a measure of relief to the estates which had suffered from damage done to crops by the gale and floods of October 1894; but these duties are paid as contributions to the Immigration Fund. The Customs' Tariff Ordinance, 1895, did not come into operation until the 1st of January of the present year. The effect of this Ordinance was in general a reversion to the rates of duty levied before the adoption in 1892 of a revised tariff to meet the requirements of the McKinley tariff treaty arrangements. The 1895 tariff nevertheless leaves the general *ad valorem* rate and the duty on spirits at the rates fixed in 1892. The Ordinance also imposes a duty of sixpence per ton on coal and coke, but the collection of this duty is, by a proviso in the Ordinance, suspended until the 1st of January 1897.

As in Grenada, the falling off of revenue was mainly due to diminished receipts from customs and excise duties. The receipts from Customs fell from 24,416*l.* in 1894 to 21,052*l.* in 1895; the receipts from excise fell from 15,455*l.* in 1894 to 12,671*l.* in 1895. These reduced receipts were the result of a decline in the volume and value of the staple exports.

Assets and Public Debt.

The year 1894 closed with a surplus of assets over liabilities, exclusive of Debenture and Inscribed Stock Loans, amounting to 4,655*l.* This surplus was absorbed by the excess of expenditure over revenue of 1895, and the year closed with a debit balance of

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

4,359*l.* The Public Debt on the 31st of December 1895, amounted to 185,380*l.* made up as follows:—

					£
6 per cent. Debentures			-	-	22,600
5	„	„	-	-	2,700
4½	„	„	-	-	77,600
4¼	„	„	-	-	8,000
3½	„	„	-	-	8,000
4	„	Inscribed Stock	-	-	66,480

Included in the amount of 66,480*l.* Inscribed Stock is a sum of 10,000*l.* raised by the Colony on behalf of the Castries Town Board, interest and sinking fund being payable by the board. The credit of the Colony is pledged for the loan. The sum of 1,900*l.* was paid off during the year in redemption of drawn debentures. The Public Debt at the close of the year, exclusive of the Town Board Loan, was equal to 3·6 times the revenue of the year and represented an indebtedness at the rate of 3*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* per head of the population. The charges on account of the Public Debt absorbed more than one-sixth of the revenue of the year.

Military Expenditure.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 45,174*l.* The Colonial expenditure was limited to 1,957*l.* paid as an allowance to the troops in lieu of exemption from duties of Customs.

Imports and Exports.

The following tables show the value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the last five years:—

Imports.

Countries from whence imported.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	138,019	103,859	86,838	93,780	74,512
British Colonies - - -	24,867	30,360	26,602	31,933	28,690
Foreign Countries - - -	59,292	38,806	55,538	61,425	51,720
Wrecks - - - -	—	—	—	404	23
Totals - - -	222,178	173,025	168,978	187,542	154,945

Of 51,720*l.*, value of imports from foreign countries, the United States claim 39,357*l.*

Exports.

Countries to which exported.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	37,177	44,757	55,217	43,062	24,269
British Colonies - - -	6,151	7,153	5,212	11,297	2,951
Foreign countries - - -	87,056	84,446	118,001	91,535	74,935
Totals - - -	130,384	136,356	178,430	145,894	102,155

* Including specie, but exclusive of value of bunker coal supplied to shipping.

Of 72,451*l.*, value of exports to foreign countries, the United States received 37,758*l.* exclusively in sugar.

The following table gives the quantity and value of the principal exports in 1895 compared with the two preceding years :—

Exports.	1893.		1894.		1895.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar:	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Usine - - -	8,011,200	76,106	7,668,400	53,679	7,362,200	46,014
Muscovado - -	1,928,400	14,463	2,377,800	12,483	763,700	3,341
Molasses - - -	Gall. 253,680	4,756	Gall. 223,320	3,722	Gall. 279,960	3,499
Cocoa - - -	lbs. 1,037,600	38,910	lbs. 983,200	28,513	lbs. 739,402	16,637
Logwood - - -	Tons. 6,292	37,752	Tons. 7,116	37,359	Tons. 5,086	25,430

The average price of the principal exports for 1895 compared with the two preceding years was approximately as follows :—

Export.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Sugar, per 100 lbs.:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Usine - - -	0 19 0	0 14 0	0 12 6
Muscovado - -	0 15 0	0 10 0	0 8 9
Molasses, per gall. - -	0 0 4½	0 0 4	0 0 3
Cocoa, per 100 lbs. - -	3 15 0	2 18 0	2 5 0
Logwood, per ton - -	6 0 0	5 5 0	5 0 0

In my Report on the St. Lucia Blue Book for 1894 I showed that the serious decrease in the value of the staple products exported in that year was the result of falling prices and not of

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

diminished production. The figures I have now given show that in 1895 a further fall in price was accompanied by a diminished production. I also pointed out in my Report for 1894 that a long period of drought during that year followed by disastrous floods towards the close of the year would probably show their effect on the crops of 1895. The diminished yield of the year may be assigned chiefly to these causes.

The effect of the diminished yield and low prices of the principal products of the Colony was a restricted circulation of money and a reduced demand for the principal articles of import. The value of the principal food supplies imported showed a diminished value of nearly 6,000*l*; while in textile fabrics, haberdashery, and hardware, the falling off amounted to over 11,500*l*.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vesels entered and cleared in 1895 were as follows:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Steamers - - - -	365	453,216	366	454,777
Sailing vessels - - -	307	19,294	308	20,381
Totals - - -	672	472,510	674	475,118

Of the 365 steam vessels entered, 308 were British, 27 French, and 19 Belgian. In 1894 the number of steam vessels entered was 386. Most of the steamers entering call for bunker-coal. The shipment of bunker-coal was 35,714 tons in 1895; 39,764 tons in 1894; 37,580 tons in 1893. The price of the bunker-coal shipped is returned at 23*s*. in 1893 and 1894, and at 20*s*. in 1895. As no rival coaling ports can compete with St. Lucia in facilities for coaling, or in the price at which coal can be put on board, this fall of price must presumably be the result of local competition. It seems certain that if local competition reduces the price of coal below the price necessary to compete with rival ports no gain, but rather loss, is the result to the Colony. A fall of 3*s*. per ton in the price of 35,000 tons of coal means a direct loss of 5,000*l*. to the local merchants, and a corresponding indirect loss to the Colony.

Public Works.

The works undertaken for the supply of pure water to the town of Castries and the shipping have made steady progress; a considerable length of pipe being already laid. The new Government House was so far completed that the Administrator

took up his residence in it before the end of the year. The construction of a telephone line round the island connecting the several towns and villages with Castries and with each other was commenced and the line is now nearly completed. Several other minor but useful works were carried out, and on roads and bridges the damage done by the gale and floods of 1894 necessitated unusually extensive and costly labour. The amount expended on public works by the Civil Government during the year was 20,890*l.*, of which 9,205*l.* was defrayed out of general revenue; 11,314*l.* from loans; and the balance from town and village local funds. The military expenditure for works amounted to 12,600*l.*

Meteorology.

The year was one of heavy rainfall. Observations taken at the Morne at an elevation of 745 feet above mean sea level recorded a rainfall of 121·29 inches. In 1894 the record showed 81·55 inches; in 1893 it indicated 113 inches. The rainfall exceeded the average for the five preceding years by over 27 inches. In September and November the monthly records showed a rainfall of over 17 inches. Rain fell on 250 days during the year; the greatest number of rainy days (27) occurring in September, and the least (11) in February. It seems worthy of note, as indicating the necessity for precaution among the troops quartered on the Morne, that the absolute maximum temperature recorded was 87·6 and occurred in the month of October; the absolute minimum was 60·2 and was recorded in the same month.

Agriculture.

The prosperity of St. Lucia was arrested during 1895 by the causes which have affected the West Indies generally, short crops and low prices. But the agricultural history of the year was marked by one incident of good promise, as showing that, even in exceptionally unfavourable circumstances, the resources of the soil may be exploited with profit by intelligent, scientific, and economical enterprise. Early in the year the mortgagees in possession of the estates of the Central Sugar Factory Company gave notice of their intention to withdraw from the property and to cease working the factory and estates. As the Company was entirely without funds, it seemed possible and even probable that the property would revert to the condition of jungle, while not only would the indentured immigrants have to be provided for under the terms of their engagements, but a large body of labourers belonging to the general community would be thrown out of employment. In these circumstances it was fortunate that a local syndicate came forward and took over, under an agreement with the Government, the working of the estates provisionally for a year. I understand that the estates have been worked with such superior energy, skill, and economy, as to realise an immediate profit and to justify the belief that the cultivation of the property

will be permanently maintained and extended, with profit to the undertakers and every advantage to the Colony.

Vital Statistics.

The population on the 31st of December was estimated at 45,906, showing an increase of 811 over the previous year. The birth-rate was 40·4 per 1,000; the death-rate 22·4. The number of marriages, as in Grenada, seemed to reflect the agricultural depression, being 280 compared with 339 in 1894. The percentage of illegitimate births remained nearly stationary at 59 per cent.

Immigration.

There were in the Colony at the end of the year 721 indentured East Indian immigrants, including 513 statute adults or immigrants over 15 years of age. There was no importation of East Indian immigrants and no repatriation of time-expired immigrants. The birth-rate and death-rate among the indentured immigrants was as follows:—

1895.	Percentage.	
	Indentured Immigrants.	General Population.
Birth rate - -	4·20	4·04
Death rate - -	2·24	2·22

There were four "East Indian Mission" Schools in operation during 1895, with 233 children on the registers.

Education.

The work of primary instruction was carried on by 37 schools, with 3,977 children on the rolls and an average attendance of 2,212. In 1894 there were 35 schools, with 4,239 children on the registers and an average attendance of 2,607. Not only was there a falling off in the general attendance, but the inspector's report indicates a falling off in the number presented for examination and in results. The number of children on the registers represents about 8·6 per cent. of the population. The Government contribution to primary schools amounted to 2,668*l.* or about 1*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* per head of the children in average attendance. In the way of higher instruction, Government contributed 200*l.* in aid of the Castries Grammar School, known as St. Mary's College.

Savings Bank.

The deposits during the year amounted to 7,000*l.* compared with 9,548*l.* deposited in 1894; on the other hand, the withdrawals amounted to 7,162*l.* compared with 9,842*l.* withdrawn in 1894. The following figures seem to indicate that, while there has been a falling off in the saving power of a section of the community, saving habits have extended:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits at 31 Dec.	Average sum per Depositor.
		£	£ s. d.
1890 - - - -	681	9,492	13 18 9
1891 - - - -	909	9,961	10 19 2
1892 - - - -	905	7,704	8 10 3
1893 - - - -	1,128	9,812	8 13 11
1894 - - - -	1,187	9,428	7 18 10
1895 - - - -	1,275	9,267	7 5 4

It appears from these figures that the Savings Bank in St. Lucia has not reflected the general depression in agriculture and trade so clearly as in Grenada. This is probably due to the large expenditure on Public Works by the Military as well as by the Civil Government.

Legislation.

The principal Ordinances passed during the year have been already referred to in this despatch, namely: the Ordinances to amend and consolidate the law relating to quarantine; to provide for the custody of lunatics; to fix a tariff of duties on goods imported into the Colony.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

ST. VINCENT.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year 1895 amounted to 25,459*l.*; the expenditure to 28,911*l.* The revenue and expenditure for 1894, and the average of the five years 1889-93 were as follows:—

—	1894.	Average 1889 to 1893.
	£	£
Revenue - -	28,574	27,851
Expenditure -	30,976	26,926

The revenue was affected by various changes in import and export duties. At the close of 1894 the landed interest was relieved of the additional export duty imposed when the McKinley tariff treaty arrangements were entered into, and to meet this loss of revenue the excise duty on rum was raised from three shillings and sixpence to four shillings on the proof gallon. Early in the year the Customs tariff was revised and the duties antecedent to the McKinley treaty arrangements were, with some modifications, restored. It was anticipated that the revised tariff would fortify the revenue of the year by about 1,250*l.* The revenue, however, continued to fall, and in the month of November the duties on flour of wheat and tobacco were raised and an addition of 10 per cent. imposed on all duties. Before the additional duties came into force all goods in bonded warehouses were cleared, and the revenue of the year was therefore increased by an amount which would otherwise have fallen into the revenue of 1896. Nevertheless the revenue of 1895 showed a decline of 3,115*l.* compared with the revenue of 1894.

As was the case in Grenada and St. Lucia, the decline of revenue was due chiefly to diminished receipts from customs and excise duties; and these diminished receipts were due to causes which led to and resulted from a serious falling off in the value of the staple agricultural products. The revenue from import duties declined from 12,881*l.* in 1894 to 10,788 in 1895, and the revenue from excise from 4,552*l.* in 1894 to 3,694*l.*

Assets and Public Debt.

The year 1894 closed with an excess of liabilities (exclusive of the Debenture Debt) over assets amounting to 260*l.* and the excess of expenditure over revenue in 1895 increased the debit balance at the close of the year to 3,712*l.* The Public Debt, raised entirely by the issue of 5 per cent. debentures redeemable within short periods, amounted at the close of the year to 17,170*l.*, against 19,380*l.* at the close of 1894. Of this amount, 9,350*l.* represents money raised for municipal purposes, and repayable by the towns in which it has been expended; 1,750*l.* is the balance of the loan raised for immigration purposes, and is being redeemed by a special export tax appropriated to paying the interest and extinguishing this debt; 1,720*l.* was raised to meet initial expenditure on the Crown Lands scheme, and is a charge on the Crown lands; 4,350*l.* is the balance of loans raised for general Colonial purposes up to the 31st of December 1895.

Imports and Exports.

The direction and volume of the trade of the Colony for the last five years is shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

——	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	44,448	49,313	41,388	39,193	27,687
British Colonies - - -	39,174	44,301	40,178	37,296	26,187
Foreign Countries - - -	14,217	9,366	11,859	14,521	10,968
Totals - - -	97,839	102,980	93,425	91,010	64,842

Exports.

——	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	39,848	52,317	41,789	34,899	25,876
British Colonies - - -	12,790	25,914	25,142	21,395	19,577
Foreign Countries - - -	46,034	39,341	47,763	31,080	23,237
Totals - - -	98,672	117,572	114,694	87,374	68,690

Compared with 1894 the decrease of the import trade amounted to 28·7 per cent.; the decrease of the export trade was 21·3 per cent.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

The following table gives the quantity and value of the principal exports in 1894 and 1895 :—

—	1894.		1895.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Arrowroot - - brls.	29,119	38,278	25,695	26,959
Sugar - - - hhds.	3,135	27,270	2,782	18,962
Rum - - - puns.	275	2,200	152	883
Cocoa - - - lbs.	174,519	3,272	173,470	3,246
Vegetables and fruit (plantains) -	—	2,965	—	3,284
Spices - - - -	—	878	—	1,811

Of 10,968*l.* value of imports from foreign countries, the United States claim no less than 10,394*l.* The United States supplied most of the foodstuffs, kerosene oil, and tobacco. Of 23,236*l.* value of exports to foreign countries, the United States were customers to the amount of 18,796*l.*, this sum representing nearly the whole value of the sugar exported. The bulk of the arrowroot exported went to the United Kingdom.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1895 were as follows :—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers - - - -	104	106,671	104	106,671
Sailing vessels - - -	390	12,199	399	12,369
Total - - -	494	118,870	503	119,040

In 1894 the number of steamers entered was 102, and the number of sailing vessels 323.

Public Works.

No public work of importance was undertaken during the year.

Crown Lands.

The low price of stock and agricultural produce seriously affected the revenue of the Crown Lands Department. Purchasers of small holdings under the Crown Lands scheme, which provides for payment by instalments, have been unable to meet their liabilities, the result being large arrears of instalments, dating back in many cases to the year 1893. The Superintendent of Crown Lands is of opinion that where instalments have been paid they have been, to a large extent, paid out of wages earned out of the Colony or by sale of stock and not out of the profits of the cultivation of the land. I am giving my attention to two important questions affecting the Crown Lands scheme, the opening of roads, and the instruction of the small holders in the art of turning their holdings to profitable account by improved methods of cultivation and the selection of the best qualities of economic plants. The Superintendent of Crown Lands and the Curator of the Botanic Gardens are giving every assistance to the settlers.

Meteorology.

The year 1895 was remarkable for heavy rainfall.

The rainfall recorded at the Botanic Garden station was nearly 130 inches, nearly 40 inches in excess of the rainfall for 1894. Over 30 inches of rain fell in the month of September, causing floods which severely damaged the roads and private property in many parts of the Colony.

Agriculture.

The position of the sugar industry in St. Vincent may be conveniently illustrated by the following figures showing the collective value of the export of sugar, rum, and molasses in 1895, compared with the export in the year 1894 and in the years 1880, 1885 and 1890.

1880.	1885.	1890.	1894.	1895.
£ 128,603	£ 86,341	£ 63,621	£ 30,482	£ 21,581

Up to 1894 the value of the export of arrowroot was on the ascending scale, but in 1895 it fell to 26,959*l.* from 38,278*l.* in the previous year.

The value of the export of cocoa rose steadily from 640*l.* in 1880, to 3,272*l.* in 1894. In 1895 it was 3,246*l.*

The decline of the sugar industry in St. Vincent is, of course, due, in the first instance, to the causes which have depressed the industry in other West Indian Colonies, and mainly to the system of subsidies adopted by foreign Governments which guarantee

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

their producers a margin of profit even when the price is below the cost of production. But, as I pointed out in my report last year, St. Vincent has suffered more severely than other Colonies owing to the absence of such improved machinery as has elsewhere met reduced prices by turning out a superior quality of sugar at a reduced cost of production. For the Muscovado sugar, forming a large part of the export of St. Vincent, there seems to be very little demand in any part of the world. Professor Harrison, whose visit to Grenada I have referred to, extended his visit to St. Vincent, and reported on samples of soils selected from different districts with reference to the products for which they are best adapted and the manures necessary to correct their deficiences. The results of Professor Harrison's visit seem to show that, if the natural fertility of the soil were aided by scientific methods of cultivation and improved machinery, St. Vincent might successfully compete with the most favoured of the sugar-producing Colonies. The causes which have led to the decline of the arrowroot industry seem to be over-production and the substitution of other farinaceous products, especially flour of rice, for the uses to which arrowroot has hitherto been applied. There is still a fair demand for well-prepared arrowroot of superior quality, and the price is sufficiently remunerative where the soil is suitable and not too heavy. At the present market price the cultivation of cocoa on the Crown lands, which are sold at a nominal price, or on private lands unproductive for want of cultivation, should yield a handsome margin of profit. And the same may be said of other products—coffee, fruit, and spices. Dr. Morris, Assistant Director of the Royal Kew Gardens, advises me that the resources of St. Vincent so exactly resemble those of Jamaica that every kind of cultivation which has been found profitable in Jamaica ought to be equally successful in St. Vincent. In considering the prospects of the development of agriculture in St. Vincent, the circumstances of the tenure of land have to be taken into account.

The lands of St. Vincent cover, according to the Blue Book, a total area of 85,000 acres. According to the land roll, which includes assessments on holdings of one acre and upwards, these lands are held approximately as follows:—

—	Acres.	No. of Holdings.
Crown lands - - - - -	40,000	—
In properties of less than 20 acres - -	1,360	351
In properties of over 20 acres and less than 50 acres.	1,060	34
In properties of over 50 acres - - -	42,000	134

I am unable to state accurately the area of cultivated land in the 42,000 acres in the hands of large proprietors, but I believe

that the area beneficially occupied cannot exceed 8,000 acres, or at the most 10,000. The area of Crown lands in cultivation is insignificant, probably not exceeding 1,200 acres. It is probable that the holdings under 50 acres are for the most part beneficially occupied. It should seem, therefore, that the successful development of the agricultural resources of the Colony must depend on two things: an extension of the area of cultivation of such products as have been found profitable in Jamaica over the large holdings in the hands of a few proprietors; and an extension of similar cultivation by small proprietors. These are the problems upon the solution of which the future prosperity of St. Vincent depends. It is difficult for Government to force the action of the proprietors of great estates, and this is not the place for me to consider the possibility of measures which might have such a result. But it may be allowed to say that it would be to the advantage of the Colony were some portion at least of the large estates now unprofitable to pass into the hands of proprietors who would work them as the unprofitable estates of the Central Sugar Factory Company in St. Lucia were worked during last year by the syndicate to which I have referred in my remarks on agriculture in St. Lucia. As regards the extension of the area of small holdings, a scheme, to which I have already referred, for disposing of the Crown lands was started some years ago. I have indicated the causes which have, for the time at least, retarded the success of the scheme.

Education.

The work of primary instruction was carried on by 45 schools, with 6,078 children on the register and an average attendance of 3,373. In 1894 the number on the register was 6,193 and the average attendance 3,567. Hard times and continued rainfall probably reduced the school attendance. The Government grants amounted in 1895 to 1,977*l.*, in 1894 to 2,021*l.*

Savings Bank.

The following table shows the transactions of the Savings Bank for the last five years :—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1891 - -	938	5,216	5,474	8,715
1892 - -	946	4,843	4,751	8,957
1893 - -	1,001	4,514	5,154	8,317
1894 - -	1,021	5,772	5,165	8,925
1895 - -	1,012	4,509	4,460	8,973

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

Although the amount of deposits in 1895 fell considerably short of the deposits in 1894, it is satisfactory to observe that, in spite of adverse circumstances, the deposits on the 31st of December were slightly in excess of the deposits at the close of any previous year.

Legislation.

In addition to the Ordinances relating to quarantine and to the care and custody of lunatics, to which I have already referred, the Bills of Exchange Ordinance was passed, making the law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes, uniform with the general provisions of Imperial legislation. An Ordinance was also passed to make provision for the preparation and publication of a revised edition of Statute Laws of the Colony, a measure which is being carried out *pari passu* with the revision of the Laws of Grenada.

I have, &c.

CHARLES BRUCE.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 209.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 179.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
October 1897.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1897.

[C.—8650-7.] *Price* 1*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
178	Hong Kong...	1895
179	Windward Islands...	"
180	Labuan	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	"
182	Seychelles	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	"
186	Basutoland	1895–96
187	Ceylon	1895
188	British Guiana	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895–96
191	Canada	1895
192	Bermuda	1896
193	Bahamas	"
194	Zululand	"
195	Gambia	"
196	Malta	"
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands...	1896
199	Barbados	"
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	"
203	Fiji (Trade)...	"
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	"
207	British Honduras	"
208	Sierra Leone	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 209.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 179 of this Series.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MOLONEY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
28th August, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book for 1896 of the Colony of Grenada which has been prepared by Mr. Leslie Probyn, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have &c.,

ALFRED MOLONEY, Governor.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF 1896.

During the year 1895 the fall in the price of cocoa, combined with the effects resulting from a short crop, led to a withdrawal of advances upon cultivation. Other effects took place in sympathy, with the result that the position of many became trying, if not critical. The statistics for 1896 have a special interest as showing in many ways the manner in which the Colony has met the strain.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The year 1896 started with a surplus of £587 and closed with a deficit of £1,182.

The Assets comprise three items which require comment, viz.: (*a*) Other Advances, (*b*) Arrears of Revenue (Parochial Board), (*c*) Stores.

"Other Advances" include a sum of £221 repayment of which is improbable as the amount is an advance in connection

14672—6—9/97 Wt 20613 D & S—5 (B)

with a scheme for electric lighting which is not being proceeded with. (*b*) "Arrears of Revenue" include arrears of interest due from the Grenville Parochial Board amounting to £1,117 which it is feared will have to be treated as a bad debt. (*c*) "Stores" shown in the assets as worth £1,373 are in reality of less value as the total given is based upon the original cost of the stores when purchased.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at December 31st, 1896, amounted to £127,770 as against £113,190 at December 31st, 1895. Of this amount £26,205 is owing by the Parochial Boards.

With the exception of £4,100 secured by debentures carrying 4½ per cent. interest, the whole debt of the Colony is at 4 per cent. and is secured by stock issued under the authority of Ordinance No. 5 of 1891, which compels such stock to be issued in accordance with the Colonial Stock Act (Imperial) 1877.

REVENUE.

The Revenue for the year was £56,274, being £6,097 less than the estimated Revenue.

Comparison with the revenue of previous years shows :—

	£
Average Revenue for five years 1889-1893 -	53,751
Revenue for 1894 (highest on record) -	63,021
Revenue for 1895 - - - - -	58,467

Thus it will be noticed that, although the revenue of 1896 was £2,193 less than that of 1895, it was nevertheless £2,523 higher than the average revenue for the five years previous to 1894. On the other hand it has to be remembered that during the period 1889-1893 the import duties were lower and that during the last two months of 1896 the Export Duties Ordinance was in operation.

The decrease in revenue as compared with 1895 (£2,193) is shown chiefly under the head of land sales, in which occurs a decrease of £1,206 due to the fact that there were no important sales of escheated land, the balance of the decrease, viz. £987, being very evenly distributed amongst all the remaining heads of revenue.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year was £60,523, being £795 less than the estimated expenditure and £3,152 less than the expenditure in 1895, but £4,248 in excess of the actual revenue.

Comparison with previous years shows :—

	£
Average expenditure for five years 1889-1893 -	55,700
Expenditure in 1894 - - - -	59,594
Expenditure in 1895 - - - -	63,675

Reverting to the figures quoted above in connection with the revenue during the period 1889-1893, it will be remembered that the revenue in 1896 was £2,523 greater than the average revenue during the years 1889-1893. The expenditure in 1896, however, was £4,822 greater than during the period named, thus showing a disproportionate increase in expenditure of £2,299.

This increase is, of course, due to several causes.

The "Charge on account of Public Debt" was £4,504 in 1894, £5,246 in 1895, and £6,385 in 1896, thus accounting for an increase of £1,881 in 1896 as compared with 1894.

The "Charge on account of Public Debt" includes, however, the Sinking Fund, which was increased in 1896 by £1,231.

The expenditure in 1895 was abnormal, being the highest on record. For the purpose of comparison it is better to compare the figures of 1896 with those of 1894.

The expenditure upon personal emoluments amounted to £1,293 more in 1896 than in 1894 in spite of there being a decrease (due in part to the amalgamation of the departments) of £307 in the Treasury and £167 in the Post Office. The largest increase is under Head "Legal," due in part to an increase of £300 in the salary of Attorney General, the other chief increases being £383 in "Police" and £365 in the Medical Service.

The expenditure upon "other charges" (*i.e.* all expenditure other than on personal emoluments) in 1896 was £34,849, being £365 less than the corresponding expenditure in 1894. But for the already alluded to increase (£1,881) in the charges for the public debt, there would therefore have been a considerable decrease in the expenditure upon "other charges" in 1896 as compared with 1894, and this in spite of there being an increase of £1,008 upon Education.

The increase in "Miscellaneous" and the decrease in "Post Office" is apparent only, being due to the mail contract being debited to the former account in 1896 instead of, as in 1894, to the Post Office.

The real cause of there being a decrease of £365 upon "other charges" in 1896 as compared with 1894, in spite of the large increase in Public Debt charges and in Education, is due to there having been a saving of £603 in the charges against the Medical Department, £220 in Prisons, and £1,550 in Public Works.

Although, however, the expenditure of 1896 is in some respects satisfactory as compared with that of 1894, it must be borne in

mind, as already pointed out, that it is considerably in excess of the average expenditure during the period 1889-1893, a result due chiefly to the increase in debt charges and to increased expenditure upon Roads and Education, and lastly, to a minor extent, to an increase on "personal emoluments."

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The correctness of these returns is largely beyond Government control from the fact that the materials from which they are made are supplied by the importing and exporting firms. Another source of error arises from the possibility of miscalculation in the percentages which are added to the imports and exports to represent freight, packages, &c.

Assuming, however, the accuracy of the returns for 1895 and 1896, a comparison between the two is of interest and would be of greater value were it not for the big proportion of "unenumerated" goods which is shown in both returns.

The imports in 1896 were £21,308 less than in 1895, while the exports were greater by £9,384.

The totals of imports and exports between the Colony and other British Colonies show little variation during the two years 1895 and 1896, although there are changes in the direction of the trade. For example, the imports from British North America amounted in 1896 to £1,658 as against *nil* (according to the returns) in 1895, the imports from Barbados increased by £1,500, while those from Trinidad diminished by £1,000.

A very great change, however, occurs in the returns of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries. Thus, while the imports from the United Kingdom diminished £11,593 or 14·8 per cent., those from Foreign Countries diminished £10,066 or 18·1 per cent.

The exports were still more favourable to the United Kingdom, as they amounted to £169,499 in 1896, showing an increase of £28,763 over those of 1895, while the exports to Foreign Countries fell to £8,593, a diminution of no less than £17,074.

These results may, however, be in part due to error; for example, imports from the United States declined in 1896 by £9,863, and it is possible that the trade from British North America (showing an increase from *nil* in 1895 to £1,658 in 1896) was included in 1895 in that from the United States.

Imports.—Of the £21,308 decrease in the 1896 imports £14,071 is due to the decrease in Class I.—"food and drink supplies, live animals, &c." (being about 16·5 per cent. upon the 1895 figures), and £5,675 is due to the decrease in Class II.—"raw materials" (being a decrease of about 33·2 per cent.).

With the exception of tea, wines, and jewelry (the imports of which in 1896 vary but little from those in 1895) and of "books"

(which show an increase of £257 in 1896 as compared with 1895), all luxuries show a decrease. Accepting the accuracy of the figures, as a wide generalization it may therefore be said that there has been no diminution in the luxuries of the luxurious but a marked diminution in the luxuries of the poor.

In point of fact, with the exception of an increase under about 12 heads, a decrease shows itself all down the import list, the items in which the diminution exceeds £1,000 being—

	£
Horses, mules, &c.	1,015
Flour (wheaten)	3,879
Meat (dried)	1,637
Molasses	1,104
Sugar	2,348

The diminution in molasses and sugar is noteworthy, and that it is probably due to an increase in local production is indicated by the fact that the quantity of rum manufactured in the Colony rose to 52,897 gallons, being an increase of 9,530 gallons.

The imports of coffee in 1895 amounted to £222 and were practically *nil* in 1896, a fact which, coupled with an increase of £150 in the exports of that commodity in 1896, indicates that the latter is likely to take its place permanently amongst the exports of the Colony.

The list of decreases in the imports of 1896 as compared with 1895 shows a total of over £27,000. From this total, however, has to be deducted the increases in certain imports, the chief items being :—

	£
Fish (dried)	938
Timber	309
Soap	406
Boots	817

There is also an increase of no less than £3,623 in "manufactured leather other than boots and shoes." Probably, however, this class of imports was included in 1895 in the unenumerated class.

The details shown in the import returns show a considerable contraction in the trade with the United States. Thus there was a diminution in the following imports from that country: butter, flour (wheaten), lard oil, pease, rice (trade extinct), spirits (trade extinct), sugar, tobacco, coal (large diminution), petroleum, timber (large diminution), and soap. On the other hand the imports from the United States increased under the following heads, dried fish, lard, oats (slight), rope, books (slight), although in each of the imports named the trade from the United Kingdom diminished. The large amount of transhipment at Barbados and Trinidad makes it, however, impossible to draw from these isolated figures any deduction as to the true direction of trade.

GRENADA. 1896.

Exports.—The *net* increase in exports amounts as already stated to £9,384. The chief increase was in cocoa and amounted to £20,999, against which has to be set a decrease of £8,561 in spices and £1,352 in logwood.

The increase of £150 in coffee has already been alluded to.

The exports to France in 1896 diminished by £18,567 and those to the United Kingdom increased by £28,763. This change is partly accounted for by the higher prices obtainable in the United Kingdom for the better class of cocoa. Many charters optional on London or Havre are, however, entered into, and some of the decrease in the exports to France may be due to want of information as to the option having been exercised in favour of a port in that country.

SHIPPING.

There has been a decrease in the tonnage of shipping, both steam and sailing, as shown by the following figures :—

	1894.	1895.	1896.
Steam (tons) -	229,289	240,088	210,740
Sailing (tons) -	12,573	14,889	10,655

An interruption in the coaling contracts made by Messrs. Otway Bros., in 1895, has resulted in the disappearance of foreign steamers from the returns.

In sailing vessels, also, foreign vessels show a marked decline, as shown by the following figures :—

	1894.	1895.	1896.
Foreign vessels entered (tons)	2,565	3,730	768
Foreign vessels cleared (tons)	2,565	3,431	730

A notable point, especially in the case of steam vessels, is the very great increase in shipping with cargoes and a like diminution in shipping in ballast. Thus the shipping (steam) both cleared and with cargoes was greater in 1896 than in either 1894 or 1895 :—

	1894.	1895.	1896.
Steam vessels—With cargoes entered (tons)	151,286	123,821	167,821
" With cargoes cleared (tons)	116,263	106,346	154,195
" In ballast entered (tons)	78,003	116,267	43,611
" In ballast cleared (tons)	110,056	133,947	59,452

In the case of sailing vessels cleared the same tendency is shown as is also the case with sailing vessels entered in 1896 and 1895. Fewer of such vessels, however, were entered in ballast in 1894 than in 1896.

AGRICULTURE.

The non-existence of an Agricultural Society and the fact that the Land Tax returns do not contain information as to

the area of cultivated lands make it impossible to ascertain the increase or decrease in the various cultivations.

According to the export returns the cocoa crop was the largest on record, 57,691 bags (equal 90,193 cwt.) having been exported, being an increase of 2,026 bags over the quantity exported in 1894, hitherto regarded as the record year.

Comment has already been made in connection with the imports and exports upon the progress in coffee cultivation. Although accurate figures are not obtainable there is no doubt that there has been a considerable quantity of coffee planted, and that the Liberian thrives better than the Arabian plant.

Considerable efforts have been made, notably upon the Annandale Estate, to plant rubber, but sufficient time has not elapsed to enable any opinion to be formed as to whether the undertaking will be successful.

Botanical Gardens.—During the year tobacco (grown from Havana seed obtained from Jamaica) was cut, cured, and sold locally at 10*d.* per pound. There is of course no doubt that tobacco can be readily grown in the Colony, but no opinion can be formed upon the quality until the art of curing is better understood.

Two agricultural apprentices have been enrolled at the gardens and are reported to be making good progress.

Savings Bank.

The Government Savings Bank returns are not altogether unsatisfactory when compared with those of 1895, as the number of depositors increased and the withdrawals diminished. The amount of deposits, however, shows a continued decrease.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1891	637	6,112	5,356	7,610
1892	904	5,994	6,672	6,886
1893	716	7,305	6,394	7,994
1894	959	7,307	7,893	7,602
1895	885	5,563	6,666	6,408
1896	895	4,854	5,035	6,391

In consequence of the remuneration of all Savings Bank Officials being included in their pay as public officers there was a gain of £42 on the year's transactions, which, however, is apparent only, as the value of the work done by the officers would exceed that sum.

Of the balance to credit of depositors, £4,000 is invested in 4 per cent. South Australia Stock and £2,000 is on deposit with the Colonial Bank at 3 per cent.

Post Office.

The returns show an increase of 7,008 in the number of letters, parcels, &c., despatched and received, and an increase is also shown in the volume of business transacted by the Money Order Department.

Roads and Public Works.

During the year £16,091 was spent upon Public Works, of which £7,014 was spent upon Loan Works, £7,502 upon works annually recurrent, and the balance £1,575 upon Public Works exceptional (other than Loan Works).

Of the £7,502 spent upon works annually recurrent, £6,795 was spent on the maintenance of roads, being nearly one-eighth of the revenue of the Colony. This large outlay is largely the result of heavy rains, and is exclusive of the cost of maintaining and repairing bridges.

Excluding Carriacou, there are in the Colony 101 miles of main roads, 70 miles of first class byeways, and 179 miles of second class byeways, the cost of maintenance of which (excluding overseers) is respectively £25, £20, and £8 per mile.

During the year the Birch Grove Bridge, the Gouyave River Works, and the Florida embankment (all Loan Works) and the House Surgeon's Quarters were completed; £3,285 was spent upon the reconstruction of the Colony Hospital (Loan Work). The reconstruction was not, however, completed during the year. A survey was made of the Crown Lands surrounding the Grand Etang. The Telephone system has been worked without any loss.

Hospitals and Asylums.

Hospitals.—Throughout the year both the Colony Hospital and the Yaws Hospital continued in the temporary quarters provided in 1895. There were 731 inmates as against 649 in 1895, the death rate being 7·85 as compared with 6·70 in 1895 and the percentage of cases cured 60 per cent. as against 69 per cent. in 1895.

The increase in the death rate is partly due, as the House Surgeon points out, to deaths from Tuberculosis, and would have been 7·1 only, had the deaths from that disease been the same in number as in 1895. Of malarial fever 109 cases occurred in the Colony Hospital amongst the patients and officers as against 84 in 1895, while in Carriacou Hospital no less than 75 per cent. of the patients became thus affected. The Colonial Surgeon states that the prevalence of this fever is, in the case of Carriacou, caused by the vicinity of undrained swamps. It will be of interest to note whether the number of such cases in the Colony Hospital will be reduced when the temporary quarters are abandoned.

The observations of the Colonial Surgeon and the House Surgeon with reference to the Yaws Hospital are of importance as indicating that compulsory treatment is not necessary to prevent an increase in the disease.

The return of the St. Andrew's Hospital is very significant as showing both a remarkable extension in the out-patient department and also that a profit has been made in the dispensary.

Of free prescriptions 8,060 were issued during the year.

Lunatic and Poor Asylums.—The admissions into the Lunatic Asylum again show an increase, there having been 5 more admitted than in 1895, in spite of the fact that during the latter year 8 more were admitted than in 1894. The Colonial Surgeon in his report expresses the opinion that insanity is slowly but steadily increasing in the Windward Group, and this opinion is apparently shared by the Acting Medical Superintendent, as he states that the accommodation for lunatics will probably soon have to be increased.

Primâ facie the increase in admissions is disproportionately large as compared with the natural increase in population. Having regard, however, to the re-admissions and to the smallness of the numbers upon which the proportions are based, and lastly to the fact that until two years ago the other colonies did not send all cases to Grenada, it is open to doubt whether the figures above referred to can be regarded as reliable evidence of an increase in insanity.

The death rate amongst the inmates of the Lunatic Asylum was 6·8 per cent. as compared with 10·92 per cent. in 1895 and the percentage of cases cured 11·2 as against 7·6 in 1895. By law a coroner's inquest has to be held respecting every death in the Asylum. In one case the verdict was that death arose from "starvation." Enquiry has shown that the deceased had been for some days in the infirmary and had been ordered special diet and stimulants, but that for three days before his death he refused his diet and would not even drink water.

The Poor Asylum (which would be more aptly called a Hospital for Incurables) shows a very marked increase in the death rate, the percentage being 41·1 in 1896 as against 29·6 in 1895.

GRENADA.
1896.

EDUCATION.

Primary Education.—The number of schools open during the year was 37, composed of 10 Government Schools and 27 denominational schools of which there were 14 Roman Catholic, 7 Anglican, 4 Wesleyan, and 2 Presbyterian.

The Happy Hill (Government) School was closed at the end of October, it having been decided that the Roman Catholic School there sufficiently met the requirements of the district.

The Government "Contributions" show an increase of £438, of which about £350 is due to the fact that the result grants for both 1895 and 1896 were paid to the Schools in the parish of St. George during the year.

There was an increase of 103 scholars on the roll, the total being 7,128. There was a slight decrease in the attendance, due to an epidemic of measles and mumps.

The following table shows that there has been a steady decline in the amount of fees collected and an equally steady increase in the expenditure by the Government upon Education.

Year.	On Roll.			Average attendance.	Attendance on examination day.	Scheduled for examination.	School fees paid.			Cost to tax-payers from Treasury Chest.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1890	3,227	2,582	5,809	3,056	4,728	2,595	690	17	5	3,545	6	8
1891	3,368	2,787	6,155	3,246	4,504	2,565	568	18	6	4,132	10	8
1892	3,422	2,825	6,247	3,248	4,715	2,952	471	17	4	4,202	1	4
1893	3,394	2,858	6,252	3,300	4,721	2,957	478	7	7	4,599	2	11
1894	3,612	3,111	6,723	3,608	4,843	3,366	481	17	4½	4,808	15	2
1895	3,825	3,200	7,025	3,569	5,229	3,532	390	10	8	5,354	6	4
1896	3,817	3,311	7,128	3,527	5,060	3,359	341	8	4½	5,792	15	6

The salary and allowances of the Inspector of Schools are not included in the returns.

The decrease in fees does not directly affect the Government, as the amount when collected is distributed amongst the teachers.

In the denominational schools the books, school furniture, &c., are supplied by the management and the latter make no charge for the rental of the buildings. With these exceptions the whole cost of a school when once established is borne by the Government, as no part of the education revenue is derived from voluntary contributions.

A great difference exists between the cost of education in the various schools calculated per scholar on the roll, and

is shown in the following table which is based upon the figures for 1896.

	No. of scholars on the roll.	Cost per annum for each scholar on the roll.		Expenditure on first class teachers.	Expenditure on assistant teachers.	Capitation Grant.	Result Grant.
		s.	d.	£	£	£	£
Government Schools	1,721	18	1	550	40	88	282
Roman Catholic ...	3,274	13	4	670	274	141	421
Anglican	1,161	20	10	390	185	66	215
Wesleyan	756	22	2	220	116	44	171
Presbyterian ...	216	23	5	100	Nil.	12	52
	7,128			£1,930	£615	£351	£1,141

The expenditure shown in the above table amounts to £4,037 out of the £5,792 total amount of the Government expenditure, the balance £1,755 being spent on pupil teachers, sewing mistresses, sewing result grants, miscellaneous expenditure, and in caretakers, rentals, and books in Government schools.

The figures above given show, it will be noticed, that money spent on high class teachers usually brings about an increase in the result grant.

A new Education Code was brought into operation in November, too late therefore to affect the returns for the year.

Under the new Code the amount spent upon the staff in salaries will be less, and the capitation grant lessened by half, but the result grants will be considerably increased. It is estimated that the net result will be a saving of about £800 per annum.

The Code provides a stricter system in calculating the attendance, an improved system for the examination of scholars, and lastly by it persons cannot become teachers until they obtain certificates from the College of Preceptors.

Prisons and Crime.

The number of persons sentenced to imprisonment was 260 as compared with 263 in 1895 and 245 in 1894.

Of the 260 persons sentenced 96 had already suffered previous conviction, the corresponding numbers for 1895 and 1894 being 107 and 94 respectively.

24 persons were sentenced to be flogged for larceny of cocoa, but 8 escaped that punishment in consequence of being certified as medically unfit. There was no case of flogging for breach of prison discipline.

The health of the Richmond Hill Prison was exceptionally good, there having been but two of those cases of diarrhœa,

dysentery, and fever which were so numerous in 1894 and 1895. During the rainy season, however, malarial fever was prevalent in the Female Prison in St. George's.

The discipline was satisfactorily maintained, and the estimated value of the work done by the prisoners exceeded the cost of maintaining the prisons by £117 17*s.* 8*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

Four persons were found guilty of serious crimes and were sentenced to imprisonment for periods exceeding five years. Although no such sentences were necessary in 1895 there is no reason for thinking that there is in the Colony any increased tendency to commit such crimes.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The estimated population at the end of the year was 60,367, being an increase of 7,158 over the population as recorded by the census of April 1891, and 1,266 over the estimated population at the end of 1895.

The rates per 1,000 mean estimated population were, for births 41·02, for marriages 5·87, and for deaths 19·82.

As compared with 1895 the birth rate diminished in every district in the Colony, the decrease being greatest in the island of Carriacou, in which latter place and also in the parish of St. George's the decline was accompanied by an increase in the death rate. The death rate for the whole Colony, however, shows a slight decrease and the marriage rate an increase from 314 marriages in 1895 to 351 in 1896.

During the year the Infirm Paupers and Immigrants Ordinance came into operation, a fact which should be noted in connection with the census of 1901.

Local Revenues.

The financial position of the St. George's Town Board constituted by Ordinance 5 of 1895 is very satisfactory. There is no reason to conclude that the Hillsborough, Sauteurs, and Victoria Parochial Boards are not perfectly solvent, as a very slight increase in revenue will result in each having a surplus instead of the slight deficit which occurred last year. The Gouyave Parochial Board, although heavily burdened by its loans, cannot be by any means regarded as foredoomed to the condition of hopeless insolvency which characterizes the account of the Grenville Parochial Board.

LEGISLATION.

Considerable progress has been made in the work of consolidating and revising the law; 37 Ordinances were passed during the year and a special committee of the Legislative Council considered and reported upon Bills introducing a Criminal Code, a Criminal Procedure Code, and an Evidence Code.

The chief changes in the law were effected by the Jury Ordinance (No. 16 of 1896) which enables majority verdicts to be given in all cases except murder, by the Cocoa and Nutmegs Ordinance (No. 21 of 1896), which repeals the former law in so far as the latter made flogging an unavoidable consequence of conviction for theft of cocoa, &c., and thirdly by the Excise Ordinance (No. 36 of 1896), which transfers excise work from the Treasury to the Police.

The Export Duties Ordinance (Ordinance 22 of 1896) is probably the most important Ordinance which was passed during the year. It imposes export duties upon certain produce, *inter alia* 5*d*. per cwt. on cocoa and 1*s*. per cwt. on spices. The Ordinance came into force at the end of October, since which date the price of cocoa has advanced in London several shillings per cwt. The facility with which the tax is collected is very notable when compared with the Land and House tax, for the enforcement of which four Orders in Council were found to be necessary during the year.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The average mean temperature throughout the year was 79.0.

The coolest months were, as usual, January, February, March, and the hottest, also as usual, August, September, and October.

The rainfall was exceptionally heavy in Grenada, but not in Carriacou.

During the last three years the early months have been dry, the rain beginning in May and lasting till the end of the year, the greatest fall taking place in September and November, the intervening October being comparatively dry.

At the Grand Etang the rainfall during the year was no less than 200·69 inches, of which 38·72 inches fell in November. The accuracy of these figures is borne out by the observations made at Annandale and Belvidere, at both of which places the rainfall was very heavy, being especially so in November.

ESTABLISHMENT.

Several important changes took place under this head. Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles was promoted to be Attorney-General of

GRENADA. 1896.

Jamaica, and Mr. Leslie Probyn was appointed to the Attorney Generalship of Grenada from British Honduras.

Mr. E. Pakenham Brooks, Treasurer, died in the month of August. The opportunity was taken to effect a reduction in the cost of the Treasury and Post Office departments. Mr. C. Falconer Anton, Registrar of the Supreme Court, was placed at the head of both Treasury and Post Office departments as Postmaster as well as Treasurer, Comptroller of Customs, &c., and Mr. C. H. Collymore, the Postmaster, was made Registrar of the Supreme Court. As noticed under Legislation the excise division of the Treasury was transferred to the Police Department at the close of the year.

Mr. L. B. Otway, Magistrate of the Western District and District Registrar of Births and Deaths for the parishes of St. John's and St. Mark's, retired on pension on the 31st December 1895. To the offices vacated by Mr. Otway, Mr. W. E. Haynes, Revenue Officer at Grenville, &c., was appointed, and to Mr. Haynes's combined offices Mr. H. W. Sharpe (Chief Revenue Officer) as Assistant Treasurer of Grenville, Mr. Sharpe's place as Chief Revenue Officer being filled by Mr. G. E. Gumbs, from the Revenue Staff.

The Auditor of the Windward Islands, Mr. L. J. Bertram, was transferred to the Leeward Islands, and the vacant auditorship was conferred upon Mr. W. Cuddeford, Auditor of the Sierra Leone Government.

GENERAL.

During the year there were five bankruptcies (as against *nil* in 1895) and a large increase in foreclosure suits and actions for debt; there being no important manufactures in the Colony, it seems probable that the decrease in the imports is due to efforts at retrenchment made by those anxious or compelled to repay loans, it being obvious that with a substantial increase in the exports the purchasing power of the Colony cannot have been lessened.

If, therefore, the increasing expenditure upon upkeep of roads and bridges can be checked, there is good reason to conclude that the Colony will pass successfully out of the period of strain which began in 1895.

LESLIE PROBYN,
Attorney General and Actg. Col. Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
12th August, 1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 211.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 179.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
October, 1897.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1897.

[C.—8650-9.] *Price* 1*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
180	Labuan	1895
181	Trinidad and Tobago	"
182	Seychelles	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	"
186	Basutoland	1895–96
187	Ceylon	1895
188	British Guiana	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895–96
191	Canada	1895
192	Bermuda	1896
193	Bahamas...	"
194	Zululand	"
195	Gambia	"
196	Malta	"
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896
199	Barbados	"
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	"
203	Fiji (Trade)	"
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	"
207	British Honduras	"
208	Sierra Leone	"
209	Grenada	"
210	Hong Kong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 211.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 179 of this Series.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MOLONEY TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
14th September, 1897.

Forwarded.

ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor.

Government House,
2nd September, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Report on the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1896.

I have, &c.,

P. J. K. FERGUSON.

His Excellency,
Sir Alfred Moloney, K.C.M.G.,
Grenada.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1896.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the year amounted to £55,331, and the expenditure to £56,060, the expenditure being in excess of the revenue by £729.

14764—750—10/97 Wt 20613 D & S—5 (B)

ST. LUCIA. 1896.

The revenue and expenditure for the years 1891-95 were as follows :—

—	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	49,326	48,297	51,598	55,971	48,564
Expenditure ...	53,906	54,934	49,271	53,766	57,579

A new Customs Tariff came into force on the 1st January 1896. It was mainly a reversion to the rates of duty levied before the adoption in 1892 of a revised tariff to meet the requirements of the McKinley tariff arrangements.

The total revenue for the year appears to exceed that of 1895 by £6,767, but this is due to the interest and sinking fund on the guaranteed loans being included for the first time on the revenue side of the account. £1,000 also were transferred to the General Revenue from Land Sales Fund.

The receipts from Customs fell £273, and the receipts from Excise fell £700. These reduced receipts were the result of a decline in the amounts spent on military and other public works.

There was also a decrease in the collections from Road Tax of £245 in consequence of the departure of a number of people to the goldfields of Cayenne in French Guiana.

There was, however, an increase of £560 under the head of Port and Harbour dues, on account of the development of the coaling trade.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND PUBLIC DEBT.

The year 1895 closed with a debit balance of £4,359, and it was increased at the end of 1896 to £5,088. This excess of liabilities over assets is exclusive of Debenture and Inscribed Stock Loans.

The Public Debt, on the 31st December 1896, amounted to £202,280, made up as follows :—

	£
6 per cent. Debentures - - -	21,500
5 „ „ do. - - -	2,600
4½ „ „ do. - - -	76,700
4¼ „ „ do. - - -	8,000
3½ „ „ do. - - -	8,000
4 „ „ Inscribed Stock - -	85,479

Included in the amount of £85,480 Inscribed Stock is a sum of £17,000 raised by the Colony on behalf of the Castries Town Board, interest and sinking fund being payable by the Board.

The credit of the Colony is pledged for the loan. The sum of £2,100 was paid off during the year in redemption of drawn debentures. The Public Debt, at the close of the year, exclusive of the Town Board loan, was equal to 3·34 times the revenue of the year, and represented an indebtedness at the rate of £3 19*s.* 4*d.* per head of the population. The charges on account of the Public Debt absorbed more than one-fourth of the revenue of the year.

Savings Bank.

The deposits during the year amounted to £7,396, and the withdrawals to £6,853. These figures compare favourably with those for 1895, which were £7,000 deposits and £7,162 withdrawals. The following table shews the number of depositors, the amount of deposits, and the average sum per depositor for the five years :—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits at 31st December.	Average sum per Depositor.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*
1892	905	7,704	8 10 3
1893	1,128	9,812	8 13 11
1894	1,187	9,428	7 18 10
1895	1,275	9,267	7 5 4
1896	1,277	9,810	7 13 9

The increase in the amount of deposits is due chiefly to the sums expended by the Military Authorities and Civil Government on public works ; and also to some extent to the return to the Colony with their earnings of natives who had emigrated to the Cayenne goldfields.

Military Expenditure.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes was £43,549. The Colonial expenditure amounted to £2,020, this amount being paid to the troops in lieu of exemption from Customs duties.

Public Works.

The works for supplying Castries with pure water made considerable progress during the year 1896; a supply from the new sources was brought into the town in the month of July, by means of a temporary pipe line connecting the new main with the old reservoir. The construction of a telephone line round the island, connecting the several towns and villages with Castries, was completed during the year, and a considerable number of instruments were put up for use. The new Government House was finally completed in the early part of the year. A sum of £3,448 was expended on the repairs and maintenance of the roads of the island during the year. In this amount is included the sum of £294 spent on the reconstruction of the Ravine Claire Road which had been destroyed by the floods in October 1894. River embankments for the protection of the town of Soufriere and the villages of Canaries and Choiseul were undertaken, and in the case of Canaries and Choiseul were completed during the year.

The amount expended on public works by the Colonial Government during 1896 was £33,916, of which £5,344 was defrayed out of general revenue and the remainder from loans. The military expenditure for works amounted to £10,493.

Legislation.

Twenty Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the most important were :—

"An Ordinance to make provision with respect to the establishment, registration, incorporation, and management of Friendly and other societies."

"An Ordinance to protect the telephone lines erected in this island."

"An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance 1895."

By this Ordinance a duty of 15 per cent. was imposed on all the duties leviable under the Customs Tariff Ordinance 1895, coal only being excepted from the 9th December 1896 to the 31st December 1897. The object of the Ordinance was to aid in making up the anticipated deficiency in the General Revenue.

"An Ordinance to require owners of land to furnish returns in respect of the lands owned by them."

The object of the Ordinance was to ascertain the quantity of land other than Crown land, cultivated and uncultivated in the island, and the names of the owners thereof.

"An Ordinance to encourage the introduction of capital into this Colony for agricultural purposes and with a view to enable

proprietors to develope the resources of their estates by means of loans at moderate rates of interest."

This Ordinance provides for the establishment of a company with a capital of not less than £100,000 for the purpose of making loans to proprietors of land at a rate of interest not to exceed 6 per cent., the duration of such loan to be for any period not exceeding 20 years, the Colony guaranteeing to the company, under certain conditions, interest at the rate of 3 per cent. on loans made. The Ordinance also provides for the levying of a tax of three-pence per acre on every acre of land outside the towns and villages, in the event of the Colony having to pay interest beyond such amount as it may be possible to meet out of the General Revenue.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

His Excellency Sir Charles Bruce was present in the Colony from the 16th to the 20th March, and from the 4th November to the 12th December, during which period he administered the Government of the Colony.

His Honour Lieut. Colonel V. Skipton Gouldsbury obtained six weeks leave of absence from the 8th October; he left the Colony on the 16th October and died on the 12th November.

Lieut. Colonel C. L. Dale, Officer Commanding Troops, as senior member of the Executive Council, assumed the administration of the Government on the 8th October and continued to administer the affairs of the Colony up to the 3rd November. On the departure of Sir Charles Bruce on the 12th December, he again assumed the administration and continued to the end of the year.

The Honourable D. G. Garraway, Treasurer, was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary during Sir Charles Bruce's stay in the Colony from the 4th November to 12th December.

Mr. L. J. Bertram, Auditor of the Windward Islands, was appointed Auditor-General of the Leeward Islands on the 6th February. Mr. William Cuddeford was appointed Auditor of the Windward Islands on the 6th May. During the interval between the departure of Mr. Bertram from and the arrival of Mr Cuddeford at Grenada, Mr. C. F. Anton acted as Auditor of the Windward Islands.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

During the absence on leave for six months of the Honourable Emmanuel DuBoulay, his seat in the Council was occupied by Mr. G. Graf.

The Honourable E. G. Bennett was appointed a member of the Council in the place of Mr. S. H. Battam resigned.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The population on the 31st December was estimated at 46,671, shewing an increase of 765 over that for 1895. The birth rate was 38 per thousand and the death rate 21 per thousand. The number of marriages was 293, being an increase of 13 over that for the preceding year. The percentage of illegitimate births was 60·15, shewing a slight increase over 1895.

IMMIGRATION.

There were in the Colony at the end of the year 149 indentured Indian immigrants, of which number 125 were adults. There was no importation of Indian immigrants nor was there any repatriation of time-expired immigrants during the year. The following table shows the birth rate and death rate among the indentured immigrants.

1896.	Percentage.	
	Indentured Immigrants.	General Population.
Birth rate	6·2	3·84
Death rate	3·2	2·17

There were four "East Indian Mission" schools with 211 children on the registers.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

There were at the beginning of the year 37 schools of primary education, one of which was closed at the end of May, and two others on the 31st December.

At the end of the year 4,182 children were on the rolls, with an average attendance of 2,256; the figures for the previous year being 3,977, and 2,212, respectively. The Inspector's report, although showing an increase of 107 presented for examination in 1896, as compared with the number presented in 1895, nevertheless, shows a decrease of 39 in the number of passes. This is chiefly due to a change in the syllabus, which only came into operation about three months before the examinations began in September. The number of children on the registers represents 8·96 per cent. of the population.

The Government contribution to primary schools amounted to £2,694 18*s.*, or £1 3*s.* 10½*d.* per head of the children in average attendance.

A Government grant in aid of secondary education was, as in previous years, made to St. Mary's College.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following tables shew the value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the last five years :—

Imports.

Countries from whence Imported.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	103,859	86,838	93,780	74,512	101,983
British Colonies	30,360	26,602	31,933	26,690	25,177
Foreign Countries	38,806	55,538	61,425	51,720	63,070
Wrecks	—	—	404	23	303
Totals...£	173,025	168,978	187,542	154,945	190,533

Of the total value of imports from foreign countries £45,543 were from the United States.

Exports.

Countries to which Exported.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	44,757	55,217	43,062	24,269	24,144
British Colonies	7,153	5,212	11,297	2,951	4,842
Foreign Countries	84,446	118,001	91,535	74,935	64,734
Totals...£	136,356	178,430	145,894	102,155	93,720*

* Including specie, but exclusive of bunker coals supplied to shipping, which amounted to £42,575.

Of the £64,734 value of exports to foreign countries, the United States received £46,481, almost entirely in sugar.

ST. LUCIA. 1896.

The following table gives the quantity and value of the principal exports in 1896, compared with the two preceding years :—

Exports.	1894.		1895.		1896.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Sugar, Usine ...	7,668,400	53,679	7,362,200	46,014	6,843,920	56,096
,, Muscovado	2 377,320	12,483	763,700	3,341	1,105,608	5,860
	gals.		gals.		gals.	
Molasses	223,320	3,722	279,960	3,499	105,000	1,444
	lbs.		lbs.		lbs.	
Cocoa	983,200	28,513	739,402	16,637	1,136,843	15,403
	tons.		tons.		tons.	
Logwood... ...	7,116	37,359	5,086	25,430	1,904	4,285

The average price of the principal exports for 1896, compared with the two preceding years, was approximately as follows :—

Exports.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sugar, per 100 lbs., Usine ...	0 14 0	0 12 6	0 16 5
,, ,, Muscovado...	0 10 0	0 8 9	0 10 7
Molasses, per gallon	0 0 4	0 0 3	0 0 3
Cocoa, per 100 lbs.	2 18 0	2 5 0	1 7 0
Logwood, per ton...	5 5 0	5 0 0	2 5 0

SHIPPING.

The following table shews the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1896 :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	435	574,244	435	574,244
Sailing vessels	287	20,827	293	21,475

Of the 435 steamers entered, 357 were British, 32 French, 18 Belgian, 15 German, and 9 Norwegian. The number of steam vessels entered in 1896 shews an increase of 70 as compared with that in 1895. Most of the steamers entering call for bunker coal. The shipment of this article was, in 1896, 44,816 tons. In 1895 it was 35,714 tons, and 1894, 39,764 tons. The price of bunker coal in 1896 is returned at 19*s.* per ton, as against 20*s.* in 1895, and 23*s.* in 1894. This fall in price is due entirely to local competition.

METEOROLOGY.

From observations taken at the Morne, at an elevation of 745 feet above mean sea level, the rainfall during the year was 114·29 inches. This, though somewhat less than the rainfall for 1895, was still considerably above the average. The heaviest rainfall was 17·45 inches in the month of November, and the lowest 2·92 in February. Rain fell on 280 days during the year; the greatest number of rainy days (29) occurring in July and the least (16) in October. The absolute maximum temperature recorded was 89·2° in October; the absolute minimum was 66° in January, February and March.

AGRICULTURE.

During the year 1896 agriculture suffered from the same causes which affected it in 1895, namely, short crops and low prices. The Central Sugar Factory at Grand Cul-de-Sac, referred to by Sir Charles Bruce in his report on the Blue Book for 1895, as having been taken over provisionally for a year by a local Syndicate, was brought to Judicial sale on the 19th September 1896, at the suit of the Colonial Treasurer against the St. Lucia Central Factory Company, Limited, and bought in for the local Syndicate for £4,000, the Syndicate having come to terms with the Mortgagees who held claims of over £30,000. The Syndicate have continued to work the property, from all accounts, with success.

The export of cocoa increased considerably during the year 1896, and the cultivation of coffee was extended.

P. J. K. FERGUSON,
Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 212.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 179.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
October, 1897.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1897.

[C.—8650-10.] *Price* 1*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	"
186	Basutoland	1895–96
187	Ceylon	1895
188	British Guiana	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895–96
191	Canada	1895
192	Bermuda	1896
193	Bahamas...	"
194	Zululand	"
195	Gambia	"
196	Malta	"
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896
199	Barbados	"
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	"
203	Fiji (Trade)	"
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	"
207	British Honduras	"
208	Sierra Leone	"
209	Grenada	"
210	Hong Kong	"
211	St. Lucia...	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 212.

ST. VINCENT, 1896.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1895 *see* No. 179 of this Series.)

GOVERNOR SIR A. MOLONEY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
15th September, 1897.

Forwarded.

ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor.

Government House,
St. Vincent, 7th September, 1897.

SIR,

IN submitting to your Excellency at this late period of the year the usual annual report on the Colony in respect of the year 1896 it is right that I should state, in explanation of the delay in its appearance and in transmitting the Blue Book, that I found some difficulty in arriving at facts in the absence of annual administrative reports from the several departments which, with some exceptions, have not been hitherto required here.

FINANCES.

The deficit at 1st January, 1896, was £3,712 and the transactions of the year reduced that deficit at its close to £816. This resulted, not from any improvement in the revenue, which, as in recent years, failed to cover the expenditure, but from

reduction of the deficit by £4,000, obtained pending the issue of debentures under an Ordinance passed in June to provide £5,000, repayable in 10 years, with the object of meeting the excess of liabilities over assets.

Revenue.

£26,487 were received, being £1,027 more than the revenue of 1895, but £1,281 less than the average of the four years 1892-95. The improvement on the preceding year was due entirely to increased import duty imposed by legislation at the close of 1895, to additional taxation of land and incomes resorted to in June, 1896, and to abnormal sales of postage stamps. But for these exceptional causes the revenue would probably have been more than £2,000 less than 1895.

Expenditure.

£27,591, being £1,320 less than in 1895 and £1,859 less than the average of the four years 1892-95, was the expenditure of 1896, but it nevertheless exceeded the revenue by £1,104. In this respect however it was an improvement on the three preceding years, as will be seen from the following figures :—

Year.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£
1893	29,439	27,914	1,325
1894	30,545	28,574	1,971
1895	28,911	25,460	3,451
1896	27,591	26,487	1,104

This result is attributable to reduced expenditure on public works and to economies enforced in the several departments.

Public Debt.

Opposite in tabular form is a statement of the public debt of the Colony, which amounted at the end of 1896 to £19,160, or about 8*s.* 4*d.* per head of the population.

Nature of Loan.	When incurred.	Original Amount.	Repaid.	Balance due.	Rate of interest.	Rate of annual repayment.	Date of extinction.
		£	£	£		£	
Government House Loan	1882—88	3,280	2,240	1,040	5 per cent.	160	February 1903
Immigration Loan	1889	4,750	3,500	1,250	"	500	" 1899
Crown Lands Loan	1887 & 1891	1,920	400	1,520	"	200	March 1904
Telephone Loan	1894	2,200	400	1,800	"	200	February 1905
Kingstown Loan	"	1,500	300	1,200	"	150	June 1904
Do. Water Works Loan (No. 1) ...	1889—93	8,000	2,100	5,900	"	300	February 1913
Do. do. do. (No. 2) ...	1894	1,000	200	800	"	100	June 1904
Georgetown do. do.	"	1,000	150	850	"	50	November 1913
Public Loan (No. 1)	1888	3,600	2,800	800	"	350	August 1899
Do. do. (No. 2)	1896	4,000	*Nil.*	4,000	3½ per cent.	218	1907
Totals ... ... £	—	31,250	12,090	19,160	—	2,228	—

ST. VINCENT. 1896.

The general revenue is in the first instance liable for the interest and repayment of these debentures, but £10,000 of the total amount is paid from local rates and the Immigration Fund, and if the Telephone System of the Colony fully paid its way £1,800 would be similarly provided for. The actual debt, therefore, chargeable on the general taxpayer was only £7,360.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Imports and Exports.

In 1896 the imports and exports were for the first time systematically classified and their value for statistical purposes arrived at by adding to the original values percentages to represent, in the case of imports, the cost of freight, packages, and insurance, and in the case of exports, the cost of packages. So as to secure a fair comparison, therefore, between the trade of 1896 and its immediate predecessors, the subjoined statement shows the values both with and without those percentages.

Imports.

Country.	Without Percentages.					With Percentages.
	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	49,313	41,388	39,193	27,687	26,396	29,847
British Colonies ...	44,301	40,178	37,296	26,187	25,834	31,667
Foreign Countries ...	9,366	11,859	14,521	10,968	7,799	9,975
Totals £	102,980	93,425	91,010	64,842	60,029	71,499

Exports.

	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	52,317	41,789	34,899	25,876	19,237	21,131
British Colonies ...	25,914	25,142	21,395	19,577	15,123	15,851
Foreign Countries ...	39,341	47,763	31,080	23,237	27,297	30,410
Totals £	117,572	114,694	87,374	68,690	61,657	67,392

It will be observed that in the last five years the volume of the Colony's trade has decreased nearly 50 per cent., the shrinkage of that with the mother country being a marked feature. The bulk of the Colony's trade is at present with the United States of America, for not only did nearly all the imports in 1896 shown as received from foreign countries come from thence, and more than two-thirds of the exports to such places go there, but the greater quantity of goods imported from British Colonies consists of American foodstuffs, &c., imported through Barbados and Trinidad.

The serious downward tendency of the trade of St. Vincent in late years is, of course, largely attributable to the very low prices realised by the Colony's chief staples, which are the products of the sugar cane and arrowroot. Other causes of a local nature, to which reference will be made later on, are, however, responsible to a great extent for this regrettable decadence. Two marked features in the export trade of late years are the steady falling off of sugar, both in quantity produced and value realised, and the increased output of arrowroot in face of a steady fall in its value. The following statement of the principal exports for the last five years shows these facts clearly :—

[*For tabulated Statement see p.* 8.]

Year.	Sugar.		Rum.		Molasses.		Arrowroot.		Cocoa.	Cotton.	Spices.	Fruit and Vegetables.	Peas.	Whale Oil.	Ground Nuts.	Live Stock and Poultry.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.								
	Hhds.	£	Puns.	£	Puns.	£	Brls.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1892	3,884	33,366	566	4,530	1,366	4,158	23,433	61,313	2,700	1,029	785	3,596	584	340	216	1,887
1893	3,619	43,705	242	1,694	749	1,988	22,310	50,807	3,271	727	878	2,445	432	676	281	2,726
1894	3,135	27,270	275	2,200	405	1,012	29,119	38,278	3,272	530	1,223	2,965	336	473	506	3,903
1895	2,782	18,962	152	892	691	1,728	26,695	26,960	3,247	411	1,812	3,285	541	475	598	3,672
1896	2,726	21,512	309	1,892	1,117	3,396	20,122	22,007	3,209	255	686	2,690	500	726	422	2,814

Some caution is necessary, however, in connection with these figures, for faulty Customs supervision has in the past allowed returns of exports (particularly those in respect of which an export duty is levied) to be made in many cases far below correct quantities and values.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1896 at Kingstown, the sole port of entry, were as follows :—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers	94	123,612	94	123,612
Sailing vessels	414	12,435	413	13,586

All of the steamers were British, and of the sailing vessels entered, 41 belonged to the United States of Venezuela, 4 to the United States of America, and 4 to the Netherlands, the remainder being British. Port and tonnage dues are still levied at Kingstown for purposes of General Revenue, and £799 were received during the year. There is a great necessity for the establishment of ports of entry at the towns of Georgetown and Chateaubelair, as the trade of the out-districts is carried on at present under many difficulties, in consequence of there being only one port. It is also desirable that arrangements should be made for vessels going through the Grenadines to Trinidad to finally clear at Carriacou, as many breaches of the Customs law occur under existing circumstances.

AGRICULTURE.

1896 was a year of severe trial for the agricultural interests of St. Vincent. Notwithstanding the steady downward course of the sugar cane industry, the planters of this Colony have clung to it, always hoping for the advent of better prices and a larger demand for the class of sugar produced on their estates. The only real competitor admitted at any time to favour has been arrowroot, to the production of the best grades of which local conditions are most propitious. Here, however, there has been a failure to realise that there is only a limited demand for this starch, and the result has been over-production, with the inevitable consequence of a rapid fall in prices. In 1892 the arrowroot exported was 23,433 barrels, worth £61,313 ; in 1896, 20,122 barrels were exported, worth only £22,007. The downfall of the

local sugar industry is evidenced by the fact that in 1880 the products of the sugar cane (sugar, molasses, rum) exported were worth £128,603, whereas in 1896 the value of such exports was only £26,800, while the 9,168 hogsheads of sugar despatched in 1880 dwindled in 1896 to 2,726 hogsheads.

The soil and climate of St. Vincent offer every inducement to the cultivation of other tropical products, such as coffee, cola, spices, rubber, and tobacco, but local conditions affecting the land have unfortunately so far proved an effectual bar to progress in this direction. There are about 44,000 acres of cultivable land in the island, and of these no less than 30,000 acres are in the hands of only ten proprietors, one of whom owns 11,936 acres. The agricultural policy of the Colony is, therefore, that which is adhered to by these ten landowners, and as they, with one or two exceptions, adhere to a restricted cultivation of the sugar cane and an over-production of arrowroot, in face of the stubborn facts already referred to, and as the land is absolutely the sole source of income in St. Vincent, the Colony will remain impoverished until either their views change or their absorption of the land ceases. Meanwhile, in isolated cases, cocoa, coffee, and nutmegs are being planted, and the labouring class, wherever they are so fortunate as to obtain land for rent, devote themselves to the cultivation of ground provisions, peas, and ground nuts, and to the rearing of live stock and poultry, the value of which (excluding local consumption), amounted in 1896 to about £6,500. If suitable lands were available for the peasantry, as their own property, and greater facilities for transport of these commodities to Barbados and Trinidad afforded, this source of income would largely develope, and permanent products of the type usually styled "minor industries" in these colonies would infallibly be taken up by them successfully.

In the Botanical Station, with its skilful and energetic Curator, Mr. H. Powell, there exists the nucleus of a Department of Agriculture, which, judiciously applied for the dissemination of plants and information to the peasants, and for instruction in methods of cultivation, cannot fail to secure satisfactory results.

Meteorology.

The rainfall registered at the Botanical Station in 1896 was 128 inches, the average for the last six years being 116 inches; the highest temperature was 87·5°, and the lowest 66·5°, the average for the year being 79.5°. There is a need of rainfall records in the out districts of the Colony, as the only place whence reliable returns are now received is Penistons, in the Buccament Valley on the Leeward coast; the rainfall there for the year was 138 inches.

On 28th to 29th November a severe rainstorm, following upon continuous rains for many days, visited the Northern half of the island, and the flood occasioned thereby has in many cases

completely altered the face of that part of the island known as the "Carib Country." The effects are of such magnitude as to encourage the supposition that the damage must have been caused by the bursting of a waterspout on the central ridge. Roads, bridges, houses, and acres of land, cultivated and uncultivated, were swept away, and 25 lives were lost. The damage done was greatly augmented by thousands of enormous trunks of trees, the result of felling the virgin forest on parts of the Crown lands, which were brought down by the rivers, and proved to be formidable weapons of destruction. The danger of deforesting the Crown lands is matter for serious consideration.

Roads and Works.

Only ordinary repairs and maintenance of buildings &c. were carried out during the year. The reconstruction of the Bellair-Gommier Byeway, which had been seriously damaged by a flood in 1895, and the construction of a road connecting the Crown lands allotments in the Perseverance Valley with the Windward Highway, were commenced. This latter road was begun on too large a scale, only a pack road being necessary.

The roads of the island require to be taken in hand and systematically dealt with if the agricultural resources of the Colony are to be developed with any hope of success. At present, with the exception of the highways to Windward and the Marriaqua Valley, and parts of the Leeward highway, their condition is scandalous. The system which obtains of attempting to maintain the byeways by assessment of residents in their vicinity is quite unsuited to present wants and not reconcilable with recent taxation. There is no proper supervision, and, as regards the byeways, absolutely no control of expenditure. A scheme having for its object the opening up by means of loan funds of the back lands by reconstructing the byeways and connecting such portions of the Crown lands as are accessible and cultivable by pack roads leading to the byeways, is essential to future prosperity.

Vital Statistics.

According to estimate, based upon the natural increase since the census of 1891, the population at 31st December, 1896, was 45,334: this estimate, however, takes cognisance only approximately of emigration and immigration, and of the former there has unfortunately been a considerable quantity, as numbers of adult males have left in search of employment elsewhere, being quite unable to support themselves locally in the existing condition of the labour market.

The birth rate per 1,000 of this population was 43·5 and the death rate 22·8. The health of the Colony was fairly good throughout the year, and there was no epidemic disease.

EDUCATION.

A tabular statement of the statistics relating to education in 1896, as compared with 1895, is subjoined.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars.				Income.		Expenditure.
		No. on Roll.	Average attendence.			Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.			
						£	£	£
Government Schools	1	145	73	50	123	46	—	46
Assisted Schools—								
Anglican	21	3,018	886	767	1,653	820	15	835
Wesleyan... ...	19	2,827	833	787	1,620	836	16	852
Roman Catholic...	4	512	154	117	271	136	—	136
Totals for 1896 ...	45	6,502	1,946	1,721	3,667	1,838	31	1,869
Totals for 1895 ...	45	6,078	1,812	1,561	3,373	1,986	954	2,930
Increase in 1896 ...	—	424	134	160	294	—	—	—
Decrease in 1896 ...	—	—	—	—	—	148	923*	1,061

* £800 expended in erection of a new School House.

The principal features of the year under review were the increased number of scholars and the decreased income and expenditure of the schools consequent upon the enforcement of rigid economy by the Government. The bye-laws of the Board of Education require to be revised in the direction of simplification, the system they provide for being in many respects too elaborate and complex for a small and impoverished Colony.

CRIME AND PRISONS.

In the table which follows, the criminal statistics for 1896 are compared with the average results for the three preceding years, and a decrease is apparent under every head except praedial larceny, and "other offences" convicted in the Supreme Court. This decrease is no doubt due to the large emigration of adult males already referred to, combined with the reduced means of

those who remain, who cannot afford to prepay fees for the trial of cases in the Magistrates' Courts. Prosecutions for robbery from provision grounds and cane fields of estates, however, still continue, so that praedial larceny convictions maintain their normal figures.

——	1896.	Average 1893-95.	Increase.	Decrease.
Persons apprehended by Police or summoned before Magistrates...	1,279	1,506	—	227
Summary Convictions :				
Offences against the person	185	213	—	28
Praedial Larceny	55	45	10	—
Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny	99	117	—	18
Other offences	370	488	—	118
Convictions in Supreme Court :				
Offences against the person	3	8	–	5
Praedial Larceny	—	2	—	2
Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny	—	9	—	9
Other offences	7	1	6	—
Persons acquitted :				
In Inferior Courts	167	172	–	5
„ Supreme Court	4	5	—	1

The daily average in the Kingstown Prison for the year was 34, the total number of persons committed being 231 ; the corresponding figures for 1895 were 38 and 201. In February, two convicts, whom it was found difficult to control locally, were transferred to the Grenada Prison to work out their sentences there. The total cost of the prison for the year was £637.

INSTITUTIONS.

Colonial Hospital.

The number of patients admitted during the year was 490, of whom 229 were cured and 145 relieved ; there were 43 deaths, and the daily average in hospital was 59 ; 224 operations were

performed, and the gross cost of the institution was £1,299. A house surgeon is much wanted for this hospital, as, apart from the manifest advantage of having a resident medical man, the Colonial Surgeon would then be enabled to attend to duties more properly within his sphere and more in need of his attention than discharging the regular routine of hospital work as he is now compelled to do.

Georgetown Hospital.

34 patients were admitted, 24 being cured, and 4 relieved; there were 4 deaths, and the daily average was 2; 17 minor operations were performed. This institution, as soon as funds are available, ought unquestionably to be made more useful, and to serve the purpose of a District Hospital for the Carib Country. The Colonial Hospital is at such a distance from this district, and transport of sick persons thither so difficult, that numbers of cases requiring hospital treatment in this part of the island never get it.

Lunatic Asylum.

The lunatics of the Colony are sent to Grenada for treatment, and in 1896, 6 were despatched thither, the number remaining there for treatment at end of the year being 21. Religious mania is prevalent among the women of the lower classes.

Pauper Asylum.

In this institution incurable cases of ulcers, &c., are domiciled along with those admitted on ground of pauperism, the latter class of cases being steadily on the increase owing to the wide-spread poverty in the Colony. A radical change in this and other details of the poor relief system is desirable. 93 cases were admitted in 1896, the daily average being 99 against 80 in the preceding year, and 74, the average of the three years 1892-94. The institution cost £954 to maintain, besides which £400 was otherwise expended by the Government on Poor Relief.

Leper Asylum.

Two cases were admitted, and two died in the year, the daily average being 16; the Colonial Surgeon reports that the disease is not on the increase in the Colony. The cost of the institution was £219.

Savings Bank.

Subjoined is a statement of the working of the Bank for the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at December 31st.
		£	£	£
1892	946	4,843	4,751	8,958
1893	1,001	4,514	5,154	8,317
1894	1,021	5,583	5,165	8,925
1895	1,012	4,316	4,460	8,974
1896	1,062	4,451	5,350	8,455

The fact that the general depression in the Colony does not reflect itself more clearly in these figures is probably because there are few small investments in landed property in St. Vincent, and owners of small savings deposit them at 2½ per cent. interest in the Bank in default of anything better to do with them. As soon as District Banks are established, arrangements for which are now in progress, the working of the Bank will show even better results. £7,000 of the funds are held by the Crown Agents on investment in England.

LEGISLATION.

Ten Ordinances were enacted, the most important of which were those authorising the raising of loans of £5,000 to cover the Colonial deficit, and of £3,000 to provide and improve communication by road with the Crown Lands allotments, and that consolidating the Licence laws of the Colony and removing all exemptions from taking out licences previously existing.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

His Excellency the Governor paid seven visits to the Colony in the year, assuming the direct administration of the Government for 53 days altogether.

In the Executive and Legislative Councils Mr. Ormond Hazell took his seat as Acting Attorney General consequent upon the departure of Mr. S. L. Thornton on leave from which he did not return. Dr. Newsam, Colonial Surgeon, was provisionally appointed an official member of Legislative Council consequent

St. Vincent. 1896.

upon the Treasurer's absence on leave, and Mr. W. C. D. Proudfoot was similarly appointed an unofficial member for such time as Mr. Hazell (who holds an unofficial seat) acts as Attorney General.

Chief Justice Trafford was absent on leave from 3rd April to the end of the year, and Mr. G. P. St. Aubyn, magistrate of the Kingstown District, was appointed to act for him.

Mr. F. B. Griffith, the treasurer, retired on pension at the end of the year, after 17 years local service.

General.

The Colony is passing through a severe crisis, which became more acute in 1896 than in preceding years, as the causes, both local and external, to which reference has been made in this report, more fully developed their evil effects. No one, however, who has studied the resources of the island can doubt for a moment that, if a radical change is made in existing local conditions, which retard its progress, there will be a gradual return of prosperity. With a more equitable distribution of the land, a proper system of roads, provision for rapid and safe transport of produce to suitable markets, and a decentralisation of the interests, both public and private, now concentrated in Kingstown, a future, perhaps not of great affluence, but certainly of solvent prosperity, lies before this beautiful but so far unfortunate possession of the Crown.

I have, &c.,

Edward Drayton.

His Excellency,

Sir Alfred Moloney, K.C.M.G., &c.

Governor of Grenada.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 233.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 212.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August, 1898.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1898.

[C.—9046-I.] *Price* 1*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
207	British Honduras	1896
208	Sierra Leone	"
209	Grenada	"
210	Hong Kong	"
211	St. Lucia...	"
212	St. Vincent	"
213	St. Helena	"
214	Seychelles	"
215	Mauritius	"
216	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	"
219	Lagos	"
220	Gold Coast	"
221	Labuan	"
222	British Guiana	1896–97
223	Rodrigues	1896
224	Basutoland	1896–97
225	Jamaica	"
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda	1897
229	Gambia	"
230	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
231	Barbados	"
232	Lagos	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 233.

ST. VINCENT.

ST. VINCENT.
1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 212.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MOLONEY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
7th July, 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward Administrator Thompson's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, advising the transmission of the Blue Book for the Colony of St. Vincent for 1897 and embodying his Report thereon.

2. I have decided to allow this Report to go to the Colonial Office as it stands, thinking that in its separate form it will prove to be of greater public interest and more convenient as dealing exclusively with a Colony which now attracts so much notice than if embodied in one general Blue Book report on the Windward Islands, as was contemplated.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED MOLONEY,

Governor.

295—750—7/98 Wt 21620 D & S—5 (B)

ADMINISTRATOR TO GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
23rd June 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book for 1897, which I am transmitting to your Excellency by this mail.

The sources of Revenue remained substantially the same as they were in 1896, with the exception of a slight change in the rate of Income Tax with a view to making the incidence of that Tax slightly more equitable.

Some change was also made in the licences by abolishing the fee of 1*s.* which was levied on every licence issued and substituting for it an increase of 6*d.* for a dog licence, and making animals and carts used for estates' purposes, which had hitherto been exempt, liable for the tax.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total Revenue for the year was £24,844 17*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with a Revenue in 1896 of £26,487 2*s.* 0*d.*, and an estimated Revenue of £28,304.

Every important head of Revenue shows a falling off, chiefly due to the general depression from which the Colony has suffered; but I will refer specially to some of the more important items.

Licences for the sale of Intoxicating Liquors fell off by more than £100 and the Excise Duty on rum by more than £500, both chiefly due to depression and shortness of money, but the latter in part due to the spread of illicit distillation.

The Dog Tax realised about £75 less than was anticipated, owing to a fatal disease which broke out and caused much mortality among them.

The effect of the extension of the Tax on Horses to those used for estates' purposes was over-estimated and produced £100 less than was anticipated.

The increased Income Tax did not produce as much as was anticipated, and about £100 of Land Tax did not reach the Treasury until after the close of the year.

The decrease in Post Office receipts was due to a falling off in the abnormal demand during 1896 for St. Vincent stamps by dealers.

The Expenditure in 1897 was £27,865 19*s.* 0*d.*, against £27,591 2*s.* 1*d.* in 1896, and an estimate of £27,462 15*s.* 4*d.*

This expenditure included the cost of the administration of Crown Lands, which had hitherto been charged to a separate fund, and also an increased debt charge to provide for the deficits of past years.

In addition to these items of expenditure, the cost of making good some of the damage caused by floods at the end of 1896 had to be borne, and a heavy bill for police clothing supplied in 1896 was met in 1897.

All these items more than absorbed the money which it was hoped to save by the very considerable economies effected in the public establishments at the beginning of the year.

The net result of the year's transactions, after wiping out the balance of the old Crown Lands Account, £1,707 5*s.* 8*d.*, and borrowing £1,000 to fortify the Revenue, was that the Colony had an excess of liabilities over assets of £4,544 7*s.* 4*d.*

Public Debt.

The Public Debt, which stood at £19,160 at the end of 1896, was £19,100 at the end of 1897.

As already stated, £1,000 was borrowed during the year to fortify the Revenue, and this completed the whole sum of £5,000 authorised by "The Loan Ordinance, 1895." The Sinking Fund on this debt amounted to £610 at the end of the year.

Another £1,000 was borrowed under the provisions of "The Crown Lands Roads Loan Ordinance, 1896," but only £182 was spent, as will be explained later.

Local Revenues.

These, I think, call for no comment. The various local bodies raised about sufficient to meet their ordinary expenditure, and no more.

Public Works.

Beyond the ordinary expense of maintaining the various highways and public buildings, the only important works undertaken during the year were the completion of the new line of byeway

in the Belair Valley, and the completion of the road in the Perseverance Valley to Crown Lands, both of which were referred to in the Report for 1896, and making good some of the damage caused by the floods in 1896. The latter involved, besides the repairs to the surface of roads, and removal of land-slips, the virtual re-building of three retaining walls, re-building one bridge and effecting extensive repairs in another, and this was all done for £410.

Extensive repairs were carried out on one of the old Ordnance buildings, for which a permanent tenant was found.

LEGISLATION.

The number of Ordinances passed during the year was very considerable.

The legislation to bring into effect the many changes contemplated in 1898 involved the passing of a number of short Ordinances at the end of the year to transfer duties to other officials, but the actual details of these changes will be more conveniently dealt with in the Report for 1898, when the changes were effected.

The most important Ordinances were the two dealing with Income and Land Tax ; the former imposed the increased taxes for a year, and the latter made them permanent.

"The Excise Ordinance" was required to strengthen the hands of the Police in dealing with the spread of illicit distillation.

Ordinance No. 4 was a most important Ordinance, having for its object the regulation of the payment of wages to labourers. It makes an ordinary day labourer's wages payable fortnightly in cash, instead of monthly as had been the custom, and stops, as far as it is possible to do so, the various forms of the "Truck" system, which had begun to be practised.

"The Charcoal Ordinance" repealed the old laws which were nominally supposed to check the illicit making of charcoal, but really did not do so, and only imposed irritating fees and restrictions on those who had every right to make it. It is now a penal offence to make charcoal on any land without the owner's permission.

"The Kingstown Board Ordinance" establishes a corporate body, partly elected and partly nominated, to superintend the affairs of the town. The Board was not constituted until late in the year, and its real work may be said to have begun this year. It is, no doubt, a step in the right direction that the inhabitants of the town should have the responsibility of managing its affairs. The Ordinance consolidates no less than eleven Acts and Ordinances.

"The Infirm Paupers and Immigrants Regulation Ordinance" is one which all the neighbouring Colonies have found it necessary to pass, and St. Vincent, for its own protection, had to do the same.

"The Land Credit Ordinance" is in the same form as the Ordinances passed in the other Colonies of the Windward Islands to encourage the introduction of capital.

"The Trustee Ordinance" and "the Probates (British and Colonial) Ordinance" are useful pieces of legislation on the subjects with which they deal.

OFFICERS.

I was absent from the Colony from the 1st of February to the 7th September; until the 28th May at Grenada, as Administrator of the Windward Islands, and from the 29th May on leave of absence in England.

During that time the administration of the local Government was carried on by Mr. Drayton, the Colonial Secretary of Grenada, to whom my acknowledgments are due.

Mr. Griffith, the Treasurer of the Colony, was retired on a pension from the 1st January 1897, and the duties of Treasurer were added to those of the Administrator, Colonial Secretary, and Registrar General.

On the abolition, from the 1st January 1897, of the separate staff for the administration of Crown Lands, Mr. Musgrave reverted from his temporary post of Superintendent of Crown Lands to his substantive post of Chief Clerk in the Government office, and the Colonial Engineer became Superintendent of Crown Lands, in addition to his other duties, thus reverting to an arrangement which existed some years ago.

The post of Supernumerary Clerk in the Government office was done away with, and Mr. Hutchinson acted as clerk to the Colonial Engineer.

The experiment was tried of amalgamating the duties of Inspector of Schools and Audit Clerk, and Mr. F. W. Griffith was appointed to the combined offices; Mr. Mackie, the former audit clerk, became clerk in the Treasury, in place of Mr. H. A. Lewis, who was transferred to the Magistrate's office, replacing Mr. W. E. Davis, for whom employment was provided as a landing waiter.

Mr. L. O. Chitty, the Inspector of Schools, for whom no place could be found in St. Vincent under the new arrangements, was transferred to Jamaica.

To increase the efficiency of the Treasury a new office of Supervisor of Customs was provisonally created, to which the Chief of Police was appointed. This virtually divided the Treasury Department into an indoor and outdoor branch, both under the supervision of the Treasurer.

Mr. Trafford, the Chief Justice, retired on a pension on the 3rd November 1897, with a view to a combination of offices, which took effect in 1898, and Mr. Hazell, who had been acting for some time, was appointed Attorney General at a reduced salary.

The general effect of all these changes is apparent in the reduction of expenditure on "personal emoluments" from £12,660 12*s.* 4*d.* in 1896 to £11,982 18*s.* 1*d.* in 1897.

Pensions.

The pension list is increased by the addition of the Chief Justice's Pension at the rate of £544 8*s.* 11*d.* per annum, and that of the Treasurer at the rate of £228 8*s.* 3*d.*

Population.

The estimated population is put down as 46,112, after allowing for the natural increase since the census in 1891, but we have no records of emigration, and I feel sure that the population is over-estimated in those figures, though I have no data from which to give correct ones.

Education.

In the elementary schools the full effects of the rules passed in 1893 were felt in the Government contributions, which amounted to £2,019.

There was much complaint from the teachers that they were not being paid as much under the new rules as they were under the old; and this was so for the first year or so after the new rules came into operation, but now the grants earned by the schools have become so large that the Board of Education has had to take steps to reduce them.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the Imports into the Colony was £70,823 11*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with £71,489 11*s.* 9*d.* in 1896, or a falling off of less than one per cent. The imports from the United States of America appear to have decreased, while those

from the British West Indies have increased, but this is due to the fact that American goods were received through Barbados and other Colonies, instead of by direct importations from America.

The increase of trade with British North America is noticeable. It was represented in 1896 by an importation of pitch-pine valued at £991 and an export of 53 puncheons of molasses. In 1897 the imports from British North America are valued at £1,704, and are composed of some food-stuffs, in addition to various kinds of lumber, while the value of exports amounted to £4,513, composed of sugar, molasses and arrowroot, and 18 per cent. of the sugar and molasses exported went to Canada.

The various items on the import list, as a rule, follow the items of 1896 so closely that they require but little comment.

Most food-stuffs show a slight increase, with the exception of flour, of which nearly 1,000 barrels less was imported than in 1896. The import of whisky shows no falling off, but gin and other wines are less. Unmanufactured tobacco, which is the kind usually smoked by the pocrer people, shows a slight increase in quantity.

The total Export trade was valued at £68,935, against £67,392 in 1896, or an increase of rather more than 2 per cent.

Besides the increase of trade with British North America to which I have already drawn attention, the only noticeable feature is the decrease in the trade with Venezuela, which shows a falling off of nearly 73 per cent. It is a precarious trade and, as far as the vessels engaged in it are concerned, not quite legitimate, and probably stricter supervision in Venezuela has checked it.

The exports of sugar rose in value from £21,512 to £25,591, and sugar and its products represented nearly 43 per cent of the total exports of the Colony.

In arrowroot there was a decrease, both in quantity and value, due to a rather half-hearted attempt on the part of producers to regulate the supply of arrowroot rather more in accord with the demand for it. The effect for a time was to raise the price to a slight extent in the English market.

The export of fruit, vegetables, and live stock shows a tendency to decrease in value, which is unfortunate. It means that the poorer classes are getting smaller prices in other colonies for their produce, and that their means of livelihood is therefore less.

The most satisfactory feature in the returns is the continued steady increase in the production of cocoa and nutmegs.

The export of cocoa increased from 194,037 lbs., valued at £3,209, to 264,192 lbs., valued at £4,514, and that of nutmegs from 15,026 lbs., valued at £685, to 24,628 lbs., valued at £1,084.

Of the other staple products of the Colony, whale oil shows a considerable increase in quantity, but not so satisfactory an increase in value, while cotton and cotton seed are both less. Cassava starch has increased both in quantity and value.

SHIPPING.

The tonnage of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 248,877 tons, compared with 273,245 tons in 1896. The decrease is in steamers, of which 82, with a tonnage of 111,422 tons, visited the Colony, against 94, with a tonnage of 123,612 tons, in 1896. A great part of this decrease was due to the less frequent visits of the Quebec Line of steamers from New York, which, as a rule, deposited their St. Vincent cargo at Barbados, to be brought from there by sailing vessel.

AGRICULTURE AND GRANTS OF LAND.

The only satisfactory feature in agriculture is the gradual increase in the production of commodities other than sugar and arrowroot, and especially of cocoa and nutmegs, to which I have already referred.

Although the planting of cocoa has not been going on by leaps and bounds, there has been a steady increase in the trees planted year by year for some years past, both on the large estates and in such small holdings as there are. The reports from the Curator, which have been submitted from time to time, give many encouraging examples of the success of these plantations.

Tobacco has been cultivated with success, on a small scale, in several places, and in the Botanical Garden a considerable experiment was made. The "mole cricket" was the greatest enemy the Curator had to deal with, but a large number of plants were reaped and cured, and the whole crop found a ready local market.

That more than £600 is now paid for imported tobacco of the coarsest kind shows that there is a local market for tobacco, which should be remunerative, while growers are learning how to cure tobacco sufficiently well to make it an article for export.

The cultivation of coffee is also gradually increasing, but our imports of coffee for local consumption are still worth more than £400, and there is no export of it at present.

At the end of 1896 no canes were planted for the 1898 crop, but towards the end of 1897 a considerable area of land was put under cultivation for the crop of 1899. This afforded

a considerable amount of employment to labourers, and the Revenue felt the benefit of it in improved collections for Import Duty in the later months of the year.

As I have already noted, an attempt was made to restrict the output of arrowroot, but it was but a small one, and on the first symptom of a rise in price everyone rushed to take advantage of it. Whether arrowroot shall be a remunerative crop or not seems to be entirely in the hands of the St. Vincent growers, and it only requires a little agreement between them to effect it. For the present it seems likely that the English buyer will reap all the advantages of the local competition among half-a-dozen individuals.

The production of Cassava starch continues to be remunerative to the small growers who produce it, and there is considerable demand for it in the neighbouring Colonies.

But little has been done in the Crown Lands Department during the year. A few new grants were made, but nothing was done towards getting in the large arrears of instalments of purchase money, and the holders of the land received but little supervision. The disastrous floods of 1896 disheartened a good many of the cultivators, but most of those who did not lose everything are again taking an interest in their holdings.

Proposals for new regulations for grants for Crown lands were under consideration at the beginning of the year, but the visit of the Royal Commissioners and their subsequent recommendations rendered it advisable to postpone dealing with the matter until the whole question of Peasant Proprietors has been gone into.

The Crown Lands scheme has been the subject of much criticism, and the inaccessibility of most of the land has been one of the fairest points of that criticism. To remove this objection, it was proposed to connect the most important areas of Crown Lands with the existing communication by roads adapted to the country which they would traverse. The estimated cost was £3,000, and, as a first instalment, £1,000 was borrowed and one road was completed in 1897. It is rather more than two miles in length and cost £182. Other work in connection with this scheme has been suspended pending the consideration of the whole question of Crown Lands.

Whatever may be the disadvantages of Crown Lands from the point of view of suitability of soil and accessibility, there is no doubt that they met a crying want when the scheme was first started, and, in face of opposition from many quarters, a large number of people are now enjoying the fruits of their own labour, and have at least been able to provide themselves with some of the necessaries of life, while the more prudent and industrious are receiving a certain amount of money, which is annually increasing, by the sale of their more permanent products.

Prisons and Crime.

Partly owing to the cause mentioned in the Report for 1896, —the emigration of adult males—the admissions to prison show a large decrease. The average daily number in prison was 24·29 only, against 34 in 1896, and the number of persons committed 171, against 231.

The number of offences reported to the police is rather higher than it was in 1896, and the number of persons acquitted is also higher.

Prædial larceny shows no diminution in the statistics, and I fear that these figures represent but a small percentage of the cases which occur. It may be that people will respect the produce of a small holder more than they do that of a large land owner, but, unless they do so, I fear that one of the chief difficulties with which peasant proprietors will have to contend will be the protection of their holdings from the devastations of those who "reap where they have not sown."

Hospitals.

The work of the Colonial Hospital continued to increase, and the difficulty of providing for the deserving applicants for admission was greater than ever.

The daily average in hospital was 62·92, against 58·82 in 1896, and the average stay of the patients in hospital was longer than in 1896. Many of the cases were aggravated by faulty and insufficient diet, and a large part of the hospital treatment consisted mainly in building them up with nutritious food. The ulcer cases showed a considerable increase, and they, too, are to a large extent caused by unnutritious diet.

The Pauper Asylum is now chiefly devoted to providing a shelter for those who have received all the benefit they are likely to get from hospital treatment but have no place to go to when they are discharged. In many instances they are incurable cases, and they never leave the asylum alive.

The daily average in the asylum was 100·22, compared with 90·68 in 1896. The overcrowding in the building is a serious question, but we have no money to provide increased accommodation, and it requires a hard heart to refuse admittance to deserving persons who have no other possible shelter.

The Georgetown Casualty Hospital continued to do good work on a small scale, but want of money prevented anything being done towards improving the accommodation and appliances there. I should much like to see the utility of the institution increased.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS.

The total rainfall for the year was 109·62 inches, which is slightly below the average of the last seven years (114·68 inches). I am able to record that it is the only year during my three years' residence in the Colony that no damage was done in any part of the Colony by floods caused by excessive rainfall.

The only disaster to be recorded is the small cyclone which visited a portion of the north-east part of the Colony in June, and within a limited area did some damage.

The latter part of the year was abnormally hot, and the maximum thermometer at the Botanical Garden recorded 88 degrees, which is the highest record for some years past.

SAVINGS BANK.

The total amount to the credit of Savings Bank Depositors at the end of the year was £8,771, divided among 1,047 depositors, against £8,455, divided among 1,062 depositors, in 1896.

GENERAL.

The year through which we have passed has been a critical one, and there is certainly no progress to record. It is said that in these days things cannot stand still, and that they must go forward or backward, and there is much that is true in this of communities and countries, as well as of commercial and other undertakings.

Were it not for this, I should be inclined to say that in 1897 St. Vincent had been more or less stationary. There has certainly been no progress, but I cannot see that in the main there has been any retrogression.

That this state of stagnation, if stagnation it be, cannot last is only too evident, and, unless the opportunity for progress shortly arises, it is terrible to contemplate what the condition of the country may become.

The visit of the Royal Commissioners was one of the leading events of the year, and their recommendation for the amelioration of the existing state of affairs are before the public and Her Majesty's Government. It would be presumptuous on my part to make any recommendations for dealing with the problems which face us in St. Vincent, when these problems have been so thoroughly grasped and ably dealt with by Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Many of their recommendations are now in course of being given effect to, and I have every hope that they will bring back to this Colony a portion, at least, of that prosperity it once enjoyed.

I cannot close this report without referring to the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, which was observed by all classes of the community with every demonstration of loyalty and thankfulness.

I have, &c.,

HARRY THOMPSON,

Administrator.

His Excellency Sir ALFRED MOLONEY, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 239.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 211.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September, 1898.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1898.

[C.—9046-7.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
212	St. Vincent	1896
213	St. Helena	"
214	Seychelles	"
215	Mauritius	"
216	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	"
219	Lagos	"
220	Gold Coast	"
221	Labuan	"
222	British Guiana	1896–97
223	Rodrigues	1896
224	Basutoland	1896–97
225	Jamaica	"
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda	1897
229	Gambia	"
230	Turks and Caicos	"
231	Barbados	"
232	Lagos	"
233	St. Vincent	"
234	Sierra Leone	"
235	Falkland Islands	"
236	Straits Settlements	"
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas	1897

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 239.

ST. LUCIA.

ST. LUCIA
1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 211.)

GOVERNOR SIR A. MOLONEY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,

31st July, 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit Administrator King-Harman's despatch of the 9th inst., covering his Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Lucia for the year 1897.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED MOLONEY,

Governor.

Government House, St. Lucia,

9th July, 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the St. Lucia Blue Book for the year 1897.

I have, &c.,

C. A. KING-HARMAN,

Administrator.

480—750—8/98 Wt 21620 D & S—5 (B)

ST. LUCIA.
1897.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1897.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	£
The total Revenue for the year 1897 was ...	60,639
The total Expenditure	56,743
Leaving a balance to credit of the Colony of	£3,896

The Revenue and Expenditure for the five preceding years is shewn as follows :—

—	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	48,297	57,598	55,971	48,564	55,331
Expenditure...	54,934	49,271	53,766	57,579	56,060

The year 1897 opened with a debit balance amounting to £5,088 8*s.* 0*d.*, which on the 31st December was reduced to £3,114 15*s.* 8*d.* The actual excess of Revenue over Expenditure for the year was £3,896 4*s.* 3*d.*, but as £1,922 11*s.* 11*d.* of this sum was appropriated towards the closing of the Accounts for Materials and Stores, which had hitherto figured in the Balance Sheet as an Asset of the Colony, only £1,973 12*s.* 4*d.* was available to be used towards the liquidation of the floating debt.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1897, was £191,979 11*s.* 0*d.* The debt was reduced during the year by £10,300. Included in the total amount of the debt is a sum of £17,000 raised by the Colony on behalf of the Castries Town Board. The interest and Sinking Fund are paid by the Board. There is also included in the debt a sum of £20,800 which was raised for Immigration purposes. Certain export duties on sugar, cocoa, and molasses, and import duties on tobacco are appropriated by law towards the payment of interest and sinking fund on this loan. The credit of the Colony is pledged for all loans.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Hereunder is shown in tabular form the value of each class of Imports during the years 1896, 1897 :—

Year.	Class I. Live Animals, Food, Drinks, and Narcotics.	Class II. Raw Materials.			Class III. Manufactured Articles.			Class IV. Coin and Bullion.	For Army and Navy, Colonial Goverment and the Church.	Total.
		Textile.	Metal.	Other.	Textile.	Metal.	Other.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896	58,729	—	1	51,431	19,172	5,609	24,131	404	31,057	190,534
1897	65,655	—	9	66,709	25,176	26,687	50,617	10,400	—	245,253

The articles imported for the Army and Navy, and for the Colonial Government and the Church, were classified according to their nature under their proper headings in the 1897 returns.

The following will shew the chief articles which contributed towards the increases in the 1897 figures over those of 1896 under the several heads of classification :—

Articles.	1896.		1897.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
CLASS I.		£		£
Ale, Beer, &c.	2,243 doz. 29,218 gals.	2,620	1,792 doz. 37,629 gals.	2,964
Butter	22,650 lbs.	1,055	32,312 lbs.	1,377
Oleomargarine	82,195 „	1,605	98,099 „	1,830
Flour	14,011 brls.	14,269	14,320 brls.	17,764
Medicines	—	674	—	1,438
Rice	560,034 lbs.	2,388	577,466 lbs.	3,216
Whiskey	2,471 gals.	877	3,152 gals.	1,127
Wines	—	2,187	—	2,806
Tobacco, manufactured	10,445 lbs.	841	14,785 lbs	1,035
„ unmanufactured	34,691 „	676	50,226 „	919
CLASS II.				
Coal	47,307 tons	40,601	63,902 tons	53,809
Manure	4,618 bags	4,501	9,220 bags	5,323
Wood, White Pine ...	432,766 ft.	1,792	539,810 ft.	2,158
„ Pitch Pine ...	149,052 „	842	196,187 „	988

IMPORTS—*continued.*

Articles.	1896.		1897.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
CLASS III.		£		£
Cottons and Woollens...	—	17,672	—	23,308
Ropes and Cordage ...	—	141	—	485
Arms and Ammunition	—	81	—	19,135
Iron, Galvanized ...	—	770	—	982
Industrial Machinery, &c.	—	1,520	—	1,677
Sewing Machines ...	—	113	—	223
Boots and Shoes ...	—	3,469	—	4,591
Cement	—	2,722	—	3,843
Earthenware	—	764	—	1,386
Furniture	—	479	—	989
Glassware	—	475	—	613
Haberdashery	—	6,855	—	12,478
Hats and Bonnets ...	—	1,089	—	1,861
Musical Instruments ...	—	85	—	336
Perfumery	—	388	—	506
CLASS IV.				
Specie	—	404	—	10,400

The following Return gives the value of the Import trade with different countries in 1896 and 1897 :—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Barbados.	Other B. W. I.	French W. I.	Spanish W. I.	France.	U.S. America.	Other Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896	101,938	2,409	19,365	3,404	1,957	4,128	6,930	45,543	4,513
1897	119,355	2,704	39,943	8,992	2,688	1,845	8,899	57,478	2,341

The value of the Exports as classified in the returns for 1896 and 1897 is given in the following table :—

Year.	Class I. Live Animals, Food, Drinks, and Narcotics.	Class II. Raw Materials.			Class III. Manufactured.			Class IV. Coin and Bullion.	Military Stores.	Total.
		Textile.	Metal.	Other.	Textile.	Metal.	Other.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896	81,070	—	—	51,102	44	178	498	3,040	362	136,294
1897	80,911	—	—	139,650	82	209	448	8,474	670	230,444

The quantities as well as the value of the chief Exports in 1896 and 1897 are shewn in the next return under the several heads of classification :—

Articles.	1896.		1897.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
CLASS I.		£		£
Cocoa	1,136,843 lbs.	15,403	953,700 lbs.	17,158
Fruit	—	380	—	177
Preserves	—	110	—	47
Spices	—	50	—	110
Rum	1,280 gals.	92	10,107 gals.	589
Molasses	105,000 „	1,444	135,120 „	1,858
Sugar Muscovado ...	1,005,608 lbs.	5,860	1,025,360 lbs.	3,950
„ Usine	6,843,920 „	56,096	7,617,332 „	53,498
CLASS II.				
Coal, Bunker	44,816 tons	42,575	78,130 tons	76,177
Hides, Cow	615 cwts.	517	714 cwts.	600
Turtle-shell	240 lbs.	170	150 lbs.	106
Wood, Cedar	4,018 c.ft.	402	130 c.ft.	13
„ Fuel	2,329 cds.	1,048	2,381 cds.	1,131
„ Logwood ...	1,901 tons	4,285	165 tons	248
„ Pimento sticks...	34,749	505	22,250	227
„ Satin	4,020 c.ft.	603	390 c.ft.	59

ing company, inc.

EXPORTS—*continued.*

Articles.	1896.		1897.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
CLASS III.		£		£
Brooms	1,325 doz.	33	1,038 doz.	26
Charcoal	144 bags	8	210 bags	12
CLASS IV.				
Specie		3,040	—	8,474

The countries to which products of the Colony were exported in 1896 and 1897 and the values of such Exports, are shewn in the following Return :—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Barbados.	Other B. W. I.	French W. I.	France.	U.S. America.	Other Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896	21,707	829	1,730	240	2,044	13,727	46,480	38
1897	10,710	342	1,767	107	1,752	9,074	57,719	60

SHIPPING.

The shipping of this Port is steadily increasing, and during the year under report 620 trading steamships entered and cleared, as compared with 435 during the previous year. Besides these trading vessels 24 ships of war visited the Port, as against 13 in 1896.

Of these ships of war, 6 were British, 4 American, 2 Dutch, 1 Austrian, and 1 Russian.

Of the trading steam vessels, 501 were British, 58 French, 19 Belgian, 16 Norwegian, 15 German, 7 American, 2 Dutch, 1 Venezuelan, and 1 Brazilian.

Besides the steam vessels, 327 sailing vessels entered, and 325 cleared, as against 287 and 293 in 1896.

The total tonnage entered and cleared during 1897 amounted to 1,780,560 tons, as compared with 1,190,790 tons in 1896.

Not only was 1897 conspicuous for the large number of vessels which entered the Port, but also for the increased tonnage size of the vessels generally. Two of the largest mercantile marine vessels afloat entered the harbour, and were berthed and coaled at the wharves.

The following Tables will be found interesting :—

Year.	Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1896	435	574,244	16,081	287	20,827	1,931	722	595,071	18,012
1897	620	869,739	20,462	327	21,020	2,169	947	890,759	22,631

Year.	British Steam Vessels.			British Sailing Vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
[illegible]	357	493,713	12,809	245	10,674	1,595	602	504,387	14,404
1897	501	761,773	16,740	279	10,566	1,788	780	772,339	18,528

Year.	Foreign Steam Vessels.			Foreign Sailing Vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1896	78	80,531	3,272	42	10,153	336	120	90,684	3,608
1897	119	107,966	3,722	48	10,454	381	167	118,420	4,103

SHIPPING—*continued.*

Year.	Steamers with Cargoes.			Sailing Vessels with Cargoes.			Total Vessels with Cargoes.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1896	185	235,313	8,149	225	16,385	1,474	413	251,698	9,623
1897	210	283,310	8,476	258	16,910	1,660	268	200,220	10,136

Year.	Steamers in Ballast.			Sailing Vessels in Ballast.			Total Vessels in Ballast.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1896	250	338,931	7,932	62	4,442	457	312	443,373	8,389
1897	410	586,429	11,986	69	4,110	809	479	590,539	12,795

SAVINGS BANK.

	£	s.	d.
The amount at credit of the Savings Bank Fund at 31st December, 1896, was	9,809	13	10
The deposits during the year amounted to ...	8,497	13	7
The interest credited to depositors was	236	15	3
Total ...	£18,544	2	8
The withdrawals during the year amounted to ...	8,161	15	11
The amount due depositors at 31st December, 1897, was	£10,382	6	9

This is the largest balance that has been shown since the Savings Bank was established. The number of depositors at 31st December, 1897, was 1,294, as against 1,277 at the close

of 1896. The following investments on account of the funds of the Bank were held at 31st December, 1897, the same as at the close of the previous year :—

	£
Canadian Government 3½ per cent.	2,000
New South Wales Government 3½ per cent. ...	2,000
Western Australia 3 per cent.	1,500
Government of Trinidad 3 per cent.	1,500
Government of Barbados 4 per cent.	1,000
On deposit at Colonial Bank 3 per cent. ...	1,000
Total	£9,000

The sum of £286 0*s.* 6*d.* was received during the year under report for interest on the investments.

POST OFFICE.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The revenue derived from postal transactions during the year amounted to	1,879	8	5½
The expenditure for the upkeep of the Department, and the charges for conveyance of mails to England, America, and Canada, was	1,139	7	7
There was also paid to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, for a local service on the leeward coast...	1,000	0	0
Total expenditure	£2,139	7	7

The number of letters, postcards, newspapers, book-packets, &c. sent and received from abroad during the year was as follows :—

Sent Abroad.	Received from Abroad.	
Letters and Post-cards, 72,718.	Letters and Post-cards, 85,574.	Newspapers, Book-packets, &c. 50,896.

3,250 registered letters were dealt with, and no loss has been reported.

The number of steam vessels that brought mails to the Colony was 231, and the calling of steamers for coal on their way to New York afforded 247 opportunities for the despatch of mails from the Island.

The money orders issued on foreign places amounted to £4,891 6*s.* 4*d.*, and the amount received from abroad was £978 8*s.* 7*d.* The Colony's share of commission on these orders was £82 12*s.* 3*d.*

By the parcel post service 1,445 parcels were received, yielding in customs dues £201 2*s.* 8*d.* to the credit of the general revenue. The number of parcels despatched from the office was 459.

The return of inland postal transactions shew that 44,801 letters and postcards and 11,475 newspapers, book-packets, &c. were exchanged between the central office in Castries and the four sub-offices in the country districts.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

His Excellency Sir Alfred Moloney, K.C.M.G., who had been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, on 25th January 1897, in succession to Sir Charles Bruce, arrived in St. Lucia and assumed the Administration of the Government on 3rd August.

Mr. C. A. King-Harman was appointed Administrator on 29th January 1897, and arrived in the Colony and assumed the Administration on 16th November.

From the beginning of the year up to the arrival of the Governor on 3rd August the Government was admininistered by Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. Dale, officer commanding the troops, being senior member of the Executive Council. From the departure of the Governor on the 20th August to the arrival of Mr. King-Harman on the 16th November, Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, the Attorney-General, being then the senior member of the Executive Council, assumed the Administration.

LEGISLATION.

The year was not fruitful in legislation, only seven Ordinances being passed, the principal of which were :—

An Ordinance to amend the Immigration Ordinance 1891, Amendment Ordinance 1896, whereby Indian immigrants who have completed a continuous residence of ten years in the Colony, and Indian immigrants who are destitute or disabled, and the wives and children of such immigrants may, in certain cases, be provided with a return passage to India.

An Ordinance to authorize the raising of a loan of five thousand pounds, for the purpose of making up a deficiency in the general revenue of the Colony for the year 1896.

This Ordinance was not presented for Her Majesty's allowance, a surplus of revenue over expenditure at the close of the year being available towards the reduction of the floating debt of the Colony.

An Ordinance to continue the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance 1896.

Under this Ordinance the additional duty of fifteen (15) *per centum* on all duties leviable under the Customs Tariff Ordinance 1895, coal only being excepted, was continued for another year.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to £31,815, as against £43,549 for the previous year.

The Colonial expenditure in the nature of allowances in lieu of exemption from customs duties amounted to £2,236, as against £2,020 in 1896.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The births and deaths of the year numbered respectively 1,824 and 1,163, thus yielding a natural increase to the population of 661.

This increase raised the population on 31st December 1897 to 47,332 (22,995 males and 24,337 females), being equal to 203 persons to the square mile.

Exclusive of still-births the birth-rate of the Colony was 3·57 per cent. against 3·84 in 1896, 4·04 in 1895, and 4·11 in 1894.

The birth-rate has therefore been steadily decreasing, a circumstance due in all probability to rural depression and the voluntary expatriation of numbers of the virile population. During the days of agricultural prosperity the rate averaged 4·28, rising in one year to 4·76.

The year under report shows no improvement in respect to the proportion of illegitimate to legitimate births, the former averaging 60·25 and the latter 39·75 of the total.

The net death-rate was 2·15 per cent. In 1896 it was 2·17, in 1895 2·24, and in 1894 2·09. The great majority of the deaths were due to zymotic diseases, and two persons are reported as having died from the bite of the fer-de-lance, now becoming rare in the Island.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

In 1897 there were three Sessions of the Royal Court for the trial of indictable offences; 17 persons were tried, of whom 5 were acquitted and 12 convicted. In 1896 the number of convictions was 7.

The returns from the Magistrates' Courts shew a decrease in the number of summary convictions, the number in 1897 being 1,013 as against 1,096 in the previous year.

The Attorney-General reports that there has been in the last four years a gradual and steady diminution in the number of convictions for summary offences, but that the number is still large, a fact due, in his opinion, to the influx from other Islands of persons, chiefly of the lower classes, attracted to St. Lucia by the increased coaling trade and by the employment to be obtained on military works and in the garrison.

PRISON AND CRIME.

The prison population in 1897 shewed an increase of 83 admissions as compared with the previous year, and the convictions for the year were 15 in excess of those in 1896.

The admissions to the Royal Gaol were :—

1897.		1896.	
Males ...	481	Males ...	395
Females...	226	Females...	229
Total ...	707	Total ...	624

The convictions in 1897 amounted to 544 as against 529 in 1896, but there is little serious crime in the Colony, the returns shewing that only 10 sentences were passed for periods in excess of 12 months.

The daily average number of prisoners during the year was 51·48, and the largest number confined in the prison at one time was 73.

The general health of the prisoners was good, the daily average on the sick list being 0·89, the lowest number on record. There was one death during the year from chronic diarrhœa, aggravated, according to the Medical Officer's report, by mental depression.

Corporal punishment was administered on three occasions, one by order of the Royal Court and two for prison offences.

IMMIGRATION.

The Protector of Immigrants reports that the number of adult Indian immigrants under indenture in the Colony on 31st December 1897 was 124, namely, 85 males and 39 females. Six births occurred during the year and one death.

The health of the immigrants is reported to be good, despite the unseasonable weather that prevailed during a great part of the year; the predominant maladies of malarial fever and malignant ulcers have been treated by the Colonial Surgeon and his assistant, Doctor Galgey, with excellent results, by the employment of thymol in the one case and iodoform in the other. The immigrants appear to have been on the whole contented and peaceable throughout the year, and a sum of £25 5*s.* 4*d.* was remitted by them to their relatives in India.

The Immigration Fund shewed a balance to credit on 31st December of £1,840 11*s.* 7*d.*, the receipts being principally derived from export duties levied on sugar (4*d.* per 100 lbs.), cocoa (1*s.* 3*d.* per bag) and molasses (1*s.* per puncheon), from an import duty of 1*s.* per lb. on unmanufactured tobacco, and from indenture fees. The expenses borne by the fund were principally on account of interest and Sinking Fund on loans amounting to £2,952; bounties paid to time-expired coolies, £62, and salary of Emigration Agent, Calcutta, £89 8*s.* 0*d.*

EDUCATION.

Primary.

Thirty-four primary schools were open during the year 1897; the number of children on roll was 4,447; the average attendance was 2,577, and the Government grant-in-aid amounted to £2,620 13*s.* 9*d.* Of the 34 schools, 3 were managed by the Government, 2 by the Anglican Church, 1 by the Wesleyan, 4 by the East Indian Mission, and 24 by the Roman Catholic priesthood. In the previous year, 1896, 3 Government schools were closed, but the number on the roll was increased in 1897 by 265 and the average attendance by 261. These figures shew that there has been greater regularity among the children attending school during the year under report. The number presented for examination was 419 more than in the preceding year, and the increase in the number of passes was 581. The numbers in both cases are the highest ever recorded in St. Lucia.

The cost to the Government per head of the children at school was £1 0*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with £1 3*s.* 1*d.* in 1896.

Secondary.

In 1890 St. Mary's College was established by the Vicar General, the Reverend Father Tapon, with the object of supplying education of a higher standard, and in the following year a grant of £200 was made by the Government from the General Revenue of the Colony in support of this school.

This grant has since been annually renewed, and, in addition, 10 scholarships each of the value of £6 per annum have been established by the Government in order to enable boys from the primary schools to enter the College, and to profit by the superior instruction for a period of five years. The College may therefore be considered to be assisted by the Government to the extent of £260 per annum.

The College, which is divided into three classes, was annually examined by Masters from Harrison College, Barbados, up to the year 1895, since which date no examination has been held; but boys from the 1st or most advanced class have been sent up for the Cambridge Local Examination.

In 1895 two boys were presented for this examination and both passed, one with honours.

In 1896 seven were presented and all passed, three with honours.

In 1897 eleven were presented, all passed, four obtaining honours.

The annual examination of the two lower classes will be resumed.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In carrying out the ordinary recurrent repairs to Public Buildings a sum of £795 11*s.* 11*d.* was expended, plus £106 16*s.* 11*d.* for repairs and renewal of Government furniture.

On dredging in the Castries Harbour £467 13*s.* 3*d.* was expended.

On the maintenance and repair of the public roads £3,496 19*s.* 6*d.* was expended.

Land was purchased for a new cemetery at Choc, the total area acquired being about 10 acres. The work of enclosing, fencing, draining, and the construction of roads was commenced, and an amount of £683 12*s.* 6*d.* spent up to 31st December.

Petty repairs were executed on all the jetties, two light timber bridges for the rivers at Soufriere were begun, and a water tank for the village of Gros Islet was put in order for £123 0*s.* 6*d.*

During the year the sum of £8,110 7*s.* 6*d.* was expended on the new water works, thus making a total expenditure of £23,822 12*s.* 1*d.* The principal work consisted of the completion of the following:—

Bocage Reservoir, capacity 450,000 gallons. Cast Iron Main 6in., connecting Bocage Reservoir with Entrêpot works and Town main.

Entrêpot works. Filter beds and service Reservoir, the latter holding 300,000 gallons. Cast Iron Mains, 6in. and 7in., from Entrêpot to Town boundary.

Castries Town Mains.

The subsidiary works at Piton Flore and Louisie, consisting of five dams with straining chambers and settling channels, were commenced and completed, and the mains laid ready for joining on to the principal main from La Sorciere at any time that a failure of water from the latter source may render it necessary to do so. From this subsidiary source a minimum supply of 120,000 gallons a day can be depended upon, and this can be either held in reserve, as at present, or in case of necessity could be added to the supply now being drawn from La Sorciere, and which for the present is more than sufficient for the needs of the town and the shipping.

AGRICULTURE.

Sugar.

The sugar made in St. Lucia is chiefly of a high class, and is manufactured in four Central Factories at Grand Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieuxfort, and Dennery. The output of these four factories in 1897 aggregated 3,962 tons as against 3,698 tons in 1896, and of this amount 3,400 tons were exported in 1897 and 3,055 tons in 1896. The value of the sugar exported in 1897 was £55,497, and in 1896 £56,095.

In addition to the four central factories, several small mills, driven chiefly by wind or horse power, are maintained for the purpose of making Muscovado sugar, the export of which in 1897 amounted to 457 tons, value £3,900, as against 493 tons, value £5,859, in 1896. Syrup, an article of favourite local consumption, is also largely made in these primitive mills. The amount produced cannot be ascertained.

The trade in the bye-products of sugar during the years 1896 and 1897 was as follows :—

	1896.		1897.	
	Gallons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£
Molasses	105,000	1,443	135,120	1,858
Syrup...	100	5	455	23
Rum	1,280	91	10 107	588

The rum manufactured in 1896 was 39,460 gallons, of which 37,360 were consumed locally, and 63,637 gallons in 1897, of which 37,344 went into local consumption. The large increase in the manufacture in 1897 is chiefly due to the importation of 22,480 gallons of molasses in that year, no such importation having occurred in the previous year.

Much difficulty is at times experienced by the proprietors of the central factories in getting a sufficient supply of labour, the population within easy distance from Castries being tempted away by the military works and by the money to be made on the coaling wharves, while from the more distant parts of the island a constant emigration to the gold fields of Cayenne often hamper agricultural operations. Much of both field and factory work is done by labourers from Antigua, St. Vincent, St. Martin's, and Barbados, from which last named island efforts are being made to induce families of the labouring class to come and settle in the fertile valleys of St. Lucia. The central factories are fitted with the latest machinery for the production of sugar crystals for the English and American markets. Grand Cul-de-Sac is capable of making 2,500 tons in five months, working during the day; Roseau in the same time can produce 1,500 tons; Vieux-fort, 2,000 tons; and Dennery, 2,000 tons. In each case the bulk of the sugar is grown by the factory, but much is contributed by peasant proprietors.

Cocoa.

The crop for 1897 was a small one, owing to the heavy rainfall and wind experienced during the flowering period of May and June. The cultivation is slowly increasing, and it is hoped that the excellent results obtained by the few planters who apply intelligent methods to the treatment of their crop may, together with the sound advice tendered by the Curator of the Botanic Station when on his lecturing tours, induce the petty proprietors to improve on the primitive system to which they obstinately cling.

Coffee.

Liberian coffee is proving to be well adapted to the soil and climate of St. Lucia, and its culture is being extended. The demand for seeds and plants is increasing, and improved machinery for curing the crop is being imported.

Kola.

The cultivation of kola is being slowly extended and one shipment has been made to the London market, where good prices were obtained.

Ginger.

The cultivation of this spice is at present being tried by one or two planters only, but a shipment which was made in the month of June realized 70– per hundred weight, and the profitable nature of the undertaking is being brought to the knowledge of the people.

The estimated acreage of the products cultivated in the Colony is given in the following return :—

—	Sugar Cane.	Cocoa.	Coffee.	Spices.	Provisions.	Other Cultivation.	Pasture.	Total Cultivation.
Acres	5,234	3,940	104	11	3,944	323	12,234	25,790

The estimated acreage of the Colony is 152,320.

BOTANIC STATION.

Much activity has prevailed in connection with the Botanic Station, in which an increasing interest is shown by the general public. Plants were distributed throughout the Island to the number of 21,138, exclusive of 9,000 ginger sets given gratis to purchasers of Crown lands, and an impetus has been given to the cultivation of Liberian coffee, cocoa, nutmegs and kola, the number of each disseminated by sale, exchange or free gift being as follows :—

—	Sale and Exchange.	Free.	Total.
Liberian coffee	10,942	5,994	16,936
Cocoa	44	1,302	1,346
Nutmegs	444	463	907
Kola	214	704	918

The following table, shewing the number of economic plants distributed during the last three years, affords satisfactory evidence that the station is increasing in favour with the public, and that its sphere of usefulness is being constantly enlarged :—

Year.	No. of Plants Distributed.
1895	4,380
1896	19,504
1897	22,179

In addition to the assistance given to the planting community at the station itself, the Curator is paying periodical visits to the several districts of the Island for the purpose of giving lectures and practical demonstration upon agricultural topics, in the hope of encouraging an extended cultivation of the most useful and valuable economic plants upon rational and scientific principles.

The site of the present station leaves unfortunately much to be desired, and with a larger area and more suitable land the advantages now offered will be brought home with greater force to the general public.

The rainfall during the year as recorded at the station was 106·43 inches ; April with 1·53 inch being the driest, and May with 20·44 inches being the wettest.

METEOROLOGY.

At the station on Morne Fortune, at an elevation of 745 feet above mean sea level, the absolute maximum temperature recorded was 89·0 in October ; the absolute minimum was 67·0 in February and March. In 1896 the greatest heat registered was 89·2 in October, the minimum being 66· in January, February and March. The rainfall on the Morne for the year was 111·26 inches as against 114·29 in 1896, the wettest month being May, 18·91 inches, and the driest, April, 1·88 inches. Rain fell on 271 days as against 280 days in 1896.

C. A. KING-HARMAN,

Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 247.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 209.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1898.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1898.

[C.—9046-15.] *Price* 1½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
219	Lagos	1896
220	Gold Coast	"
221	Labuan	"
222	British Guiana	1896–97
223	Rodrigues	1896
224	Basutoland	1896–97
225	Jamaica	"
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda...	1897
229	Gambia	"
230	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
231	Barbados...	"
232	Lagos	"
233	St. Vincent	"
234	Sierra Leone	"
235	Falkland Islands	"
236	Straits Settlements	"
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas...	1897
239	St. Lucia	"
240	St. Helena	"
241	Trinidad and Tobago	"
242	British Honduras	"
243	Malta	"
244	Fiji	"
245	Hong Kong	"
246	Leeward Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou

No. 247.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 209.)

GOVERNOR SIR A. MOLONEY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
13th September, 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report of the Colonial Secretary on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for 1897.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT ON BLUE BOOK FOR 1897.

FINANCES.

As in the preceding year, the accounts of the Colony closed in 1897 with a deficit, which had increased in amount from £1,183 at 1st January to £4,040 at 31st December. Special causes contributed to this result, the value of the Public Works Stores (including their estimated depreciation in value), £1,616, having been written off the colonial assets, and an abnormal expenditure for consolidation of the laws, and for surveys and preliminary expenses in 1892-3 in connection with a scheme for lighting St. George's by electricity, having been brought to account during the year. It should here be noted that 1896 was the first year since 1883 in which there was a deficit.

Revenue.

2. The revenue collected amounted to £56,973, which was £698 more than in 1896 and £1,134 less than the average of the

GRENADA, 1897.

five years 1891-95: it failed to reach the estimate by £4,113. This latter result is attributable to a too sanguine forecast of the receipts from import duty, and to the revision of stamp duties at the end of 1896, combined with the suspension of certain court fees pending the enforcement of fresh legislation under the new edition of the laws, which was completed later in the year than was anticipated.

3. Much difficulty was experienced in collecting the Land and House Tax. Owing in part to laxity of the collecting officers, and in part to "tightness" of money consequent upon the general financial depression, a large proportion of these taxes fell into arrear for two years, and it required careful and tactful supervision on the part of the Government to secure that, without unduly pressing the peasantry, this important branch of the revenue was collected in 1897. It is satisfactory to record that these efforts were attended with a large measure of success, and the concomitant enquiry having disclosed many defects in the system and also some unfairness in the incidence of the House Tax, important changes were introduced towards the end of the year which are having their effect in the current year.

Expenditure.

4. £58,549 were expended in 1897, being £1,974 less than in 1896 and £917 less than the average of the five years 1891-95. Notwithstanding supplementary votes, and the abnormal charges referred to in the first paragraph, which were not provided for on the estimates, the disbursements were so carefully controlled that the original estimate of expenditure was not exceeded. As compared with 1896, the only items of interest are the decreases of £1,423, due to the amalgamation of the Treasury and Post Office and reductions in the combined department, and of £987, caused by the working of the new Education Code.

Public Debt.

5. No change was made in the amount of the Public Debt during the year, £127,770, of which £123,670 is held in 4 per cent Inscribed Stock, and £4,100 in 4½ per cent Debentures. Towards the redemption of this in due course sinking funds of £4,446 and £87, respectively, had accumulated at the end of 1897 in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies as Trustees.

6. The Colony is also liable for the repayment in March 1903 of a loan of £1,000 made for the St. George's Water Works in 1879. The present Town Board of St. George's are laying by a proper sinking fund in the hands of the Government for this payment.

Trade and Shipping.

7. As 1897 was the third year in which the imports and exports of the Colony were correctly classified and the cost of usual charges added to their value, it is possible to institute a comparison between the three years, and tables are appended accordingly.

8. In the first table are shown the volume and direction of the trade for the three years :—

—	Imports.						Exports.		
	1895.	Percentage of Total.	1896.	Percentage of Total.	1897.	Percentage of Total.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£		£		£		£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	78,079	44·43	66,485	43·06	78,893	48·00	140,736	169,499	138,656
British Colonies ...	42,151	23·99	42,504	27·52	40,126	24·41	5,616	5,790	4,283
Foreign Countries ...	55,482	31·58	45,416	29·42	45,337	27·59	25,668	8,594	11,500
Totals ...	175,712	—	154,405	—	164,356	—	172,020	183,883	154,439

9. In the year under review the Colony's trade was affected by three important factors—(1) the exceptionally low prices received for cocoa and cotton; (2) the consequent unwillingness of capitalists to advance money to cultivators on the usual scale, and (3) the almost entire cessation of expenditure by the Government on extraordinary public works and on reconstruction of roads from loan funds. Fortunately, towards the close of the year, a marked and satisfactory change took place in regard to the price of cocoa, which from the lowest point it had yet reached in the London market rose rapidly to a price which placed it on a footing with Trinidad cocoa, hitherto at the head of the market for West Indian cocoa. The last quarter of the year, therefore, saved the situation, or the record of 1897 would have been a gloomy one.

10. It will be seen that in 1897 48 per cent. of the imports came from the United Kingdom, 24½ per cent. from British Colonies, and 27½ per cent. from Foreign Countries. This is the result as exhibited by the import returns, but, so far as Foreign Countries are concerned, it is misleading, as the bulk of the imports from British Colonies comes from Barbados and Trinidad and consists chiefly of foodstuffs from the United States of America. 88 per cent. of the imports from British Colonies in 1897 came from these neighbouring islands:—Barbados contributing £25,311, and Trinidad, £10,212: the corresponding figures in 1885 were £38,300 and £16,654. Since that year the direct import trade with the United States of America has increased, under the stimulus of a good service of steamers, from £17,325 to £44,529, but at the out-ports of Grenville and Carriacou, whither goods imported to the chief town direct from New York still have to be transported by water after being landed at St. George's, it is evidently still found convenient to import by small sailing vessels, which bring their cargo direct to those ports from the neighbouring islands.

11. While it is probable that, if the returns disclosed with accuracy the country of origin of all goods, the imports from Foreign Countries would appear on an equal footing with those from the United Kingdom, it is clear that Great Britain is the consumer of by far the larger portion of the Colony's produce, as £138,656 (or about 90 per cent.) of a total value of £154,439 was sent there, the United States of America coming next with £8,106, and France and her colonies after that with £3,026.

12. The second table exhibits the value and direction of the trade with Foreign Countries according to the returns.

Average value 1890–94, £13,678—1895 abnormal.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.	IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America...	54,735	44,873	44,529	4,687	6,300	8,106
France and French Colonies	404	264	381	20,664	2,107	3,026
Holland and Dutch Colonies	110	168	67	—	—	9
Danish Colonies	28	21	360	—	—	—
Venezuela	201	89	—	278	146	59
Italy...	4	1	—	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	—	39	41	300
Totals	55,482	45,416	45,337	25,668	8,594	11,500

The beginning of an export trade with Germany, chiefly in cocoa, is a feature of these statistics.

13. The next table divides the imports and exports for the triennial period into the usual four classes, and a further examination of Class I of the imports in 1897 discloses that 78 per cent. of the imports from the United States of America, and 45 per cent. of those from the United Kingdom belong to that class, which comprises live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.

—	IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.	85,115	71,043	76,598	162,944	175,647	148,907
Raw materials ...	17,089	11,410	10,656	7,705	6,458	4,314
Manufactured articles.	73,508	71,952	77,102	1,171	599	274
Coin and bullion ...	—	—	—	200	1,179	944
Totals ...	175,712	154,405	164,356	172,020	183,883	154,439

GRENADA, 1897.

14. The value of the principal products of Grenada exported in the three years is given in the fourth table :—

—	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£	£	£
Cocoa	138,520	159,519	132,642
Spices	20,984	12,424	13,503
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,563	4,474	2,720
Live stock	1,385	1,304	1,230
Firewood	466	538	605
Fruit	584	880	540
Poultry	204	235	226
Turtle and turtle shell ...	265	291	270
Kola nuts	133	180	88
Coffee	66	217	283
Logwood	1,733	372	302

and the countries to which the leading staples, cocoa, spices, and cotton, were sent in those years are given in the next.

—	Cocoa.			Spices.			Cotton and Cotton Seed.		
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	115,734	152,725	124,172	19,435	11,064	10,616	4,561	4,474	2,715
British Colonies	160	66	5	218	71	17	—	—	5
United States of America	3,874	4,752	5,164	566	1,276	2,858	—	—	—
France	18,752	1,948	3,001	765	—	12	2	—	—
Germany	—	28	300	—	13	—	—	—	—
Totals	138,520	159,519	132,642	20,984	12,424	13,503	4,563	4,474	2,720

15. It is believed that the exports to France, as shown in the 1895 statistics, are incorrect, being quite abnormal and without known cause. The error may perhaps be due to the fact that cocoa is sometimes shipped for Havre with the option of being taken on to England if so desired, and it is possible that such shipments may in 1895 have been booked as exported to France, whereas a large proportion is always carried on to England.

16. The trade with the sister colonies of the Windward Islands Government, which has never been extensive, appears, from the following figures, to be steadily dwindling :—

—	Imports.			Exports.		
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. Vincent	2,247	1,470	1,229	265	177	84
St. Lucia	103	52	101	420	38	36

Shipping.

17. The subjoined table compares the figures of the last three years, and shows that there was but a slight decrease in 1897 in the tonnage entered and cleared as compared with the preceding year, although there was a marked falling off when contrasted with 1895. In that year, however, the number of steamers entered and cleared was abnormal, because of 22 steamers having coaled at the then newly established coaling wharf of Messrs. Otway Brothers, the work of which has since been suspended.

Nationality.	Entered.						Cleared.					
	Tonnage of Steamers.			Tonnage of Sailing Vessels.			Tonnage of Steamers.			Tonnage of Sailing Vessels.		
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.
British	239,494	210,740	209,922	11,159	9,887	9,563	239,699	213,647	213,421	11,453	9,956	9,457
Foreign ...	594	—	—	3,730	768	694	594	—	—	3,431	730	751
Totals ...	240,088	210,740	209,922	14,889	10,655	10,257	240,293	213,647	213,421	14,884	10,686	10,208

AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.

18. The weather of the year was on the whole favourable to agriculturists, the rainfall being average, and the crop of the chief staple, cocoa, for the year ending 30th September reached a total of 54,597 bags, being the largest since 1893-4, when the record crop (55,666 bags) was gathered. Unfortunately for the planters, the London market, although in the end highly satisfactory, showed such varying results during the year that the full pecuniary advantage of this fine yield was not experienced. The year commenced with a good demand, but with poor prices, which fell in the spring to the lowest point yet reached. At this juncture an extraordinary increase of consumption appears to have taken place in the United Kingdom, (the Board of Trade returns show an increase of 13 per cent. in *raw cocoa alone*), and the stock being unequal to the demand, prices steadily rose until at the end of October from 15*s*. to 17*s*. more per cwt. than in April was realised, and, as has been already remarked, Grenada cocoa attained the same position in the market as that of Trinidad.

Many improvements are taking place in Grenada in regard to both the cultivation and the curing of cocoa. It is being borne in upon the peasant proprietor by degrees that he must fork, drain, and manure his cocoa patch in order to secure the best results and keep pace with the large estates in his neighbourhood. If it were possible to devise some practical arrangement whereby he could ferment and dry the beans as successfully as his better equipped neighbour, there is no reason why a sensible diminution in quantity of the "common" grade of Grenada cocoa which now finds its way into the market should not take place.

Spices.

19. Although it is well known that a large area of young nutmeg cultivation is gradually reaching the bearing stage, the returns do not disclose the increase of output which might be expected in the circumstances. The quantity of spices (chiefly nutmegs and mace) exported in the last five years was as follows :—

Year.	Cwt.
1893	2,086
1894	1,916
1895	3,639
1896	2,516
1897	2,505

The nutmeg crop of 1895 was altogether exceptional, 3,220 cwt. being exported ; that of 1897 was about an average crop, and prices in the London market were not so good as in preceding

years. Nutmeg cultivation is chiefly carried on by large proprietors in Grenada, and much care and attention are bestowed on all details.

Coffee.

20. The area of land under cultivation in coffee, although not accurately known, has undoubtedly much increased of late years, and, as a large proportion is consumed locally, the actual output cannot be traced. In 1897 only 31 cwt. were imported, while 63 cwt. were exported, and this in face of an exceptionally bad market abroad, prices falling so low that it was possible to import coffee from Brazil viâ New York and sell it in Grenada cheaper than the local product. This state of affairs has unquestionably discouraged cultivators from further efforts, and it is to be hoped that it may not be permanent, as the Colony is well suited to the growth of coffee, especially Liberian.

Sugar Cane.

21. No sugar left the Colony in 1897, and this, coupled with the fact that 91,892 lbs. of muscovado sugar were imported as against 68,946 lbs. in the preceding year, points to the conclusion that the local over-production of 1896 was succeeded by a period of comparative inaction in growth of the sugar cane in 1897. The sugar made in the island is mostly of such a low grade that it is questionable whether it would not be better for the labouring class to consume imported muscovado altogether. 57,406 gallons of rum were manufactured in the year, being an increase of 4,511 gallons on 1896, and of 13,956 gallons on 1895.

Botanic Station.

22. With Governor Sir Alfred Moloney's arrival in June a period of active propaganda in connection with the Botanic Station was inaugurated. The Curator was required to pay periodical and frequent visits to the out-districts with the object of visiting and instructing the peasant proprietors in proper methods of cultivation, leaflets with a similar object were freely distributed, monthly lists of plants and seeds available at the Station for sale were published, and every effort was made to induce on the one hand the local cultivators to take an interest in the work and objects of the Station, and on the other to ensure that that institution fulfils the purpose of its creation. At the same time experimental shipments of fruit and other products have been made with the view of testing the markets, and the results of such proceedings have been published widely in the Colony. The vital question of Forest Conservancy has also been taken up with vigour, and good progress made towards establishing a reserve on the Crown Lands in the centre of the island. It is perhaps too early to note any marked results from this energetic and timely action, but of the future outcome there can be but one opinion.

Meteorological.

23. The rainfall at the Richmond Hill Observatory was 82·49 inches, that is to say, about normal : the highest amount recorded was at the Grand Etang, 181 inches, and the lowest at Carriacou, 56 inches. At Richmond Hill the mean pressure for the year was 29·906, and the mean temperature 79·7°, the highest reading being 89·8° on the 28th March, and the lowest 69·2° on the 4th December. Rain fell there on 236 days of the year.

On the 8th November there were heavy rains in St. John's Parish, which flooded the Gouyave River and damaged the recently constructed protecting bank of boulders. Again on the 6th November, there was a heavy downpour both in that parish and in St. Mark's and St. Patrick's. On this occasion the boulder banks, both at Gouyave and Victoria, were seriously damaged, being altogether demolished in places, and the stone bridge at the mouth of the Gouyave River was nearly entirely destroyed. 1897 was, therefore, the fourth consecutive year in which destructive floods have occurred in the Colony.

Agricultural Society.

24. On 6th October a public meeting, Sir Alfred Moloney presiding, was held in St. George's, and that much needed body, an Agricultural Society, was formed. One or two abortive attempts to float such a society had been made in previous years, and the credit of the present so far successful movement is due to the Honourable D. S. De Freitas, endorsed by the Governor's cordial support and sympathy. There is a large field for good work open to the society in the Colony.

ROADS AND WORKS.

25. The only works of importance commenced in the year were two iron bridges over the rivers at Madeys and Florida, to replace stone structures irretrievably damaged by the flood of 1895. Both bridges have been satisfactorily completed in 1898. The work on the face of the Mabouya Cliff rendered necessary by the great landslip there in November 1895 was completed at a cost of £318, and the main road at its foot thereby rendered fit for traffic. The erection of a sea wall protecting the main road to Gouyave in the same neighbourhood was continued, and extensive repairs to the Jetty at Victoria, which was seriously damaged by high seas in March 1896, were successfully carried out at an outlay of £417, which was advanced from General Revenue pending final adjustment with the Parochial Board.

The reconstruction of the Colony Hospital buildings, commenced in July 1895, was completed at a cost of £3,825, and on the 18th of June the new commodious structure was formally opened by Sir Alfred and Lady Moloney in the presence of a large gathering.

POPULATION.

26. By estimate, based on the natural increase since the Census of 1891, the population of the Colony at the end of 1897 was 61,299, or 8,090 more than at that Census. This estimate takes no account of emigration or immigration, there being no reliable records. Of the former, however, there is little of a permanent nature, and the latter has much decreased since the passing of the measure restricting pauper immigration which will be referred to in the next section.

The birth rate was 38·10, and the death rate, 22·78 per thousand. The average birth rate for the last 10 years is 44·63, so that a distinct decrease is shown in 1897, although, when compared with the 1896 rate (41 per thousand) the drop is not so marked. Since 1891 the birth rate has declined; in that year it reached 46 per thousand. The death rate was up to the average for the last ten years, but showed an increase on the figures of 1896 (19·82 per thousand), which was the lowest on record.

CRIME AND PRISONS.

27. The following analysis of the statistics relating to crime in the last four years shows that the year under review compares favourably with its immediate predecessors :—

—	1897.	Average 1894–96.	Increase.	Decrease.
Magistrates' Courts :—				
Persons brought before the Magistrates	2,628	2,697	—	69
Convictions	1,239	1,300	—	61
Acquittals	453	460	—	7
Discharged	887	896	—	9
Committed for trial in Supreme Court ...	49	41	8	—
Total	2,628	2,697	8	77
Supreme Court :—				
Number of persons tried ...	53	41	12	—
Convictions	36	25	11	—
Acquittals	15	9	6	—
Not prosecuted	2	7	—	5
Total	53	41	17	5

CRIME AND PRISONS—*continued.*

—	1897.	Average 1894–96.	Increase.	Decrease.
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—				
Offences against the person	331	335	—	4
Prædial Larceny	40	47	—	7
Other offences against property	254	272	—	18
Other offences	650	670	—	20
Total	1,275	1,324	—	49

The Attorney-General remarks in his annual report :—" The " statistics do not disclose any marked variation respecting the " commission of any special crime ; they also show that increase " in crime is not keeping pace with the increase in population."

28. A noteworthy feature of the prison returns for 1897 is the marked decrease in the daily average of prisoners while the number of persons committed to prison has not fallen off. The average number of committals in the four years 1893–96 is 300, and the daily average in prison for those years, 76 : in 1897, 301 persons were committed, but the daily average in prison was only 63, to which it has fallen from an average of 84 (the highest on record) in 1894. This result is attributable to the change made in length of sentences by the Supreme Court since 1895. Before that year long sentences were frequently passed by the Chief Justice ; they have now become the exception.

29. Another feature of the returns is the diminishing number of persons convicted who are not natives of the Colony : in 1895, 35 per cent. of the convictions were persons not born in Grenada ; in 1897, the percentage had fallen to 18. This is most probably due to the working of the law regulating the landing of infirm paupers and destitute immigrants which commenced to operate in 1896, and is having a salutary effect in other directions.

30. It is satisfactory to record that, from enquiry which has been made, it appears that at least 14 discharged prisoners are now earning an honest livelihood in the Colony at trades taught to them while in prison. There are probably many others, but they cannot be traced at present.

EDUCATION.

31. The chief statistics relating to education in the Colony in 1897 are presented below in tabular form, and a comparison is made with the similar figures for 1896.

Primary Schools.

Description of Schools.	No. of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools	9	925	838	1,763	925	108	1,338	Nil.	1,446
Grant in Aid Schools :—									
Anglican	7	771	562	1,333	727	99	892	No returns	991
Roman Catholic	14	1,791	1,822	3,613	1,743	96	1,793	Do.	1,889
Wesleyan	4	382	292	674	437	45	590	Do.	635
Church of Scotland	2	119	83	202	111	6	170	Do.	176
Miscellaneous receipts and disbursements ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	78	Do.	78
Totals for 1897	36	3,988	3,597	7,585	3,943	354	4,861	—	5,215
Do. 1896	37	3,817	3,311	7,128	3,527	341	5,793	—	6,134
Increase in 1897	—	171	286	457	416	13	—	—	—
Decrease in 1897	1	—	—	—	—	—	932	—	919

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOLS.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON THE ROLL.				INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
					£	£	£	£
Grant in Aid Schools :—								
St. George's Grammar School	38	—	38	34	210	415	25	591
Girls' High School...	—	33	33	30	166	58	—	236
St. Joseph's Convent School	5	54	59	57	90	100	20	86
Totals for 1897	43	87	130	121	466	573	45	913
Do. 1896	48	106	154	134	502	591	38	1,068
Increase in 1897	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Decrease in 1897	5	19	24	13	36	18	—	155

32. It will be observed that while an increase took place in the number of scholars on the roll and in average attendance at the primary schools, there was a marked decrease in the expenditure and in the amount of Government grant. In 1896 no less than £5,793 was contributed by the general revenue of the Colony towards primary education, but in November of that year the new Education Code came into operation, and 1897 exhibits the first year's working of that code, which has effected an undoubted improvement not only in this direction but also by raising the standard of education required of the primary schools, and in other respects.

Nearly all of the primary schools in the Colony were visited and inspected by the Governor during the latter half of the year.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

33. The principal statistics relating to hospitals and asylums in 1896 and 1897 are given below :—

INSTITUTION.	No. of Admissions.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.			No. of Deaths.
			Cured.	Relieved.	Not Improved.	
Colony Hospital	654	80	414	161	—	55
Yaws Hospital	57	29	56	—	—	—
St. Andrew's Hospital ...	162	12	144	26	—	5
Carriacou Hospital	105	13	58	37	6	4
Total Hospitals ...	978	134	672	224	6	64
Lunatic Asylum	27	104	16	3	—	16
Poor Asylum	25	44	—	6	—	22
Totals	1,030	282	688	233	6	102
Total for 1896 ...	950	273	587	208	6	107

34. The number of admissions and daily average at the Colony Hospital increased in 1897 in consequence of the reconstructed buildings being occupied for the latter half of the year. Of these the House Surgeon reports :—"The internal condition of the building can now be characterised as excellent throughout, and though the bed area has only been increased to 100, the

cubic space has been raised to 1,003 feet per patient, an extremely high point indeed." The patients under treatment for Yaws remained in their temporary hospital throughout the year, so that no increase was possible in the number treated : the former Yaws Hospital has been reoccupied in 1898.

35. At the St. Andrew's District Hospital there was a marked increase in the number of patients during the discharge of the Medical Officer's duties by Dr. N. S. Durrant, and 7,484 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, as against 5,686 in the preceding year. The accommodation at the Carriacou Hospital was increased by four beds, and the ventilation improved by a rearrangement of the interior partitions decided upon in 1896. 4,714 prescriptions were made up at the dispensary there, as compared with 3,081 in 1896.

36. The death rate at the Lunatic Asylum was the highest recorded since 1881 : of this the Medical Superintendent remarks :—"One half of the number succumbed to diseases of a serious organic nature, and some of the deaths were sudden." From a return prepared by this officer it appears that since 1880, when the Grenada Asylum became the Central Asylum for the Windward Islands, the daily average has increased from 49 to 104, while the percentage of recoveries on the admissions has risen from 34·77 to 59·25. Of the number admitted (27) during the year under review, 10 were from St. Lucia, and 6 from St. Vincent ; and of the 100 patients under treatment at the end of the year, 35 belonged to the former and 15 to the latter Colony. There are still in the Asylum two patients from the Island of Tobago.

SAVINGS BANK.

37. The improved financial conditions which manifested themselves in the Colony in the latter half of the year are evidenced in the transactions of the Savings Bank, as will be seen from the following statement of its work for the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1893	716	7,305	6,394	7,994
1894	959	7,307	7,893	7,602
1895	885	5,563	6,666	6,408
1896	895	4,854	5,035	6,391
1897	968	6,301	5,500	7,370

38. The steady growth of the Savings Bank is a satisfactory indication of the progress of the Colony. Ten years ago, in 1888, the number of depositors was 277, and the deposits were of comparatively large amounts, the balance at credit of each depositor at the end of that year averaging £20·33 : in 1897 we find a total of 968 depositors with an average balance of £7·61 each, showing that the peasants are largely availing themselves of the convenience of the Bank. This growth is attributable in a large measure to the policy initiated in 1888 of establishing branches of the Bank in the out-districts of the Colony, as is evidenced by the subjoined return of depositors in the branches and the balances to their credit for each year since 1889 when they were first opened.

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Balances to Credit.
		£
1889	81	292
1890	136	814
1891	175	1,086
1892	196	1,483
1893	280	2,030
1894	279	2,379
1895	243	1,888
1896	268	2,038
1897	317	2,434

In 1897 a new branch was established in the parish of St. David's, and £111 were deposited therein during the year by 13 depositors.

LEGISLATION.

39. As the revision of the laws of the Colony undertaken in 1895 by Sir Joseph Hutchinson, Chief Justice, reached its final stage in 1897, there was much consolidating legislation passed in the year, no less than 35 Ordinances being enacted, among the most important of which were an Evidence Code, a Criminal Code, and a Code of Criminal Procedure. The new edition of the laws was brought into operation on the 20th of January, 1898.

GRENADA, 1897.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

40. The general financial position of the several town authorities at the close of the year was as follows :—

Town.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus Assets.	Deficit.	Loan Debt.	Sinking Fund paid up.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	3,049	3,021	603	—	6,981	288
Grenville ...	919	829	—	2,755	13,270	19
Sauteurs ...	463	412	—	25	1,100	330
Victoria ...	270	260	10	—	1,424*	69
Gouyave ...	557	604	—	341	3,304†	131
Hillsborough	132	125	46	—	600	23
Totals ...	5,390	5,251	659	3,121	26,679	860

41. While the position of some of the smaller towns is unsatisfactory, it is gratifying to note the great improvement which has been effected in St. George's by the semi-elective Board established there in 1895 in place of the former wholly elected body, which had proved a complete failure. The heavy current liabilities of the old Board have been wiped off, the finances placed on a satisfactory footing, and much good work on town improvements done. It is an interesting feature of the success of this Board, which deserves to be noticed, that while it retains full control over its finances, its officers have no direct connection with the collection and disbursement of its revenue ; all details connected with cash and accounts being conducted on its behalf by Government Departments and under the scrutiny of the Colonial Auditor. Under the old system, to quote one instance of the great improvement which has resulted, the collection of arrears of rates was rarely enforced, the dishonest ratepayer being thus maintained at the expense of his neighbour who elected to pay his rates : under the new, no less than £334 of unpaid rates were collected in 1897 out of a total of £341 overdue.

* Besides an advance of £417 for Jetty repairs.

† Not including £270 due to Government for purchase of Old Court House.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

42. Governor Sir Charles Bruce left the Colony on the 22nd January to assume the Government of Mauritius, and his successor, Sir Alfred Moloney, assumed the Government on the 2nd of June. In the interval, with two short breaks in which the Windward Islands Government was administered by the Colonial Secretary of Grenada, Mr. H. L. Thompson, Administrator of St. Vincent, administered the General Government, his place at St. Vincent being taken by Mr. Edward Drayton, Colonial Secretary of Grenada.

43. During Mr. Drayton's absence for seven months on this duty, Mr. Leslie Probyn, Attorney-General, acted as Colonial Secretary in addition to the duties of his substantive office.

44. Sir Joseph Hutchinson, Chief Justice, was absent in England on duty connected with the consolidation of the laws for ten months, his place being filled by Mr. W. S. Comissiong, Q.C., who was again appointed to act upon Sir Joseph's final departure from the Colony on 10th December to assume the duties of Chief Justice of Cyprus, to which he was transferred.

45. Mr. C. H. Collymore, Registrar of the Supreme Court, a hard-working and reliable public officer, died on 17th June, but the vacancy was not filled up during the year. Mr. H. A. Martin, Treasury Accountant, and Mr. H. B. Walcott, Audit Clerk, were promoted to offices in Ceylon and British Honduras, respectively.

GENERAL REMARKS.

46. The Colony was visited in February by the West India Royal Commissioners, and in their report, which was presented to Her Majesty in August, Grenada was classed with Jamaica and Trinidad as the islands which were found by them to be in the best position among the British West India Colonies, and they further reported that "with careful administration we see no ground for special apprehension regarding the future" of the Colony.

47. Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee was celebrated with enthusiastic loyalty throughout the Colony in June, two special holidays being granted, and an address from the Legislative Council, on behalf of the colonists, was presented to the Queen.

48. As will be gathered from the record of the year which has been set forth in the foregoing pages, the affairs of the Colony in 1897 began to show an improvement on the conditions which

GRENADA, 1897.

have obtained since 1895. There is evidence that the period of stress through which the agriculturists have passed has had a beneficial effect in the direction of enforcing economies and improving cultivation, while a distinct effort has been made by the smaller proprietors to free themselves from the burden of their mortgage debts by more punctual payments. The practical cessation of expenditure by the Government from loan funds has, of course, been keenly felt, but it cannot fail to lead to more attention being given to cultivation of the soil by the labouring class, whose efforts in this direction will no longer be distracted by an abnormal expenditure on road work.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
7th September, 1898.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 267.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 239.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

August, 1899.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN

1899.

[C.—9498-1.] *Price* 2½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas	1897
239	St. Lucia	"
240	St. Helena	"
241	Trinidad and Tobago	"
242	British Honduras	"
243	Malta	"
244	Fiji	"
245	Hong Kong	"
246	Leeward Islands	"
247	Grenada	"
248	Gibraltar	"
249	Gold Coast	"
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
251	British Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	"
254	Ceylon	"
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898
260	Niger.—West African Frontier Force ...	1897–98
261	Jamaica	"
262	Barbados	1898
263	Falkland Islands	"
264	Gambia	"
265	St. Helena	"
266	Leeward Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

184

No. 267.

ST. LUCIA,
1898.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 239.)

ADMINISTRATOR THOMPSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

St. Vincent,
20th June, 1899.

[Forwarded.]

HARRY THOMPSON,
Administrator,
Windward Islands.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
7th June, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to Your Excellency my Report on the Blue Book for the year 1898.

I have, &c.,

C. A. KING-HARMAN,
Administrator.

His Excellency,
Sir ALFRED MOLONEY, K.C.M.G.,
Grenada.

3312—800—7/99 Wt 21935 D & S—5 (B)

St. Lucia, 1898.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1898.

Financial.

Revenue and Expenditu

The net revenue for the year was £67,627 16*s.* 2*d.*, being £10,368 7*s.* 11*d.* more than the estimated revenue £57,259 0*s.* 3*d.* The net revenue for the five years ended 31st December 1898 stood as follows :—

	£
1894	55,937
1895	48,564
1896	55,331
1897	60,639
1898	67,628

The increase in the revenue as compared with 1897 amounted to £6,988 17*s.* 8*d.*, and occurred chiefly under heads of Customs, Port and Harbour Dues, Post Office (sale of postage stamps), and unestimated sources under the head of Miscellaneous, which included the sum of £3,114 15*s.* 8*d.*, the amount of the Colony's deficit at the 31st December 1897, received from the Imperial Government, which, by direction of the Secretary of State, was credited to general revenue.

The following comparative statement of revenue for the year ended 31st December 1898 will furnish more detailed figures of the increased receipts during the year under report :—

Head of Revenue.	Estimate 1898.	Actual revenue to 31st Dec. 1898.	Revenue for same period in 1897.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	29,000 0 0	32,260 14 9	29,844 3 10	2,416 10 11	—
Port and Harbour	4,500 0 0	5,638 11 8	4,988 6 9	650 4 11	—
Licences and Excise	14,250 0 0	14,818 14 11	14,824 19 6	—	6 4 7
Fees of Court, &c.	3,904 0 0	3,929 14 3	4,336 1 4	—	406 7 1
Post Office...	1,444 0 0	2,842 13 0	1,540 2 1	1,302 10 11	—
Telephone...	450 0 0	483 15 10	431 4 8	52 11 2	—
Miscellaneous	120 0 0	3,865 11 0	640 11 4	3,224 19 8	—
Interest	1,735 10 3	1,932 10 9	2,177 19 0	—	245 8 3
Repayment of loans	1,855 10 0	1,855 10 0	1,855 10 0	—	—
Total	57,259 0 3	67,627 16 2	60,638 18 6	7,646 17 7	657 19 11

189.

The increased revenue as shewn in the above statement is to be attributed to increased activity in the coaling trade and to the general prosperity of the Colony prior to the disastrous hurricane in September. A change in the rate of ocean postage, prematurely made from 2½*d.* to 2*d.* per half ounce, which obtained from the 9th May to the 11th June, resulted in the abnormal sale of the 2*d.* and 2½*d.* denomination of stamps, apparently for collecting purposes, to the amount of £1,160.

The estimated expenditure during the year was £57,623 2*s.* 8*d.* and the actual disbursements amounted to £60,975 3*s.* 1*d.*, or £3,352 0*s.* 5*d.* in excess of the estimates, but £6,652 13*s.* 1*d.* less than the actual revenue.

The following statement shews in detail the expenditure for the two years 1897 and 1898 :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate 1898 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st Dec. 1898.	Expenditure same period preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt ...	13,168 9 4	13,177 3 9	13,418 10 0	—	241 6 3
2. Pensions	333 18 4	373 11 3	337 9 2	36 2 1	—
3. Governor and Legislature	2,567 12 0	2,496 0 11	2,272 2 7	223 18 4	—
4. Treasury, Customs, &c.	2,940 14 0	2,914 0 1	2,983 5 8	—	69 5 7
5. Audit	433 16 0	392 11 8	422 7 4	—	29 15 8
6. Port and Marine	838 5 0	784 9 4	886 5 2	—	101 15 10
7. Legal	4,123 18 0	4,143 10 0	4,112 8 4	31 1 8	—

8. Police	3,412 14 0	3,303 9 0	3,351 0 7	—	47 11 7
9. Prisons	1,048 16 0	1,018 4 3	988 18 6	29 5 9	—
10. Medical	6,606 17 0	6,170 7 10	6,112 11 1	57 16 9	—
11. Sanitary	312 0 0	249 14 9	340 3 0	—	90 8 3
12. Charitable	950 0 0	900 7 11	895 4 0	5 3 11	—
13. Immigration	800 5 11	792 0 11	886 17 0	—	94 16 1
14. Education	3,788 16 0	3,642 6 0	3,412 10 6	229 15 6	—
15. Ecclesiastical	1,516 13 4	1,516 13 4	1,500 0 0	16 13 4	—
16. Miscellaneous	4,052 11 4	3,650 10 7	3,769 6 10	—	118 16 3
17. Post Office	2,262 2 3	2,223 6 10	2,127 6 8	96 0 2	—
18. Telephone	383 0 0	376 13 10	330 13 2	46 0 8	—
19. Agriculture	682 12 0	534 2 6	426 9 11	107 12 7	—
20. Public Works and Survey	1,709 19 0	1,629 9 2	1,876 9 0	—	246 19 10
21. Public Works, Recurrent	6,535 0 0	5,883 5 7	5,199 5 9	683 19 10	—
22. Public Works, Extraordinary	6,697 5 4	4,803 3 7	1,093 10 0	3,709 13 7	—
Total	65,165 4 10	60,975 3 1	56,742 14 3	5,273 4 2	1,040 15 4

191

The expenditure to 31st December on account of the damage done by the hurricane in September amounted to £4,566 0*s.* 7*d.*, and may be classified as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Roads	2,948	16	6
Jetties	159	10	1
River Works	780	5	0
Public Works	677	9	0
Total ...	£4,566	0	7

Assets and Liabilities and Public Debt.

The balance-sheet of the Colony at the close of the year shows a surplus of £3,537 17*s.* 5*d.*, as shown by the following figures:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Deficit at 31st December 1897 ...	3,114	15	8
Net excess of Revenue over Expenditure for 1898	6,652	13	1
Surplus at 31st Dec. 1898	£3,537	17	5

The Public Debt of St. Lucia at the 31st December 1898 amounted to £189,579 11*s.*, as against a sum of £191,979 11*s.* at the close of 1897. The debt is divisible as follows:—

Inscribed Stock—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Colony's share for Public Works...	50,579	11	0
" " Water Works...	12,000	0	0
Castries Town Board share ...	17,000	0	0
Colony's share for Immigration purposes	5,900	0	0
Total Inscribed Stock ...	85,479	11	0
Debentures	104,100	0	0
Total Debt at 31st Dec. 1898 ...	£189,579	11	0

The amount due to debenture holders at the end of 1897 was £106,500. During the year under report £2,400 debentures were redeemed, thus leaving the outstanding amount £104,100 as shown above.

The sinking funds of the Colony for the repayment of the above mentioned loans stood as follows at the 31st December 1898:—

	£	s.	d.
For Stock	2,462	4	10
For Debentures	5,599	12	1
Total ...	£8,061	16	11

As compared with the 31st December 1897—

	£	s.	d.
For Stock	1,709	8	3
For Debentures	3,830	6	6
Total ...	£5,539	14	9

The charges on account of the Colony's debt (including interest and sinking fund) amounted to the sum of £13,177 3*s.* 9*d.*, against which a sum of £3,788 0*s.* 9*d.* has been recovered from the Immigration Fund and the Castries Town Fund, being their share of interest and sinking fund on loans raised on their behalf on the general security of the Colony.

Castries Town Board.

The net revenue and expenditure of the Castries Town Fund for the five years ended the 31st December 1898 stood as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1894	3,495	1	5	3,732	12	3
1895	3,726	18	8	3,507	6	8
1896	3,978	6	0	3,626	1	11
1897	4,397	15	6	3,928	10	0
1898	5,276	12	10	4,718	2	8

The gradual yearly increase in the revenue appears to have been chiefly attributable to the prosperity of the market, and latterly to the improved water supply, which enables the town to meet the increased demand from the shipping. A sum of £782 10*s.* 4*d.* was placed by the Colonial Government to the credit of the Castries Town Fund in February 1898 as its share of the premium realised under the issues of the loans for the market, &c., and water works.

Trade.

Imports and Exports.

Hereunder is a return of the chief articles imported during 1898 as compared with those imported in 1897:—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Class I.—Food and Drink Supplies:—				
Cattle	560	958	3,313 7 7	6,975 18 4
Sheep	629	495	1,113 1 1	983 15 6
Ale and beer, bottles	1,792$\frac{13}{15}$ dozen	2,529$\frac{1}{3}$ dozen	775 9 2	991 14 11
" wood	37,628 gallons	45,023 gallons	2,189 0 3	2,707 17 2
Bacon and hams	19,053¼ lbs.	25,766½ lbs.	513 15 5	698 6 6
Beef and pork, salted and pickled	225,274 "	315,247 "	1,980 6 8	3,212 7 6
Butter	32,312½ "	53,959¼ "	1,377 3 10	1,681 19 8
Oleomargarine	98,099 "	79,943 "	1,830 8 4	1,466 6 1
Cheese	26,402 "	29,396 "	673 17 0	717 13 6

Coffee	46,487 „	47,871 „	1,353 14 4	741 7 3
Fish, salted and dried	9,010 cwt. 23 lbs.	10,775 cwts. 74 lbs.	7,260 9 11	7,767 10 4
Flour (wheat)	14,320$\frac{11}{12}$ barrels	15,560$\frac{9}{20}$ barrels	17,764 14 3	16,443 18 3
Fruits and vegetables, fresh	—	—	1,462 2 8	1,546 15 10
Ice	248½ tons	401½ tons	710 13 9	711 19 2
Lard and compounds	76,959 lbs.	98,313 lbs.	815 12 10	898 5 11
Medicine (no quinine)	—	—	1,013 12 10	1,189 11 8
Oats...	8,249 bushels	9,164 bushels	1,069 7 4	1,229 15 9
Oil-lard, olive	7,881$\frac{5}{6}$ gallons	6,573$\frac{1}{6}$ gallons	1,133 2 11	682 18 1
Peas and beans	3,070½ bushels	4,058 bushels	964 9 4	758 4 0
Preserves	—	—	1,087 5 6	1,367 4 10
Rice...	577,466 lbs.	541,334 lbs.	3,216 19 1	2,877 11 10
Spirits :—				
Brandy	516⅜ gallons	578¾ gallons	268 5 3	255 18 3
Gin	1,523$\frac{5}{6}$ „	1,487¼ „	381 1 3	368 2 4
Whisky	3,152$\frac{7}{8}$ „	3,306¾ „	1,127 7 7	1,264 0 3
Wines	—	—	2,817 2 2	3,193 12 3

195

Imports and Exports—continued.

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS I.—FOOD AND DRINK SUPPLIES—*continued.*				
NARCOTICS :—				
Tobacco, manufactured	14,785$\frac{5}{13}$ lbs.	16,513½ lbs.	1,035 6 1	1,017 5 10
„ unmanufactured	50,226 „	65,675 „	919 1 6	1,255 7 4
CLASS II.—RAW MATERIALS, METALS :—				
Coal...	63,902⅓ tons	76,046½ tons	53,809 4 11	72,149 0 0
Manure	9,220 bags	4,498 bags	5,324 13 4	2,343 9 5
Oil, cotton seed	31,060⅓ gallons	32,155⅙ gallons	1,825 12 9	2,033 2 4
„ petroleum	61,243 „	58,282 „	1,392 14 3	1,433 9 11
Wood, W. pine	539,810 feet	734,067 feet	2,157 17 9	3,902 1 1
„ P. pine	196,187 „	330,516 „	988 1 1	1,739 7 11

Class III.—Textile Manufactures:—				
Cottons and woollens	—	—	23,308 2 4	25,149 10 1
Arms and ammunition	—	—	19,165 19 2	5,243 2 10
Hardware	—	—	2,954 14 5	3,215 11 4
Iron, galvanized	—	—	1,056 14 6	945 11 10
Machinery and apparatus for industrial purposes and for manufacturing purposes.	—	—	1,676 18 7	1,157 7 9
Boots and shoes	—	—	4,596 2 9	4,459 16 4
Building materials	—	—	8,186 13 2	10,601 1 0
Cement	6,072 barrels	2,088 barrels	3,842 13 4	2,373 8 9
Earthenware	—	—	1,391 0 6	1,980 14 8
Furniture	—	—	989 7 10	891 13 6
Glassware	—	—	612 17 2	965 16 8
Haberdashery	—	—	12,477 15 11	11,363 14 7
Hats and bonnets	—	—	1,861 4 11	2,006 0 10
Ordnance stores	—	—	6,180 10 9	26,142 6 6
Paints, dyes, and varnish...	—	—	815 13 0	728 8 3
Soap, common	313,919 lbs.	279,808 lbs.	2,472 14 4	2,319 15 0

The large increases shown in the importation of cattle, ale, bacon and hams, and ordnance stores are due to the presence of the military.

The increase in the importation of coal may be taken as an indication of the steady development of the port of Castries as a coaling station.

All the other increases are due to general improvement in trade.

The decrease in the importation of coffee may be accounted for by the fact that the local cultivation of coffee is being extended.

The decrease in the importation of manure is a sign of the parlous condition of the planting community through the unremunerative results of their labours.

All the other decreases may be accounted for by the ordinary fluctuations of the markets.

The following is a return of the total value of the imports for the last five years :—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	United States.	France.	Other Foreign Places.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1894 ...	93,780	31,933	41,789	11,491	8,550	187,543
1895 ...	74,512	28,690	39,358	6,809	5,577	154,946
1896 ...	101,983	25,177	45,543	6,930	10,900	190,533
1897 ...	119,355	52,639	57,478	8,899	6,882	245,253
1898 ...	140,329	34,843	82,938	6,514	7,371	271,995

It will be observed that the imports have increased in value within the period shewn in the return by 45 per cent.

This increase amongst the several countries of origin would be in the following proportions, namely :—

United Kingdom increased by 50 per cent.
British Colonies „ „ 9 „ „
United States „ „ 98 „ „

On the other hand there was a marked decline in the values of importations from France and other foreign places.

France decreased by 43 per cent.

Other foreign places decreased by 14 per cent.

The following is a list of the articles which are preferably imported from foreign countries, and the reasons why these articles of foreign manufacture are superseding the goods of British make :—

Articles.	Foreign Countries whence Imported.	Reasons for not importing such goods from England.
Boots and shoes (low priced).	America.	Cheaper freight ; better style ; cheaper ; no charge for packing.
Grey ducks and cotton canvas.	do.	Good quality and low price ; no charge for packing.
Hardware hinges ...	do.	Good quality and finish.
Watches	do.	Low price.
Soap	do.	Low price and low freight.
Chairs	do.	Cheapness.
Locks, knobs	do.	Very much cheaper and freight less.
Bolts	do.	Do. do. do.
Furniture	do.	Very much cheaper and freight much less.
Axes	do.	Finish of American better and charge less.
Plated ware	do.	Cheaper and better value and charge less.
School slates	do.	Better finish, cheaper and better value and charge less.
Dyed yarns	do.	Cannot get same quality in England.

ST. LUCIA, 1898.

Articles.	Foreign Countries whence Imported.	Reasons for not importing such goods from England.
Tools in general ...	America.	Better steeled.
Matches	Germany.	Low price.
Lamps	do.	Cheapness.
Toys and games ...	do.	Do.
Ties	do.	Very much cheaper and comparatively good quality.
Shawls	do.	Do. do. do.
Hosiery...	do.	Do. do. do.
Pipes	do.	Do. do. do.
Chairs	do.	Quality different and cheaper.
Silk foulards and handkerchiefs.	France.	Superior style.
Ladies' parasols.	do.	Do.
Confectionery (good quality).	do.	Superior style and quality.
Locks	do.	Very much cheaper and freight less.
Ladies' boots	do.	Do. do. do.
Perfumery	do.	Do. do. do.
Cologne...	do.	Do. do. do.
Silk dress stuff... ...	do.	Special quality and finish.
Cement (common)	Belgium.	Lower price and freight.
Earthenware do.	do.	Do. do.
Glassware do.	do.	Do. do.
Felt hats	Italy.	Do. do.
Matches	Sweden.	Low price.

A comparative table of the principal exports for 1897 and 1898 is given below :—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS I.—LIVE ANIMALS, FOOD, AND DRINKS :—				
Cattle	53	—	354 13 4	—
Horses	30	9	259 1 8	100 5 0
Cocoa	880,400 lbs.	942,700 lbs.	15,839 10 9	25,377 2 10¾
Fruit, fresh :—				
Mangoes	316,240	1,771 packages	173 18 8	808 2 0
Rum	10,107¼ gallons	14,618 gallons	588 10 8	916 13 4¾
Sugar :—				
Molasses	135,120 "	162,670 "	1,857 18 0	2,236 14 3
Muscovado	1,025,360 lbs.	680,900 lbs.	3,899 19 10	3,197 15 11¼
Usine	7,617,332 "	7,722,800 "	55,497 14 0	49,370 15 1½

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS I.—*continued.*				
Vegetables :—				
Unenumerated	15 packages	898 packages	8 1 0	414 15 10
Hides	714 cwts.	464½ cwts.	599 15 3	591 12 2¾
Turtleshell...	150 lbs.	—	106 1 0	—
Fuelwood	2,381½ cords	1,790 cords	1,131 4 3	850 5 0
Logwood	165¼ tons	58 tons	247 17 6	87 0 0
Pimento sticks	27,250	5,909	227 1 8	49 4 10

The output of cocoa is steadily increasing, and the figures were largely enhanced by the greater value of the article in the European markets.

The fruit season was prolific, and the mangoes found ready sale at Barbados.

203

An attempt, which proved partially successful, was made during the year to establish an export trade in rum between this Colony and French Ports. The high protective duties, however, which are levied in France are barriers to complete success in this direction.

The market for molasses in the Island of Martinique, where the rum industry is prosecuted on a large scale, was re-opened in the year by the reduction of a hitherto exorbitant duty, and the export of this article to that place consequently increased.

The manufacture of Muscovado sugar continued to decrease steadily. There was a sensible increase, however, in the quantity of Usine sugar exported.

There was no turtleshell exported in 1898. For some unexplained reason the natives do not prosecute this industry with any degree of steadiness. Fishermen from the neighbouring islands actually come to this island and enjoy the gains to be made from this source.

The decrease in the quantity of woods exported is attributed to the low prices reached by these articles throughout the year.

With regard to the decrease in the exports of cattle and horses it should be explained that in 1897 many of these animals were shipped to French Guiana by speculators, but as a general rule this Colony is not in a position to export any number of them.

A return of the total value of exports for the last five years is given hereunder :—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	United States.	France.	Other Foreign Places.	Bunker Coals.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1894 ...	43,062	11,297	35,991	48,629	6,915	45,729	191,623
1895 ...	24,269	2,951	37,760	32,718	4,457	35,714	137,869
1896 ...	24,144	4,842	46,481	14,719	3,534	42,575	136,295
1897 ...	38,042	3,176	98,924	11,461	2,664	76,177	230,444
1898 ...	11,154	6,625	49,054	22,691	3,891	73,093	166,508

The decrease in the value during that period has been at the rate of 13 per cent. It should be, however, noted that in 1894 the values of exports were largely affected by the exportation of logwood which was then bringing record prices.

On an examination of the return it appears that there was an increase in the value of the exports to the United States at the rate of 36 per cent., but that there were decreases in all the others as follows :—

	per cent.
United Kingdom	74
British Colonies	41
France	53
Other Foreign Countries...	44

The deliveries of bunker coal have increased in the five years by 60 per cent. The higher level reached in 1897 was not however overtopped last year, in fact there was a slight decline in the figures, due it is considered to the disturbance of trade by the Spanish-American war which existed for a few months of the year.

The wide difference in the figures shewn between 1897 and 1898 is due to the fact that in the previous year the return included the value of a cargo of wool which was landed at this port from a shipwrecked vessel and re-exported.

Botanic Station.

The Curator reports that good work has been done during the year by the dissemination throughout the Colony of useful and economic plants, and by the giving of information on the best methods of planting and cultivation.

The number of plants distributed during the year was 18,200 as compared with 22,179 in the previous year, the falling off being attributed to the smaller demand for coffee plants, owing probably to the low prices ruling in the market, and also to the fact that the planters and small growers were too much occupied in the latter months of the year in endeavouring to repair the damage done by the hurricane of the 11th September to be able to give their attention to anything else. Among the plants sold or exchanged or given free to the purchasers of Crown Lands were 5,119 cocoa plants, 7,937 coffee plants, 1,862 rubber

205

(*castilloa elastica*), 695 nutmeg, and 304 kola. During the last ten years the distribution of plants from the station has been as follows :— ST. LUCIA 1898

From 1889 to 1894	60,000
In 1895	4,380
In 1896	19,504
In 1897	22,179
In 1898	18,200
Total in ten years ...	124,263

The amount received from the sale of plants, seeds, fruit, and flowers during the year and paid into the Colonial Treasury was £50 10*s.* 0*d.*

Besides giving his attention to the Botanic Station, the Curator has done useful work during the year in giving lectures and practical demonstrations in planting, pruning, grafting, draining, and other field operations in the country districts. These lectures have been, as a rule, well attended, and the people are learning to take an interest in the visits of the Curator and to profit by the opportunities offered to them of improving on their primitive methods of cultivation.

During the months of October and November the Curator was also employed in visiting different parts of the Island for the purpose of advising proprietors as to the best means of restoring cocoa and other cultivation damaged by the hurricane of the 11th September.

CROWN LANDS.

The Crown Lands and Survey Office was established in 1889 as a branch of the Public Works Department. It was instituted with the object of facilitating the settlement of the Crown and vacant lands in the Colony, and of securing the formation of an independent class of peasant proprietors. These objects are being gradually attained, and the value of the office is becoming more and more recognized and appreciated by those in whose interest it was primarily established. The work of the office and its good influence among the peasants and small holders have been much interfered with by frequent changes of personnel, and it is only

within the last two years that any marked progress in its operations has been observed. During the year under report, much was done in the publication and escheat of vacant lands, the allotment of Crown lands, the survey of Crown boundaries and the keeping open of already established lines, the detection of squatters, and the general supervision of Crown lands for the prevention of illicit wood cutting and forest spoliation.

Eighty-seven applications for land were received representing 965 acres, of which 30 applications were dealt with representing 213 acres, the remainder being carried forward to be dealt with in 1899. The number of applications were 43 in excess of those received in 1897. 39 lots containing 381 acres, valued at £368 15*s.*, were alienated. One village lot and 10 estates containing 1,598 acres were escheated to the Crown, and 14 estates representing 2,621 acres were published for escheat, all of which are expected to fall in uncontested during 1899.

Over 7,000 plants for economic culture were distributed free during the year to purchasers of Crown land, many of whom are beginning to exhibit more advanced methods of cultivation.

The settlement of the Crown and vacant lands received a further impetus by the energetic action of the Road Boards of the several districts in obtaining the proclamation of many public byeways, much needed for the improvement of communication, and the consequent opening up of the uncultivated portions of the Island.

The amounts received for survey fees, deposits on account of purchase, and instalment of purchase money, which in 1898 amounted to £633 3*s.* 0*d.* as against £504 7*s.* 3*d.* in 1897, are paid to the credit of the Land Sales Fund which at the close of 1898 amounted to £1,454.

Crown land is sold at an upset price of £1 per acre, payable under ordinary circumstances in four annual instalments.

SHIPPING.

The number of steam vessels entered and cleared at Port Castries during 1898 was 1,113, or less by 126 than in 1897. The number of sailing vessels entered and cleared was 661, or 9 more than in 1897. The total difference therefore in the two years was 117 against 1898.

It must be explained, however, that the number of vessels entered and cleared in 1897 was exceptionally large in comparison with previous years, and, although the figures in 1898 are below

207

those of 1897, they are far in excess of those of the preceding years. The shipping trade of the Port was also injuriously affected by the Spanish-American war and by the coal strike in Wales.

Of the total number of trading vessels entered and cleared during the year 1898, 80 per cent. were British and 20 per cent. were foreign. Of the foreign vessels, 49 per cent. were French, 16 per cent. were Dutch, 11 per cent. were Belgian, and the remaining 24 per cent. were German, American, and Norwegian.

In the last five years the increase in the number of vessels entered and cleared amounts to 40 per cent. The number of ships of war which called for coal and other purposes during the year under review was 59, an increase of 35 as compared with the previous year. Of these, 34 were Her Majesty's ships, 9 were American, 7 Italian, 2 French, 2 German, 3 Dutch, 1 Russian, and 1 Austrian. The increase was probably due to the hostilities between America and Spain, and also to a state of general political unrest.

The total tonnage entered and cleared during 1898 amounted to 1,557,677 tons as compared with 1,780,560 tons in 1897.

The following comparative table gives the total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years :—

Return of Shipping for the Five Years from 1894 to 1898.

Years.	Steam Vessels.									Sailing Vessels.									Grand Total.		
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total Steam Vessels.			With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total Sailing Vessels.					
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1894	295	347,153	12,837	477	587,737	14,900	772	934,890	27,737	451	32,375	2,871	48	14,529	409	499	46,904	3,280	1,271	981,794	31,017
1895	261	304,787	11,666	470	603,206	15,435	731	907,993	27,101	543	28,032	3,062	72	11,643	485	615	39,675	3,547	1,346	947,668	30,648
1896	312	387,076	14,448	558	761,412	17,714	870	1,148,488	32,162	440	27,157	2,922	140	15,145	1,011	580	42,302	3,933	1,450	1,190,790	36,095
1897	330	429,978	14,139	909	1,308,647	26,762	1,239	1,738,625	40,901	500	26,481	3,234	152	15,454	1,114	652	41,935	4,348	1,891	1,780,560	45,249
1898	329	399,598	14,711	784	1,112,938	23,889	1,113	1,512,536	38,600	455	24,985	2,957	206	20,156	1,458	661	45,141	4,415	1,774	1,557,677	43,015

209

LEGISLATION.

During the year 13 Ordinances were passed and assented to. Of these, the principal were—

1. "The Quarantine Ordinance, 1895, Amendment Ordinance, 1898," the objects of which are to extend the period of incubation of yellow fever from ten days to 14, and to provide for the burial of bodies of persons dying from an infectious disease on board of an infected vessel.

2. "The Public Works and Roads Ordinance, 1889, Amendment Ordinance, 1898," under which the Road Boards are entrusted with the care of the bye-ways in the Island.

3. "The Crown Grants Registration Ordinance, 1898," which provides for the proper registration of all grants of Crown lands together with the diagrams attached thereto.

4. "The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1896, Continuance Ordinance, 1898," whereby an additional charge of 15 per cent. of the amount formerly levied on goods paying *ad valorem* duties was continued for another year.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

During the year under report there were 39 primary schools in operation, an increase of five as compared with the preceding year. These schools were divided into the following classes:—Mixed 20, combined 9, juvenile 5, and infant 5. The number of children on the roll was 5,280, as against 4,447 in 1897, and the average number in attendance was 2,787, an increase of 210 over the attendance in the preceding year.

The number of children examined was 2,512, and the number of passes in two or three subjects was 2,124. This shews an increase of 186 in the number examined and of 85 in the number of passes as compared with 1897.

The total cost of the schools to the Government was £2,904 19*s.* 1*d.*, equal to an expenditure of £1 0*s.* 10*d.* per head in average attendance. In 1897 the amount paid per head was also £1 0*s.* 10*d.* and the total cost was £2,620 13*s.* 9*d.*, or £284 15*s.* 4*d.* less than in 1898.

Special attention was given during the year to the teaching and study of the English language, in the knowledge of which good progress has been made.

Secondary.

St. Mary's College for boys, founded in 1890 by the Vicar General, the Reverend Father Tapon, and subsidized by a grant of £200 per annum from the general revenue of the Colony,

furnishes the only higher education for boys in the Colony. In addition to this annual grant the Government has established ten scholarships, each of the annual value of £6, in order to assist boys from the primary schools to enter the college and to profit by the higher education for a period of five years.

The number of boys on the roll of the college in 1898 was 53 with 43 in average attendance. In 1897 the roll shewed 52 with 46 in average attendance.

The more advanced boys at the college have been recently sent up for the Cambridge Local Examination, with the following results:—

In 1895 two were presented and both passed; one with honours.

In 1896 seven were presented and all passed; three with honours.

In 1897 eleven were presented and all passed; four with honours.

In 1898 eleven were presented, but at the time of writing this report the results were not known.

The examination of the lower classes of the college which had fallen into abeyance was resumed in 1898, with satisfactory results.

At the Convent of St. Joseph, under the energetic management of the Reverend Mother Superior, a higher education is provided for girls. The number on the roll in 1898 was 66 with 61 in average attendance. In 1897 the roll shewed 56 scholars with average attendance 47. This school does not yet receive any financial support from the Government.

There are as yet no schools in the Colony where industrial, technical, and agricultural teaching is afforded.

Government Institutions.

Hospitals, &c.

The Victoria Hospital at Castries is an excellent building containing nine wards, six male and three female, and having good accommodation for 130 patients. Branch hospitals also exist at Soufriere, where in two good wards 26 beds are provided; at Vieuxfort containing 21 beds; and at Dennery with accommodation for 30 patients. There is also a hospital for the exclusive treatment of yaws, which is isolated on a small Island a quarter of a mile from the shore, and has ample accommodation for over 100 patients.

Besides these hospitals, there is a poor asylum in Castries for the reception of infirm and chronic cases, and there is a Government dispensary in each of the smaller villages in the Island.

There is no lunatic asylum and all cases of insanity are sent for detention and treatment to the Central Asylum at Grenada.

The Colonial Surgeon, in his annual report for 1898 on the Medical Institutions of the Colony, shews that the general health of the people and the sanitary condition of the Island were nearly all that could be desired, and states that during the year no case of contagious disease occurred.

At the yaws hospital it has been clearly established that the disease, so long considered to be incurable, yields satisfactorily to treatment, and out of 79 admissions during the year 72 were discharged cured.

SAVINGS BANKS.

In addition to the principal bank at Castries there were opened during the year 1898 two branch savings banks at Soufriere and Vieuxfort.

	£	s.	d.
The balance to the credit of depositors in the principal bank on 1st January 1898 was	10,382	6	9
The amount deposited during the year and accrued interest was	10,505	7	3
Total ...	£20,887	14	0

	£	s.	d,
The amount withdrawn during the year was	£9,118	7	8
The amount remaining to credit of depositors on 31st December 1898 was	£11,769	6	4

so that the deposits were increased during the year by £1,386 19*s.* 7*d.*

The following table shews the transactions of the bank during the last five years :—

Year.	No. of Transactions.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	No. of Depositors at 31st Dec.	Total Amount at Credit of Depositors at 31st Dec.
		£	£		£
1894	3,376	9,458	9,842	1,187	9,428
1895	3,201	7,000	7,162	1,275	9,267
1896	3,351	7,165	6,953	1,277	9,810
1897	3,635	8,498	8,162	1,294	10,382
1898	5,113	10,244	9,118	1,477	11,769

ST. LUCIA, 1898.

From this table it will be seen that within the last five years the transactions have increased over 50 per cent. and nearly 25 per cent. of deposits have been added to the balance in the bank.

The following table gives a comparative classification of the deposits for the two years 1897, 1898 :—

Year.	Deposits of £10 and over.	Deposits of £40 and over.	Deposits of £70 and over.	Deposits of £100 and over.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897 ...	2,204 4 2	1,877 16 3	1,341 15 3	4,958 6 1
1898 ...	2,666 11 5	3,057 1 8	1,346 18 3	4,698 15 0

Of the depositors during the year under report, 78 per cent. of the total number were employés and of the labouring class generally.

The following investments on account of the funds of the bank were held at 31st December 1898 :—

		£	s.	d.
Canadian Government ...	3½ per cent. ...	2,000	0	0
New South Wales Government	3½ „ „ ...	2,000	0	0
Western Australia Government	3 „ „ ...	1,500	0	0
Trinidad Government ...	3 „ „ ...	1,500	0	0
Barbados Government ...	4 „ „ ...	1,000	0	0
Colonial Bank, on deposit	3 „ „ ...	500	0	0
	Total	£8,500	0	0

The sum of £293 0*s.* 4*d.* was received for interest on the investments, and the interest (3 per cent.) which accrued to depositors' accounts during the year amounted to £281 6*s.* 11*d.*

At the district bank at Soufriere, which was opened on 1st March 1898, the transactions during the year were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Deposits	554	4	5
Withdrawals	368	14	0
To credit of depositors, 31st December ...	£185	10	5

At the district bank at Vieuxfort, opened also on the 1st March, the transactions to 31st December were :—

	£	s.	d.
Deposits	192	17	0
Withdrawals	66	2	0
To credit of depositors, 31st December ...	£126	15	0

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

The police force in 1898 consisted of a chief of police, 3 sergeants, 4 corporals, and 51 privates. The Island for police purposes is divided into three districts, each district having three stations. To the first district, including the town of Castries and the villages of Gros Islet and Dennery, were apportioned 2 sergeants, 3 corporals, and 34 privates; in the second, including the town of Soufriere and the villages of Anse-la-Raye and Choiseul, there were 1 corporal and 10 privates, and in the third, comprising the villages of Vieuxfort, Laborie, and Micoud, there were 1 sergeant and 7 privates.

The force is supplemented by a body of about 100 rural constables selected from among the peasantry, and paid 2*s.* a day when employed.

The cost of the police force for 1898 was £3,303 9*s.*

Prisons.

Several improvements were made during the year; a supply of pure water being laid on, with baths for males and females, a new shed erected for the accommodation of stonebreakers, and general repair effected.

The number of prisoners received during the year was 694, namely, 484 males and 210 females. This shews an increase of 3 males and a decrease of 16 females as compared with the previous year.

The general health of the prisoners is reported as not having been quite so good as during 1897, influenza having been prevalent during the early part of the year.

The expenditure during the year amounted to £1,015 17*s.* 3*d.*, of which the cost of the establishment came to £614. The revenue derived from the sale of coffins, macadam, sifted earth, baskets, and concrete blocks, together with the scraping of ginger,

amounted to £158 8*s.* 5*d.*, and the value of the labour performed outside the prison, together with the washing done for public institutions in the female prison, is estimated at £103 17*s.* 8*d.*

There were no deaths, no flogging, nor any escapes.

Criminal Statistics.

For the trial of indictable offences there were in 1898 three sittings of the Royal Court (Criminal Jurisdiction). Twenty-three cases were tried; in 18 of which the accused were convicted and in 5 acquitted.

The number of convictions was greatly in excess of that in the previous year, when out of 17 cases tried 12 were convicted.

An increase in the number of summary convictions as compared with 1897 is also apparent from the returns submitted from the Magistrates' Courts. In 1897 the number was 1,013; in 1898 it was 1,056. The figures for 1898 include 74 cases of prædial larceny, representing an increase of 53 over the previous year.

It is perhaps premature to determine whether the decided increase in the records of crime for the year under report as compared with 1897 is due to the growth of crime among the hitherto fairly law-abiding population of the Colony, or to increased vigilance on the part of the police; but there can be no doubt that the large influx of people from the other Islands, attracted to St. Lucia by the military works, the central factories, and the coaling trade, does contribute to this increase.

Vital Statistics.

On the registers for 1898 were entered 1,858 births and 1,214 deaths, giving a natural increase of 644 to the population.

The total population on the 31st December 1898 was 47,976, of which 23,311 were males and 24,665 females; equal to 205·65 to the square mile. In 1897 the total population was 47,332 (22,995 males and 24,337 females), and at the last census taken in 1891 the figures were 42,220 (20,461 males and 21,759 females). The population to the square mile was 205 as compared with 203 in 1897. The natural increase of 644 was slightly under that of 1897 which was 661.

The still-births numbered 167, which deducted from the total births left a net birth-rate of 3·57 per cent. of the population. The rate for 1897 was exactly the same. It was 3·84 per cent. in 1896, 4·04 in 1895, and 4·11 in 1894. The causes which, as pointed out in the report for 1897, operate to keep down the birth-rate, namely, rural depression and the voluntary expatriation of numbers of the virile population, still exist.

Legitimacy represented 42·41 per cent. of the total births and illegitimacy 57·59. In 1897 the rates were respectively 39·75 and 60·25.

The deaths entered on the registers numbered 1,214. Eliminating the still-births (167) there results a death-rate of 2·21 per cent. of the population. The rate was 2·15 in 1897, 2·17 in 1896, 2·24 in 1895, and 2·09 in 1894.

There were no epidemic diseases during the year, and the endemic were not in any special degree fatal.

Only one death from snake-bite was recorded. In 1897 two such deaths occurred, and, going back 30 years, the records of 1869 shew 22 fatal cases in that year.

METEOROLOGY.

From the observations taken during the year at the Botanic Station in Castries 10 feet above sea level, it results that the mean daily height of the barometer was 29·982; the mean annual temperature was 80·1, and the total rainfall was 107·49. A maximum temperature of 90·1 in the shade was recorded in May, a minimum of 69·9 in March. The heaviest rainfall was in September, when 25·28 inches were measured; the driest month was May, when only 2·48 inches fell. Rain fell on 271 days during the year. The greatest quantity falling in any one day was 13·18 inches on the 11th of September, when the rain gauge at the station was found to be overflowing. The Curator estimates that at least 16 inches fell on that occasion in the 24 hours.

The hurricane of the 11th September was not very seriously felt in Castries, and the Botanic Station escaped with the loss of several trees, but in other parts of the Island the damage done by the wind and more especially by the heavy rains was most deplorable. The steep hill sides, surcharged with water, slid away in all directions carrying away plantations, houses, roads, and bridges, and leaving rock and rubbish behind. The injury done to public property amounted to nearly £10,000, and the losses of proprietors and other cultivators are estimated after minute and careful enquiry at £50,000. A promising cocoa crop was in great part completely swept away, and the hopes of the people in view of a brisk market and high prices were destroyed. So complete was the disappearance of many fine plantations that even where the soil has not been entirely washed away a delay of from 5 to 10 years in the re-establishment of the trees is inevitable. The loss of life was fortunately but small, but the injury to property was very great involving hundreds of peasant proprietors in total ruin.

Postal.

The revenue and expenditure in connection with the postal transactions of the years 1897, 1898 were as follows :—

Revenue.

1897.	1898.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,879 8 5½	3,027 12 9½

Expenditure.

1897.	1898.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2,139 7 7	2,148 6 9

The revenue therefore for the year under report was £879 6*s.* 0½*d.* in excess of the expenditure for the same year, and exceeded the receipts of 1897 by £1,148 4*s.* 4*d.* The following tables represent the work of the Post Office during the above-mentioned years :—

Received from Abroad.

Year.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.
1897	85,574	50,896
1898	85,201	50,757

Sent Abroad.

Year.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.
1897	72,718	6,324
1898	82,531	7,837

Parcel Post.

Year.	Received.	Sent.
1897	1,445	459
1898	1,744	509

Money Orders.

Year.	Amount Received.	Amount Sent Abroad.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897	978 8 7	4,891 6 4
1898	1,235 15 5	5,809 13 8

The Customs dues collected on the contents of the parcels amounted to £233 12*s.* 11*d.*, an increase of £32 10*s.* 3*d.* on the amount taken in the previous year.

The Colony's share of commission on money orders amounted to £98 11*s.* 11*d.*, an increase of £15 19*s.* 8*d.* on the amount of the previous year.

Inland Services.

There was an increase in the business of the inland service in the year under report. The number of letters exchanged between the central and branch offices was 45,966, an increase of 3,587 as compared with the previous year. The number of papers and books was 11,932,—616 more than in 1897.

The number of vessels which brought mails to the Colony during the year was 254 as compared with 231 in 1897, and the vessels which took away mails numbered 296 as against 247 in the previous year.

Telegraph and Telephone Services.

St. Lucia is connected by the West India and Panama Company's cables with Santiago de Cuba in the north, from which place communication with the United States and the rest of the world is obtained, and with British Guiana in the south. In each case a duplicate system has been laid down.

A telephone system connecting Castries with the seven small towns or villages in the Island was completed in 1896. The seven country exchanges are worked by the police, and 120 miles of trunk line are open for traffic. The lines are run on wooden poles which, owing to the effects of the climate and wood-eating insects, are not found satisfactory, and are being replaced by iron rails. The revenue derived from the system in 1898 was £483 15*s.* 10*d.* as against £431 4*s.* 8*d.* in 1897. The expenditure in 1898 was £376 13*s.* 10*d.*, and in 1897 £330 13*s.* 2*d.*

The system is in the hands of the Government.

Military Forces and Expenditure.

The total military expenditure for the year was £54,385 7*s.* 4*d.* as compared with £31,815 8*s.* 2*d.* in 1897.

Public Works.

Necessary repairs to public buildings, wharves, and lighthouses were executed during the year, involving an expenditure of £743 14*s.*

The new cemetery at Choc was completed at a total cost of £1,431 8*s.* 10*d.*

Dredging operations in the harbour were confined to the removal of obstructions to traffic, no fresh ground being broken.

Sanitary works were commenced at the villages of Dennery and Gros Islet, and good progress made in the reclamation of the swamps to the windward of both places.

A sum of £3,212 0*s.* 6*d.* was expended on the maintenance of the roads throughout the Island. One new highway and eleven bye-ways were also taken in hand. The hurricane of the 11th September caused much damage to both roads and bridges, involving an extraordinary expenditure up to the 31st December of £3,236 16*s.* The opening of new tracks where the roads had disappeared, the excavation of the silted rivers, the removal of landslips and general repairs were promptly commenced and carried on in a satisfactory manner.

On the 1st July the maintenance of the waterworks became a charge on the general revenue of the Colony pending a decision as to the handing over of the concern to the municipal authorities. A meter house with 3 meters was erected; a supply of water was laid on to the Royal Gaol; and the reservoir, filter beds, town mains, pipe lines, and head works were maintained in an efficient condition.

Considerable damage was done to the works by the hurricane and floods in September, but the whole was repaired at a cost of £200.

House connections with the mains in Castries not having yet been made, the revenue for the works was derived solely from the water supplied to the shipping, from the sale of which £1,338 17*s.* 3*d.* was received.

IMMIGRATION.

On the 10th December 1898 the 158 indentured coolies remaining in the Colony under their first term of service, namely, five years, completed their term of indenture and were then free to dispose of their labour as they pleased, although still bound to remain in the Island for a further period of five years.

The total coolie population in the Colony is estimated at from 2,000 to 2,500, and of these, some 740 are still bound by their contracts to remain in the Island for periods varying from two to five years.

St. Lucia, 1898.

The Protector reports that the general health of the people under his care was satisfactory. On the 31st December 1897 the indentured coolies numbered 153, namely, 85 male and 39 female adults, 1 male and 1 female minors, and 27 infants. During the year 1898 there were 7 births, or a rate of 4·57 per cent., and 2 deaths, a rate of 1·25 per cent., leaving 158 alive on 10th December when their period of indenture came to an end.

The Immigration Fund was credited during the year with the following amounts :—

	£	s.	d.
Duty on exported sugar	1,518	19	8
" " " cocoa	370	8	6
" " " molasses	67	16	6
" " imported tobacco (unmanufactured)	3,283	15	0
Total	£5,240	19	8

Coal.

The coaling trade of St. Lucia is increasing slowly but surely, and quick despatch coupled with comparative immunity from dues is inducing steamers in want of bunker coals to give the Port of Castries the preference over other coaling stations in the West Indies.

In 1897, 63,902 tons of coal were imported and 78,600 exported.

In 1898, 76,046 tons were imported and 73,411 exported. On every ton or fraction of a ton of coal discharged a harbour due of 6*d.* (sixpence) is levied and paid by the ship discharging. A duty of 6*d.* (sixpence) per ton is in addition paid by the importer.

The revenue derived from this source in 1897 was £3,195 ; in 1898, £3,802.

Of the 73,411 tons shipped in 1898, 13,985 were put on board men-of-war and transports and 59,426 on trading vessels.

Agriculture.

Sugar.

The Usine sugar crop of the year 1898 was an improvement on that of 1897, and the output from the four central factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieuxfort, and Dennery being 4,513 tons as

against 3,962 tons in 1897 and 3,055 tons in 1896. The production of Muscovado sugar is still on the decline; the exports for 1898 being 680,900 pounds as against 1,025,360 pounds in 1897 and 1,104,300 pounds in 1896.

Cocoa.

The year opened full of promise to the cocoa planters; the preliminary or "small" crop being almost unexampled in quantity, the prices good, and the prospects for the main crop in November—December most encouraging. Owing to the dry weather continuing till the end of May the main crop was later than usual, and when the hurricane occurred in September there was a larger quantity of young pods and flowers on the trees than is customary at that time of year. The destruction caused by the force of the wind, the landslips, and the overflowing streams was in many places distressingly complete, and the general crop throughout the Island is estimated to have perished to the extent of at least one-third.

Coffee.

The extension of this cultivation has received a decided check owing to the depressed state of the home and the local markets which have been flooded with low class Brazilian coffees. The experimental growings in St. Lucia will not be extended under existing conditions.

Other Minor Products.

The cultivation of nutmegs, kola, turmeric, musk seed, annatto, vanilla, tea, sarsaparilla, tobacco, india-rubber, rice, and ginger is still in the experimental stage. The reports on ginger and tobacco are alone encouraging; the small markets available for some of the other products, and the length of time before others could become remunerative, being deterrent to the enterprise of small cultivators.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Generally speaking, the prospects of the Colony are good; and although the effects of the disastrous hurricane of the 11th September will continue to be felt for many years, yet, with the prospect of a continuation of the present prices of sugar and cocoa, with the certainty of an increased demand for local produce in the Castries market, owing to the augmentation of the garrison and the increasing popularity of the port, and with the assistance to be given by the Imperial Department of Agriculture, the outlook may be regarded with some confidence. The efforts of the local Government are being steadily directed towards the encouragement of the settlement of the Crown lands by the

industrious peasantry, and a distinct advance in this direction is being made. The counter attractions of the gold mines in French Guiana, the employment on the sugar estates, the high wages to be gained on the military works, and the remunerative trade of the coal carriers still interfere to a large extent with the permanent settlement of peasant proprietors, and the fear of a land tax is a powerful deterrent to many who would be otherwise desirous of purchasing their own holdings.

Want of capital, so common a feature in West Indian Islands, is a serious hindrance to the development of this small estate of the British Empire; and in the purchase of the virgin lands of the Colony, in the cultivation of those tropical products for which a remunerative market may exist, and in the raising of stock on the good pasture which can be easily established, there exists undoubtedly a good opening for the investment of capital. The labour market is at present restricted and is barely sufficient for the agricultural needs of the Colony; but any serious undertaking backed by a sufficiency of capital to ensure continuous and remunerative employment would find no difficulty in attracting the superabundant labouring population of the neighbouring Island of Barbados. The climate and conditions of life are not favourable to the employment of white labour. In addition to the settlement of the Crown lands, the energies of the Government are specially devoted to the improvement of communications between the several country districts and the market towns. New roads have been constructed, and a marked improvement has been effected in all the existing routes. There is much yet to be done, but in the still critical condition of the Colony's finances, progress must continue to be slow. A most gratifying feature in the improvement in the social condition of the people is the well-marked advance in the knowledge of the English language, especially in the country districts, where for so long the uncivilized patois has been the only known means of verbal communication. Special efforts are being made to extend the knowledge of English, with the result that among the rising generation it is becoming more familiar.

Under existing impoverished conditions the development of the undeniable resources of the Island must of necessity be slow; but if for the next few years St. Lucia is spared from those awful visitations of flood and tempest wherein in a few hours the labours of a life-time are destroyed, the material progress of the Colony, although slow, will be, under a Divine Providence, distinctly marked.

C. A. King-Harman,

Administrator.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

1899.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 280.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 247.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,

December 1899.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1899.

[Cd. 3-3.] *Price* 2*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
253	Labuan	1897
254	Ceylon	"
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898
260	Niger.—West African Frontier Force ...	1897–98
261	Jamaica	"
262	Barbados	1898
263	Falkland Islands	"
264	Gambia	"
265	St. Helena	"
266	Leeward Islands	"
267	St. Lucia	"
268	Fiji	"
269	Turks and Caicos Islands...	"
270	Malta	"
271	Gold Coast	"
272	Trinidad	"
273	Sierra Leone	"
274	Ceylon	"
275	British Solomon Islands	1898–99
276	Gibraltar	1898
277	Bahamas	"
278	British Honduras	"
279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica...	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

No. 280.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 247.)

ACTING-GOVERNOR THOMPSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

St. Vincent,
29th September 1899.

Forwarded.

HARRY THOMPSON,
Administrator,
Windward Islands.

Government Office, Grenada,
28th September 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Blue Book relating to this Colony for the year 1898, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

His Honour
The Administrator of the
Windward Islands, &c., &c., &c.,
St. Vincent.

3931—800—10/99 Wt 21935 D & S—5 (B)

GRENADA. 1898.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1898.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue of the year 1898 was £62,875, being £5,902 more than in 1897 and £3,352 more than the average of the last five years' revenue, which was as follows :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1894	63,022
1895	58,468
1896	56,275
1897	56,973
1898	62,875

2. The following comparative statement of the revenues of 1897 and 1898, under the principal heads of account, shows that the satisfactory results of last year were chiefly attributable to the receipts from Customs duties, which exceeded those of 1897 by £6,421, and, it may be added, the estimate for the year by a corresponding amount, the increase being in import duties. The decrease shown under Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue does not indicate the loss of that amount, but is traceable to a change made in the period for the collection of the land and house tax, which carried uncollected arrears into the transactions of the current year, when they have been fully dealt with.

Head of Revenue.	1898.	1897.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	32,713	26,292	6,421	—
2. Licences, Excise, &c.	24,757	25,793	—	1,036
3. Fees of Office, &c.	1,250	1,002	248	—
4. Post Office	1,140	1,188	—	48
4A. Sale of the 4th Centenary Commemoration Stamp.	528	—	528	—
5. Telephone	1,094	1,054	40	—
Carried forward ...	61,482	55,329	7,237	1,084

Head of Revenue.	1898.	1897.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	61,482	55,329	7,237	1,084
6. Rent of Government Property	367	324	43	—
7. Interest and Sinking Funds ...	770	1,241	—	471
8. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	186	50	136	—
9 Land Sales	70	29	41	—
Total	62,875	56,973	7,457	1,555
	56,973	—	1,555	—
Increase in 1898 ...	5,902	—	5,902	—

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure of 1898 amounted to £57,612, being £937 less than in 1897 and £2,379 less than the average of the last five years, the total results of which were as follows :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1894	59,594
1895	63,675
1896	60,523
1897	58,549
1898	57,612

4. Comparing details with those of 1897, as below, it will be seen that, as the result of enforced economy, savings were effected under nearly every head, the exceptions, Treasury and Post Office and Public Works Extraordinary, being due to the periodical payment of transit charges under the Postal Union falling due in 1898, and to the execution, at a total cost of £1,441, of important and absolutely necessary works for the protection of the towns of Gouyave and Victoria from flooding by the rivers adjacent thereto, the previous embankment walls of boulders having been destroyed by a flood in December 1897.

GRENADA. 1898.

The expenditure under "Agricultural" only represents the disbursements up to the 30th of September, as the cost of the Botanic Station for the last quarter of the year, £128, has been refunded by the Imperial Government. In future this refund will be shown under revenue as a grant-in-aid.

Head of Expenditure.	1898.	1897.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	6,428	6,428	—	—
2. Pensions...	833	838	—	5
3. The Governor and Legislature.	2,028	2,004	24	—
4. Colonial Secretary ...	1,819	1,766	53	—
5. Treasury, Customs, &c.	5,851	4,911	940	—
6. Audit Department ...	520	543	—	23
7. Legal Department ...	4,965	4,987	—	22
8. Police and Excise ...	4,544	4,825	—	281
9. Prisons	1,001	1,229	—	228
10. Medical	7,448	7,536	—	88
11. Education	5,264	6,104	—	840
12. Ecclesiastical	495	496	—	1
13. Charitable	480	480	—	—
14. Agricultural	430	525	—	95
15. Telephone	1,055	1,078	—	23
16. Public Works Department	752	954	—	202
17. Miscellaneous Services...	3,999	4,231	—	232
18. Public Works Recurrent	6,908	7,608	—	700
19. Public Works Extraordinary.	2,792	2,006	786	—
Total	57,612	58,549	1,803	2,740
	—	57,612	—	1,803
Decrease in 1898 ...	—	937	—	937

Changes in Taxation.

5. Important changes in the incidence of the house tax, and in the method of levying and collecting that and the land tax, came into operation and were on their trial during the year, although, as the collection of arrears was necessarily carried into the current year, their full effect was not realised in 1898. Briefly stated, these changes had for their object (*a*) the exemption from taxation of the huts of labourers of the poorest class; (*b*) the creation of a progressive scale of house taxation so that the contributions of all classes to general revenue under this head should be more adequately proportioned to their means than hitherto; (*c*) the alteration of the time of payment of the tax from the early months to the concluding months of the year, when it is known that the proceeds of the cocoa crop are more likely to be in circulation; (*d*) the allowing of payment by two instalments within the prescribed time; (*e*) the assessment of house values and land extent by actual inspection of an officer upon the spot instead of only from the returns of the proprietors themselves; and (*f*) a rigid enforcement of payment of arrears against those who are able to pay and will not, by providing that, notwithstanding an abortive sale of a defaulter's property, arrears may be treated as a judgment debt to the Crown, and enforced accordingly by the legal process usual in such cases.

6. It is gratifying to record that, except in one district where details have not been satisfactorily attended to, these measures have been crowned with success. The final returns now being made indicate that the margin of irrecoverable arrears is very small, that the tax has been willingly paid in most cases, and that the changes have not resulted in loss of revenue. Comparing these results with those of 1895 and 1896, there is good cause for satisfaction.

Assets and Liabilities.

7. In the course of the year, which opened with a deficit of £4,040, the Colony emerged from the financial difficulties of 1896 and 1897, and the transactions of 1898 closed, according to the subjoined statement, with a surplus of assets of £985.

[*For tabulated Statement see p.* 8.]

ASSETS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in Treasury Chest		2,321 6 3
Cash in Colonial Bank on Deposit Account ...	*2,306 1 6	
" " " Current " ...	2,361 13 9	
		4,667 15 3
Investment: South Australian Government 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value £3,804 1[illegible]. 11*d.*)		†4,000 0 0
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not yet brought to account :—		
Loans to Parochial Boards from General Revenue	417 1 5	
Distillery Apparatus Advance Account ...	19 16 6	
Trinidad and Tobago Account	24 0 0	
Crown Agent's Current Account	282 11 10	
Other Advances...	1,371 16 4	
		2,115 6 1
Arrears of Revenue :—		
Interest on Loans to Parochial Boards Arrears Account	1,569 19 4	
Sinking Funds on Loans to Parochial Boards Arrears Account	409 9 1	
		1,979 8 5
Remittances in Transit		2,000 0 0
		£17,083 16 0

LIABILITIES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits as follows:—		
Supreme Court Account	1,814 8 2	
Post Office Account (Money Orders, &c.) ...	1,331 1 1	
Parochial Boards Loan Works Account ...	986 5 11	
Public Works Loan Works Account ...	924 10 7	
Governor-in-Chief's Office Fund	88 13 6	
St. George's Town Fund	740 19 0	
Savings Bank Account	‡8,451 2 8	
Storm Damages Account	19 4 0	
St. Paul's Water Supply Account	650 18 6	
St. Lucia Account	17 16 8	
St. Vincent Account	123 3 7	
Suspense Account	278 15 9	
Other Deposits	365 19 1	
		15,792 18 6
Sinking Fund of St. George's Town Board for redemption of the Loan of £1,000 from the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Company, Ltd.		306 1 6
		16,099 0 0
Surplus (excess of Assets over Liabilities) ...		984 16 0
		£17,083 16 0

N.B.—The value of Stores at the Public Works Department is estimated at £1,046 16*s.* 10*d.*

* £2,000 Savings Bank Funds; £306 1*s.* 6*d.* Sinking Fund, St. George's Town Board. † Savings Bank Funds. ‡ £6,000 invested (*see* Assets).

It is to be noted that if in this statement, as has hitherto been customary, account had been taken of the arrears of revenue of 1898 payable at the end of the year by local authorities, the surplus would be £2,265.

Public Debt.

8. The public debt of Grenada at the end of 1898 stood at £127,670, of which £123,670 was in 4 per cent. inscribed stock and £4,000 in 4½ per cent. debentures. The sinking fund for the redemption of the stock amounted at the same date to £6,497, and of the debentures to £28. In the latter case £200 worth of debentures have been already redeemed from the fund.

9. The Colony is also liable for the repayment in March 1903 of a loan of £1,000 borrowed in 1879 for the St. George's Water Works. The sinking fund in the hands of the Government for its redemption amounted at the end of the year to £306.

10. Although the general revenue is primarily chargeable with the repayment of the whole of the public debt of £127,670, local authorities are responsible for £26,205 of the amount. With one exception, the debt charges are fairly well paid by these Boards, although delay sometimes occurs in refunding them to Government.

Revenue and Expenditure of Town Boards.

11. A comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the Boards charged with the administration of the several towns of the Colony is subjoined :—

[*For tabulated Statement see p.* 10.]

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	2,355	2,298	2,477	3,049	2,158	2,423	1,470	1,978	3,021	2,033
Grenville	1,313	1,024	885	919	946	1,267	1,129	905	829	953
Sauteurs...	519	433	449	463	480	547	395	465	412	556
Victoria	286	337	262	270	281	289	381	300	260	291
Gouyave	544	500	623	557	529	550	551	562	604	477
Hillsborough	196	175	133	132	128	168	156	202	125	147

Debts of Town Boards.

12. The debts of the Town Boards are as follows :—

	£
St. George's	6,981
Grenville	13,270
Sauteurs	1,100
Victoria	1,414
Gouyave	3,564
Hillsborough	600
Total	£26,929

In the case of St. George's, Sauteurs, and Hillsborough, provision is fully made by sinking fund contributions for the repayment of the town debt; £3,304 of the Gouyave debt is similarly provided for, and £260 is being repaid by annual instalments of £10; at Victoria, £1,384 is arranged for by sinking fund, and £30 by annual instalments of £10; in regard to Grenville, however, only £950 of the debt, a loan incurred for repair of the jetty, can be said to be satisfactorily provided for, as although, nominally, provision is made for repayment either by sinking fund or instalments of the remainder of the debt, these are only partially paid up. The finances and working of these Boards are at present the subject of an enquiry by a Commission, whose report will soon be presented.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

13. A statement showing the total value of the imports and exports of the Colony in the last four years, classified as usual, is appended, 1898 being the fourth year in which the statistical value of the trade was arrived at by adding customary charges to prime values :—

[*For tabulated Statement see p.* 12.]

Classes.	Imports.				Exports.			
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
CLASS I.								
Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics...	85,115	71,043	76,598	89,0[illegible]	162,944	175,647	148,907	252,263
CLASS II.								
Raw materials	17,089	11,410	10,656	16,467	7,705	6,458	4,314	4,754
CLASS III.								
Manufactured articles	73,508	71,952	77,102	102,028	1,171	599	274	185
CLASS IV.								
Coin and bullion	—	—	—	3,260	200	1,179	944	72
Totals	175,712	154,405	164,356	210,783	172,020	183,883	154,439	257,274

14. It will be seen that the imports exceeded those of the preceding year by £46,427 in value, an increase appearing under every class, but most noticeable under manufactured articles, which exhibit an increase of £24,926 over the results of 1897. The following list of principal articles imported in the two years indicates the chief directions in which this increase took place :—

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1897.	1898.
CLASS I.	£	£
Butter	1,177	869
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon, mackerel, &c.).	10,550	12,687
Flour (wheaten)	23,158	26,874
Meat (salted or preserved)	6,192	7,624
Oats	2,030	2,590
Oleomargarine, &c.	2,483	2,822
Rice	5,022	4,880
Spirits	2,296	3,291
Sugar	3,121	4,958
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	2,329	2,513
Wines	1,762	1,795
CLASS II.		
Petroleum oil...	1,892	2,540
Timber and shingles...	6,754	9,165
CLASS III.		
Textile manufactures, other than rope and cordage.	50,921	55,833
Metal manufactures	7,398	19,834

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1897.	1898.
CLASS III.—*cont.*	£	£
Boots and shoes	4,765	4,373
Earthen and glass ware	1,941	2,437
Soap	2,162	2,921
CLASS IV.		
Coin and bullion	—	3,260

15. While the increase in the amount of imports, particularly under Class III., may be taken as the result of the return of the Colony to prosperity coincidently with the good cocoa crop and high prices realised for that staple in 1897–98, it is believed that the increase under Class I., so far as foodstuffs from the United States of America are concerned, is evidence of a change in local conditions which is gradually but effectively taking place. With the extension of cocoa and nutmeg cultivation less land in the interior is available for the labouring class to cultivate ground provisions, the quantity of which in the local market is consequently diminishing while the price rises, and the people are thus compelled to resort more and more to imported food. With a population increasing at the rate of about 1,200 per annum, and bearing in mind that the nature of the staple cultivation permanently absorbs the land as soon as it is established in full growth, it is not improbable that a few more years will witness a migration of the people within the island the converse of that which has taken place under the influence of the cultivation of cocoa and nutmegs, that is to say, from the interior to the lands lying along the southern, eastern, and northern seaboard, which were formerly beneficially occupied as sugar estates, but which, being only partially suited for cocoa, are now for the most part uncultivated.

16. The value of the exports for the year was £257,274, being £102,835 more than in 1897, and higher than in any year since 1893, when they reached (without the addition of usual charges) £316,063. The following comparative statement of the principal articles produced by the Colony which were exported in the last four years shows that a marked increase took place under cocoa and spices, the chief staples, the result of good crops

and satisfactory prices. It will be observed, on the other hand, that the export of kola nuts, coffee, and logwood is dwindling under the influence of prices which offer no inducement to cultivators :—

—	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	138,520	159,519	132,642	227,655
Spices	20,984	12,424	13,503	22,107
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,563	4,474	2,720	3,134
Live stock...	1,385	1,304	1,230	1,211
Firewood	466	538	605	476
Fruit	584	880	540	427
Poultry	204	235	226	166
Turtle and turtle shell ...	265	291	270	406
Kola nuts	133	180	88	43
Coffee	66	217	283	59
Logwood	1,733	372	302	54

17. The next table shows the volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the four years under review, and indicates that no change worthy of notice took place in 1898 in the normal division of the trade between the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and Foreign Countries:—

—	Imports.				Exports.			
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	78,079	66,485	78,893	98,626	140,736	169,499	138,656	243,574
British Colonies ...	42,151	42,504	40,126	55,254	5,616	5,790	4,283	3,307
Foreign Countries ...	55,482	45,416	45,337	56,903	25,668	8,594	11,500	10,393
Totals ...	175,712	154,405	164,356	210,783	172,020	183,833	154,439	257,274

18. The foreign countries with which the Colony trades, and the amount of trade with each such country in each of the last four years, are shown below:—

Foreign Countries.	Imports.				Exports.			
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	54,735	44,873	44,529	56,073	4,687	6,300	8,106	8,818
France and French Colonies	404	264	381	350	20,664	2,107	3,026	1,335
Holland and Dutch Colonies	110	168	67	234	—	—	9	—
Danish Colonies	28	21	360	207	—	—	—	—
Venezuela	201	89	—	38	278	146	59	116
Italy	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	—	—	39	41	300	—
Totals	55,482	45,416	45,337	56,902	25,668	8,594	11,500	10,269

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Cocoa.

19. The weather of the year prevented the realisation of such a large crop as in 1896–97, a severe drought being experienced from March to June, which seriously affected the estates on the lowlands. For the year ended 30th September 1898 the crop was 53,384 bags, or 1,213 less than in the preceding year. Prices were, however, satisfactory throughout the year, never falling below 68*s*. per cwt., and once, in January, going as high as 83*s*. for the best grades.

20. As remarked in last year's report, greater attention is being paid to cultivation of cocoa in Grenada than formerly, and this year Dr. Morris, the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, has done good service by drawing attention to the best methods of treating the older trees, which from neglect no longer yield the results to be expected from them.

Spices.

21. The same cause which reduced the cocoa crop proved beneficial to that of nutmegs and mace, as the higher lands on which these staples are mostly grown suffer frequently from excess of moisture, and the dry weather removed this drawback. The result was the exceptional export of 4,373 cwt. of spices, as against 2,505 cwt. in 1897 and an average of 2,533 cwt. in the five preceding years.

Sugar Cane.

22. The cane crop of 1898 almost entirely failed owing to the spell of drought. There never is a large area under cultivation in cane, as the sole objects are to provide sugar and to manufacture rum for local consumption by the labouring class. The collapse of the cultivation in 1898 resulted in the importation of 397,740 lbs. of muscovado sugar as against 91,892 lbs. in 1897, and of 3,256 gallons of rum, the latter being the first importation of the kind for many years. Only 32,662 gallons of rum were manufactured locally in the year, a decrease of 24,744 gallons as compared with 1897, and this was chiefly distilled from imported molasses, 8,190 gallons of which were brought into the Colony, as compared with 419 gallons in the preceding year.

Botanical Station.

23. Great efforts were made during the year to instruct the peasantry in sound methods of cultivation, and with this object 61 days were spent by the Curator in the rural districts giving lectures on agricultural subjects and practical hints on the spot as

to the cultivation of economic plants. Large quantities of valuable plants were distributed to planters in different parts of the Colony, and in this connection should be mentioned the attempt made to plant up swampy areas with eucalyptus and melaleuca trees, the seeds being imported by the Governor from Australia for the purpose; altogether 1,008 of these trees were planted under the superintendence of the Curator of the station, besides numerous plants distributed to planters. Interesting leaflets on grape culture, cocoa cultivation, and other subjects were freely distributed in the Colony.

24. On the 1st of October the direct control of the work of the station passed into the hands of Dr. Morris, the newly-appointed Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, and the cost of the station became a charge upon the Imperial grant-in-aid, which is to be made for ten years to this and other British Colonies in the Caribbean Sea.

SHIPPING.

25. The following comparative statement of the total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years shows that the results of the year under review were less than in the preceding year and below the average. This falling off is difficult to understand, bearing in mind the increase of the Colony's trade in 1898; and no satisfactory explanation is forthcoming:—

Year.	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1894	241,862	238,893
1895	254,977	255,177
1896	221,395	224,333
1897	220,179	223,629
1898	216,192	218,006
Average ...	230,921	232,008

A table is subjoined distinguishing the nationalities of the vessels in 1897 and 1898:—

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1897.			1898.			1897.			1898.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	209,922	9,563	219,485	200,581	8,874	209,455	213,421	9,457	222,878	202,500	9,052	211,552
Foreign, viz. :—	—	694	694	5,091	1,646	6,737	—	751	751	5,091	1,363	6,45[illegible]
United States of America.	—	282	282	5,091	1,233	6,324	—	282	282	5,091	953	6,044
Holland ...	—	307	307	—	323	323	—	364	364	—	320	320
Venezuela ...	—	105	105	—	90	90	—	105	105	—	90	90

A feature of this return is the appearance for the first time of steam tonnage under the flag of the United States of America, caused by the registration for a part of the year of an American vessel as a regular trader with the island.

LEGISLATION.

26. Nine Ordinances were passed in the year, the most important of which were measures regulating the issue of patents in the Colony, and assimilating the local law respecting landlord and tenant more closely to the English law. Under the first mentioned law it is now possible for a patent to be taken out both easily and cheaply, and the previous lengthy and expensive procedure of passing a separate Ordinance for each patent applied for is rendered unnecessary; the second simplifies the procedure between landlord and tenant, and brings the colonial law up to date in this respect.

27. A new edition of the Statute Laws of the Colony, compiled by Sir Joseph Hutchinson when Chief Justice, was brought into operation on January 20th. This work is of the greatest importance and benefit to the community, for apart from the convenience resulting from consolidation of numerous short and scattered enactments (there having been no compilation since 1875, and that most imperfect), useful and much needed measures are now included, such as a criminal code, a code of criminal procedure, an evidence code, &c.

EDUCATION.

28. The principal figures relating to primary education in Grenada in the year 1898 are tabulated below and compared with the results of the preceding year. It will be observed that while another school was added last year, and while a marked increase in the number of scholars took place, the expenditure and Government contribution were much less than in 1897. Compared with the figures of 1896, when the Government contributed £5,793 to the expenditure, the marked effect of the operation of the education code of that year in the direction of much needed economy will be seen :—

[*For tabulated Statement see p.* **22.**]

Primary Schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools	9	1,025	956	1,981	1,005	187	1,089	Nil.	1,276
Grant-in-aid Schools :—									
Anglican	7	801	619	1,420	825	118	724	„	842
Roman Catholic	15	1,847	2,091	3,938	1,953	98	1,549	„	1,647
Wesleyan	4	415	311	726	458	48	490	„	538
Church of Scotland	2	178	143	321	157	10	125	„	136
Miscellaneous receipts and disbursements	—	—	—	—	—	—	70	„	70
Totals for 1898	37	4,266	4,120	8,386	4,398	461	4,047	„	4,509
„ 1897	36	3,988	3,597	7,585	3,943	354	4,861	„	5,215
Increase in 1898	1	278	523	301	455	107	—	„	—
Decrease „	—	—	—	—	—	—	814	„	706

29. A similar table exhibiting the statistics of secondary education for the last two years is appended. Here a slight increase is shown under every head of the total results :—

Secondary Schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
Grant in-aid Schools :—					£	£	£	£
St. George's Grammar School	44	—	44	37	242	423	19	659
Girls' Ligh School...	—	49	49	37	201	75	7	256
St. Joseph's Convent School	9	62	71	58	99	100	20	83
Totals for 1898	53	111	164	132	542	598	46	998
" 1897	43	87	130	121	466	573	45	913
Increase in 1898	10	24	34	11	76	25	1	85

30. It will be noticed that Government contributes two-thirds of the cost of the boys' grammar school, but, although this is the case, there is no Government control of the expenditure or of the management of the school. If, as is the wish of the governing body, the institution could be taken over by the Government, it would largely conduce to its efficiency.

31. There are no industrial, technical, or agricultural schools in the Colony at present, but the question of the latter is engaging the earnest consideration of the Government, and it is hoped that some arrangement may be arrived at in connection with the primary schools which will secure the inculcation of at all events the rudiments of scientific agriculture among the rising generation of the peasantry.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Colony Hospital.

32. The number of patients treated during the year was 792, of whom 442 were discharged cured, 179 relieved or not improved, 74 died, and 97 remained in hospital at end of the year; the daily average was 91, and the daily cost per patient about a shilling. The general health of the institution was good with the exception of the last two months of the year, when there was an outbreak of diarrhœa, which the house surgeon is inclined to attribute to intermittent water supply. The provision of a tank with a reserve supply of water is engaging consideration.

Yaws Hospital.

33. The old ordnance store, formerly used for this hospital, was re-occupied on the 7th of March 1898, so that more accommodation became available than at the smaller building used since 1896 during the reconstruction of the Colony Hospital buildings. 113 patients were treated, of whom 55 were cured, 10 relieved, 2 died, and 46 remained in hospital; the daily average was 38, and the daily cost per patient 7¼*d*. The treatment of the disease by thyroid was adopted in certain cases, but no definite opinion as to its merits was formed.

St. Andrew's District Hospital.

34. Only 109 cases were treated, as the institution was closed for about a month to be painted. Of these, 67 were cured, 25 relieved, 2 not relieved, 6 died, and 9 remained in hospital. The daily average was 10.

Carriacou District Hospital.

35. 161 cases were treated, of which 109 were discharged cured, 25 relieved, 7 not improved, 3 died, and 22 remained at end of the year; the daily average was 14. The accommodation at this hospital was increased by four beds by a slight

rearrangement of the partitions, the addition being necessary as this institution is also occasionally used by the people of the southern Grenadine Islands attached to St. Vincent, with whose medical supervision the District Medical Officer at Carriacou is now entrusted. The situation of the building unfortunately renders it accessible to malaria from adjacent swamps, and its removal to a more salubrious locality is under consideration.

Lunatic Asylum.

36. 135 patients were under treatment, 35 of whom were admitted in the year, being 14 from Grenada, 11 from St. Lucia, and 10 from St. Vincent; 7 of these 35 were persons who had formerly been under treatment in the institution. There were 7 patients discharged, 5 as cured, 1 relieved, and 1 not improved; and there were 7 deaths, as against 16 in 1897. The sanitary condition and health of the institution are reported to have been excellent throughout the year. The north wing of the asylum was re-roofed and repaired.

37. A large number of the patients were usefully employed in work, such as washing and repairing clothing, cooking, cultivating provisions for food, and procuring wood for fuel. The value of their work is estimated at £173.

38. The increased number of inmates has brought about a reduction in cost of maintenance of each individual, which has enabled the Government to further reduce the annual charge made to the other islands of the Windward group for the treatment of their lunatics here. This increase of the lunatic population, which continues in the present year, will soon necessitate extensive structural additions to the existing buildings, as they only accommodate 120 patients in comfort, whereas 132 are at this date in the institution, and there are several lunatics in St. Lucia and St. Vincent who cannot yet be received.

Poor House.

39. At the commencement of the year there were 44 inmates, and 21 paupers were admitted during the year. Eight inmates left voluntarily, and there were 15 deaths; the daily average was 41, and the cost of each inmate for the year £8 7*s.* 1*d.* It is a curious feature of this institution that there are nearly always vacancies in the female ward, while it is by no means uncommon for extra cases to be admitted to the male ward.

Savings Bank.

40. As is shown by the following statement of the work of the bank for the last five years, the improvement which began in the latter half of 1897 continued in 1898, and at the close of the year the bank was in a better position than before the period of financial depression through which the Colony has

GRENADA. 1898.

passed. The average balance at credit of each depositor was £8·25 as compared with £7·61 in 1897. The district branches are largely made use of by the peasants, and the number of depositors therein increased from 317. with a balance of £2,434, in 1897 to 354, with a balance of £2,425, in 1898. Of the funds of the bank £6,000 were invested at the end of 1898 :—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including Interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1894	959	7,523	7,915	7,602
1895	885	5,552	6,728	6,426
1896	895	5,026	5,062	6,390
1897	968	6,498	5,518	7,370
1898	1,053	7,803	6,722	8,451

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

41. The Colonial Police Force consists of a chief and sergeant-major of European birth and military training, and 63 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. In addition to their civil duties they are drilled and trained to the use of arms, and are armed with Martini-Henry rifles. The conduct and discipline of the force in 1898 were good, and they were put through their first course of musketry early in the year with very satisfactory results. In August they were inspected on parade and in barracks by Major-General Fowler-Butler, commanding the troops at Barbados, and he recorded that he was much pleased with all he saw, and that there was a marked advance in drilling up to date. In the principal town the detachment on duty is also responsible for extinguishing fires in the town, the Town Board supplying the necessary apparatus. The police are also charged with the supervision and control of rum distillation on which an excise duty is levied. For these purposes a Superintendent of Excise is attached to the staff under the direction of the chief.

Prisons.

42. 258 persons were committed to prison in 1898, being 43 less than in 1897 and 39 below the average of the last three years. The daily average in prison was 46, as against 63 in 1897, the

highest record being 84 in 1894. The cost of the prisons, according to the Treasury accounts, was £1,001, and the estimated value of the work done by prisoners £1,185. Satisfactory discipline was maintained, and the sanitary condition was excellent.

43. The great success of the Mark System introduced on 1st February 1888 deserves more than a passing notice. It aims at securing classification of the prisoners and remission of sentences on lines approximating to the English system, and the quality and quantity of the labour enforced are also regulated by the same means. All convicted prisoners (except first class misdemeanants, non-criminal debtors, and surety prisoners) whose sentences exceed one month are awarded marks daily in proportion to their industry, and are allowed, according to their earnings in marks, to progress through certain classes which regulate the nature of their work and confer on them trivial privileges. The lowest class, in which no privileges are allowed and in which the labour is the hardest and most monotonous, is composed of prisoners whose sentences do not exceed one month, and of those who by misconduct either do not earn enough marks to rise to a higher class or have been degraded. Prisoners sentenced to two years and upwards are in addition allowed to earn a remission not exceeding one-fourth of their sentences according to their record as shown on the mark sheets.

44. This system has fully justified its introduction. It has not only secured what it was designed to do, but its effect on the prisoners themselves has been noticeable. The interest that is taken by all but a few hardened offenders in their marks' register and in its effect upon their position and treatment in prison is most gratifying, and forfeiture of marks as a punishment is usually more dreaded by a "long sentence man" than the dark cell. In the ten years of its operation 112 licences for remission of sentences have been issued under its provisions, and of these only 32 persons (about 28 per cent.) have been subsequently reconvicted, many of those so reconvicted being of the recidivist class with previous convictions varying in number from three to thirteen.

Criminal Statistics.

45. A table is appended showing the statistics relating to crime in 1898 as compared with those in the previous four years, and it will be seen that a marked reduction is apparent under every head except offences against the person and prædial larceny, where there are slight increases. On the whole the improved financial conditions in the Colony, producing harmony and contentment among the lower classes, may be taken to have been the cause of this satisfactory result. In the case of the Magistrates' Courts the operation of the new criminal code, and of the improved tariff of fees introduced with it, have been

GRENADA. 1898.

factors in the reduction of cases, tending as they do to prevent frivolous litigation. The trivial nature of the majority of offences committed will be realised when it is seen that out of 1,094 persons convicted in the year only 222, about 20 per cent., were sent to prison :—

	Average 1894–96.	1897.	1898.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Persons brought before the Magistrates ...	2,697	2,628	2,017
Convictions	1,300	1,239	1,072
Acquittals	460	453	301
Discharged	896	887	606
Committed for trial in Supreme Court	41	49	38
Total	2,697	2,628	2,017
Supreme Court :—			
Number of persons tried	41	53	36
Convictions	25	36	22
Acquittals	9	15	9
Not prosecuted	7	2	5
Total	41	53	36
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	335	331	338
Prædial larceny	47	40	49
Other offences against property ...	272	254	161
Other offences	670	650	546
Total	1,324	1,275	1,094

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

46. The estimated population at 31st December, based upon the natural increase, and without considering emigration or immigration, of which there is little of a permanent nature, was 62,622, being an increase of 9,413 since the census of 1891. The natural increase in the year was 1,323, and the average for the previous ten years, 1,169. The birth rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 42·17, and the death rate, 20·85.

Public Health.

47. Apart from whooping cough and a mild visitation of influenza the Colony was free in 1898 from epidemic disease, and the general health was good.

Sanitation.

48. There is a General Board of Health for the Colony and the several Town and Road Boards control under its direction sanitation in the towns and rural districts respectively. On the whole their work is satisfactorily done, although there are instances of neglect which might be remedied. In the towns, sanitary conditions, although largely open to improvement, are at all events kept in view, and an effort is made to sustain them in efficiency, but, except in isolated and special cases, little attention is paid to such matters in the country. Fortunately, the natural conditions are excellent, and the mountainous nature of the island is of itself a great aid to proper drainage.

Climate.

49. The rainfall for the year, although up to the average, was most uneven in its incidence. At the meteorological station in the south of the island 81·77 inches were recorded as compared with 83·64 in the previous year, but in March, April, and May there was a spell of drought, only ·77 inches of rain being recorded in the last mentioned month against 5·88 inches in 1897, while in August no less than 19·11 inches were recorded, 8·16 inches being the previous year's record. At Carriacou, in the extreme north of the Colony, the rainfall was 80·28 inches, and in the centre of Grenada, 166·45 inches.

50. The mean temperature was normal, being 78·9°, the maximum, 88·2°, being recorded in March and September, and

GRENADA. 1898.

the minimum, 68·4°, in August. This, it should be stated, is the temperature at the meteorological station, 506 feet above sea level and a cool breezy site; in the lowlands the temperature is higher, but 93° is about the average highest record there.

51. The direction and force of the wind in the year were normal, the prevailing wind being the north-east trade. The 11th of September, the day of the great hurricane in St. Vincent, was stormy, the wind varying from north-west to west, but no damage was done here. As hurricanes are usually formed in the Atlantic to the north of 12° of north latitude, which passes through the south of Grenada, there seems to be some reason for hoping that the island is likely to escape a severe visitation of that kind. The records indicate that none of the hurricanes which were experienced in other parts of the West Indies in the past did serious damage here, the great storm of 1780, which took place during the second French occupation, being apparently the one most felt.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

52. In the work of the Post Office taken altogether there was an increase of business in the year, the only noticeable decrease being under inland money orders, which were £142 less than in 1897. The revenue of the office was £1,140 against £1,188 in the preceding year, a slight falling off, which was caused by the issue in August of a special 2½*d.* stamp, designed by Lady Moloney, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the island by Columbus. The sales of this issue, which amounted to £528, diminished the sale of the ordinary 2½*d.* stamp.

53. An exchange of money orders with the Dominion of Canada through the intermediary of the Barbados Post Office was arranged in May, and on Christmas Day the Imperial Penny Post came into operation with the Mother country and those Colonies who adopted it, as also the improved triple scale of parcel post with the United Kingdom.

54. The revenue of the Telephone Department was £1,094, and the expenditure (including the charges on loan for construction) was £1,054. Eight new installations were supplied in the year, and at its close there were 157 connections to the exchanges, using 172 instruments. Tortuous roads, abundant vegetation and overhanging trees, heavy rainfall inducing frequent landslips, and the great distances to be travelled by the inspectors between the centres and the numerous country residences supplied with instruments, render it anything but an easy task to maintain the system in efficiency, but that satisfactory results are on the

whole obtained is evidenced by the steady demand for new connections and the adherence of old renters, notwithstanding grievances and complaints both imaginary and genuine.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

55. There is no military force, either of the regular army, militia, or volunteers, in the Colony. As mentioned above, the police are drilled and trained to the use of arms, so as to be available in emergencies. A Bill was introduced by the Government in the Legislative Council in the course of the year with the view to enrolling a volunteer force, and the measure is under the consideration of the Council.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

56. Three fine iron bridges were completed during the year, one over the Madeys River in St. Patrick's, one over the river at Florida in St. John's, and the third over the Gouyave River, at a spot within the town of that name near to the mouth of the stream. All of these were in replacement of stone structures either irretrievably damaged or swept away by floods in the years 1895–97. Embankment walls of masonry were constructed at Victoria and Gouyave to protect those towns from the adjacent rivers during floods; the work at Gouyave was not completed in 1898, and has been continued in the current year.

57. The fourth centenary of the discovery of the island by Columbus was celebrated in August, two special holidays being granted for the purpose.

58. Mr. Charles James Tarring, who was appointed Chief Justice, *vice* Sir Joseph Hutchinson promoted to Cyprus, arrived on the 12th of January and assumed his duties.

59. The year was one of prosperity for the Colony, which under the satisfactory conditions affecting its staple products, accompanied by rigid economy in regard to its public expenditure, emerged from the financial embarrassment of the years 1895–97. One lesson to be derived from the experience of those years is that in a Colony whose chief staple is liable to such fluctuations in quantity and value a reserve fund should always be maintained as a provision for bad years.

60. The period of depression, now happily ended, has had a salutary effect on the agriculturists of the Colony, both by inducing a greater attention to cultivation and by impressing

GRENADA. 1898.

the necessity for careful expenditure in years of plenty, inasmuch as they may be followed by years of stress. An indication of this may be seen in the increased use being made by the peasants of the Savings Bank, which is being even more strongly evidenced in the current year, when the balance at credit of depositors has advanced from £8,451, as shown in paragraph 40 of this report, to £11,068.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

Grenada,
23rd September 1899.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 281.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 233.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December, 1899.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1899.

[Cd. 3-4.] *Price* 1½*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
254	Ceylon	1897
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898
260	Niger.—West African Frontier Force ...	1897–98
261	Jamaica	"
262	Barbados	1898
263	Falkland Islands	"
264	Gambia	"
265	St. Helena	"
266	Leeward Islands	"
267	St. Lucia	"
268	Fiji	"
269	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
270	Malta	"
271	Gold Coast	"
272	Trinidad	"
273	Sierra Leone	"
274	Ceylon	"
275	British Solomon Islands	1898–99
276	Gibraltar	1898
277	Bahamas	"
278	British Honduras	"
279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
280	Grenada	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland ...	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific ...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands... ...	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

No. 281.

ST. VINCENT.

ST. VINCENT.
1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 233.)

ACTING GOVERNOR THOMPSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

St. Vincent,
29th September, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the St. Vincent Blue Book for 1898, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

HARRY THOMPSON,
Administrator,
Windward Islands.

3952—800—10,99 Wt 21935 D & S—5 (B)

ST. VINCENT.
1898.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1898.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The following tables give the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year 1898 as compared with 1897 :—

REVENUE.

—	1898.			1897.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	13,139	13	4	11,931	0	11
Port, harbour, &c., dues	856	7	7	811	17	8
Licences, Excise, and internal revenue	8,460	4	2	8,223	3	9
Fees of office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements in aid.	525	15	3	813	16	7
Post Office	1,690	18	2	1,973	3	1
Telephones	390	8	8	500	8	1
Rents of Government property ...	80	11	7	206	13	11
Interest	1,606	0	11	97	17	1
Miscellaneous receipts	78	17	8	202	6	9
Sales and leases of Crown lands ...	71	17	10	84	9	4
Total	26,900	15	2	24,844	17	2

EXPENDITURE.

—	1898.			1897.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Charges on account of public debt ...	2,813	14	0	1,818	7	0
Pensions	2,449	3	3	1,860	9	1
The Governor and Legislature ...	957	5	9	915	14	8
Colonial Secretary's treasury, &c., department.	1,958	10	4	2,112	18	3
Audit department	295	4	11	286	2	1
Education	2,298	1	8	2,383	3	1
Carried forward	10,771	19	11	9,376	14	2

EXPENDITURE—*cont.*

—	1898.			1897.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	10,771	19	11	9,376	14	2
Legal departments	2,534	11	9	3,526	9	0
Police	2,790	3	3	2,834	11	6
Prisons	414	7	7	551	8	10
Medical departments	1,700	17	2	1,809	11	5
Hospitals and dispensaries	2,983	12	2	2,966	11	11
Charitable	712	10	7	594	9	4
Post Office	1,523	0	3	1,531	12	5
Telephones	352	10	3	574	14	9
Botanical Station	349	8	0	321	19	9
Public works and surveys	939	5	4	1,088	10	10
Miscellaneous	1,090	15	9	1,208	17	0
Public works recurrent	1,200	5	11	1,201	1	6
Public works extraordinary	310	14	1	479	6	7
Total	27,674	2	0	27,865	19	0

During the year under review there was a further expenditure of £3,663 4*s.* 5*d.* on various services rendered necessary by the hurricane. This was defrayed from the Imperial grant of £25,000, which was placed at the disposal of the Colony, and to give an accurate total of the actual receipts and expenditure of the year this sum should be added to both statements. The figures given represent the normal expenditure, and are therefore more useful for the purposes of comparison.

The Customs receipts were £1,200 in excess of those for the former year, and this is due to import duties collected on increased quantities of lumber and food-stuffs which were required after the hurricane. Food-stuffs required to alleviate actual distress were admitted free of duty. The total duties so remitted would

have amounted to about £700. Had these duties been collected, the revenue and expenditure of the year would very nearly have balanced.

In the revenue return the item of interest and in the expenditure return the item for charges on account of public debt show a large increase. This is due to the fact that all the loan charges for which the Colony is responsible are now included in the expenditure, and a corresponding refund of those charges which are paid by local bodies is included in the revenue.

Until this year a separate account was kept of loans for which local bodies were primarily responsible.

The reduction in the amount received under the head of Fees of Office, &c., is largely due to the smallness of the receipts for hospital fees. Very few patients were able to pay anything towards their maintenance.

The fees of the Supreme Court and the Magistrates' Courts have also diminished. This is partly due to general stagnation of work, and partly to the practical suspension of all but the most urgent business during the last four months of the year in consequence of the hurricane.

Telephone receipts have decreased owing to reduced numbers of subscribers, and also because practically a quarter's rent had to be remitted while the lines were being repaired after the storm.

The receipts from rents in 1897 were abnormal, but in 1898 many rents were irrecoverable, and with the destruction of buildings we lost the rent on them.

The increase on charges on account of public debt is explained above, and, when that paper transaction is allowed for, the total normal expenditure of the Colony is far below what it has been for many years past.

The expenditure on pensions is enormous in proportion to our revenue. One pensioner in receipt of £340 a year died, and two pensioners in receipt of smaller amounts. One of them had been in enjoyment of a pension since the year 1832, but the other, who lost his life in the hurricane, had drawn it only from the 1st February.

On the other hand the Colony became liable for two large additional pensions.

With but few trifling exceptions, every head of expenditure shows a decrease on the expenditure for the preceding year, and the reduction of the expenditure on personal emoluments from £11,982 8*s.* 1*d.* in 1897 to £10,976 in 1898, is a fair criterion of the efforts at economy in administration which have recently been made.

The following table gives the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the last five years :—

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1894 ...	28,574	9	0	30,545	2	7
1895 ...	25,459	14	2	28,911	6	6
1896 ...	26,487	2	0	27,591	2	1
1897 ...	24,844	17	2	27,865	19	0
1898 ...	26,900	15	2	27,674	2	0

The deficit of £773 6*s.* 10*d.* on the transaction of the year has been met partly by the balance of the Imperial grant made towards the deficit at the end of 1897, and, partly, by a further grant of £300.

The only change in taxation during the year has been a reduction in the amount payable for a licence for the sale of intoxicating liquors in country districts. It was hoped that this measure might operate as a check on the illicit trade in spirits by increasing the number of licensed houses. It has only been partially successful. The increased income and land taxes which it was found necessary to impose in 1896, and which had hitherto been imposed from year to year, were made permanent taxes, and the addition of 10 per cent. to the Customs duties was continued for the year.

The export duties payable to general revenue on sugar and its subsidiary products were, by the Secretary of State's instructions, suspended during the year.

The excess of liabilities over assets shown in the return is £5,317 14*s.* 2*d.*, but from this should be deducted the amount of the Imperial grant-in-aid towards the deficit at the end of 1897. Pending instructions, which have now been received, this amount was treated as an advance to the Colony. The actual deficit of the Colony on the 31st December was £208 19*s.*

The total public debt for which the Colony was liable on the 31st December 1898 was £17,040. Provision has, however, been

ST. VINCENT. 1898.

made by an Imperial grant for the repayment of £5,000, which was borrowed in 1897 to provide for the deficit in 1896. The debenture holders were unwilling to be paid off before the debentures were due, and the money has been invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies until repayment can be made. The actual debt for which the Colony is responsible is therefore £12,040 only.

This sum is sub-divided as follows :—

		£
Repayable from General Revenue	...	4,240
" " Immigration Fund	...	250
" " Kingstown Fund	...	6,800
" by town of Georgetown	...	750
Total	...	£12,040

The sum repayable from General Revenue is being repaid by annual instalments of £560, and, with the exception of £1,000 borrowed in 1897, will all be repaid in 1905.

The Immigration Loan has been repaid during 1899, and it is hoped that the special taxes levied for the purpose during the year will be found to have produced a sum sufficient to cover the amount.

The Kingstown debt is being repaid in annual instalments of £550 and will be extinguished in 1913.

The Georgetown debt is being repaid in annual instalments of £50 and will be extinguished in 1913.

The municipal accounts of the small towns are in some confusion owing to the hurricane, which occurred about the time that it is usual for the Town Wardens to bring pressure for the recovery of the rates. The destruction of all property rendered any such steps impossible.

The expenditure of the town of Kingstown was in excess of its revenue, but included some items for the repair of storm damages, which have since been refunded from the sum allowed by the Imperial Government to provide for such repairs.

The Kingstown Board has some difficulty in keeping its expenditure within the amount of the revenue while it is saddled with a heavy debt charge, but it has a valuable asset in the Water Works, and I regard it as being in a sound position so long as the finances are carefully managed.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

In the return of imports the only noticeable feature is the considerable increase in the imports of almost every kind of food-stuffs and of timber. This is already explained as due to the large quantities of these articles required after the hurricane to replace the ordinary local food supplies, and to restore the damage to buildings of all kinds. The imports of white pine and pitch pine amounted to 1,458,141 feet of a value of £7,894 9*s.* 11*d.*, as compared with 609,406 feet of the value of £3,395 9*s.* 10*d.* in 1897.

When it is considered that St. Vincent has hitherto been looked upon as a sugar producing country, the statistics of the imports and exports of sugar and its subsidiary products as compared with those of 1897 are startling :—

IMPORTS.

Muscovado Sugar.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£ *s.* *d.*
1897 ...	115	0 16 6
1898 ...	202,747	1,151 10 3

Molasses.

		£ *s.* *d.*
1897 ...	Nil.	Nil.
1898 ...	—	73 10 3

Rum.

	Gallons.	£ *s.* *d.*
1897 ...	78	15 4 2
1898 ...	155	31 12 10

EXPORTS.

Muscovado Sugar.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.		
	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
1897 ...	6,411,564	25,591	18	3
1898 ...	4,176,492	14,610	5	5

Molasses.

	Gallons.	£	s.	d.
1897 ...	97,446	2,954	15	2
1898 ...	38,314	1,028	10	0

Rum.

	Gallons.	£	s.	d.
1897 ...	6,050	490	12	0
1898 ...	2,460	120	0	0

The sugar had practically all been exported before the storm, but what was left was not sufficient for local consumption and the imports were required to meet the deficiency.

The exports of our other staple product (arrowroot) show a large falling off:—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.		
	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
1897 ...	4,195,218	21,858	7	8
1898 ...	2,601,972	14,517	18	4

In consequence of the destruction of all the arrowroot works and the damage to the crop on the 11th September, just at the time when preparations were being made for reaping the new crop, there was but a small export of arrowroot of the 1898 crop before the end of the year, and a small quantity only obtained the benefit of the increased prices which were immediately quoted. The average price, as shown by the returns, was only very slightly in excess of that for 1897.

By the end of the year most of the works had been put in order, but the crop was a short one, owing partly to direct damage done by the storm and partly to the indirect damage caused by having to leave the arrowroot undug long after it was ripe.

The export of cocoa shows a decline from 264,192 lbs. to 186,766 lbs. entirely due to the storm. The exports shown were almost entirely made during the early part of the year, and there was a splendid crop on the trees when the storm came and destroyed not only the crop but in most cases the trees themselves.

To the same cause is to be attributed the falling off in the intercolonial trade in live stock and ground provisions, on which a large number of the poorer classes depended for their livelihood

The following table gives the value of imports and exports for the last five years :—

Year.	Imports.			Exports.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1894 ...	91,009	7	9	87,374	0	9
1895 ...	64,842	2	0	68,690	9	1
1896 ...	71,489	11	4	67,392	7	7
1897 ...	70,823	11	10	68,935	5	7
1898 ...	95,551	12	11	44,666	11	2

In the value of imports for 1898 I have included the sum of £7,243 7*s.* 7*d.*, the value of food-stuffs and clothing imported free of duty for relief purposes.

There is not much to call attention to in the course of trade.

The exports to all countries show a large falling off owing to the causes to which I have called attention. The trade with Venezuela was not brisk, owing to more stringent measures taken by the Venezuelan authorities to check smuggling, and our direct trade with Canada, to which I referred last year, has this year disappeared. I understand that the shipment of sugar which was made in 1897 brought no larger price than if it had been sent to New York, and that it was not so easily disposed of.

The imports from the United Kingdom show a slight decrease on those of 1897 (£27,290 compared with £28,357).

The most noticeable increase in the imports are those from the United States of America. They have increased from £6,736 14*s.* 9*d.* to £15,460 14*s.* 3*d.*, or nearly 130 per cent., and this is not the full measure of the increase, as most of the increased

St. Vincent. 1898.

imports from the British West Indies are due to products of the United States which have reached us through Barbados and other Colonies.

The increase is due to the large importations of food-stuffs and timber to which I have already referred.

The only manufacture which calls for any note is that of arrowroot. As I have said all the works were destroyed, but I think I may safely say that they have, in almost every case, been replaced by better equipped and more suitable premises and appliances. The result of these will more properly form a subject for report in the current year.

From the 1st October, the Botanical Station was taken over by the Department of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies.

There was, however, but little change to note up to the 31st December 1898, and the benefit derived from the increased expenditure on it only becomes apparent in the increased efficiency during the current year.

Much useful work was done by the Station in the distribution of plants, to assist in some measure in the restoration of agricultural industries which were almost wiped out by the storm.

Shipping.

87 steamers with a tonnage of 117,577 tons entered and cleared during the year, as compared with 82 of 111,422 tons in 1897. In both years all the vessels were British. The slight increase is due to more frequent calls by the steamers of the Quebec Line.

350 sailing vessels of 9,922 tons entered and 346 vessels of 9,749 tons cleared, as compared with 384 of 12,515 tons entered and 391 of 13,518 tons cleared in 1897.

The falling off is partly due to the fact that of the small crop of sugar a larger proportion than usual was shipped by steamers.

Almost all the shipping was British. The following table gives the total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years :—

Years.	Tons.
1894	204,099
1895	237,910
1896	273,245
1897	248,877
1898	254,825

III.—LEGISLATION.

The only important Ordinances passed during the year besides those dealing with the revenue were "The Patents Ordinance" and "The Savings Bank Ordinance."

The former makes permanent provision for the granting of patents on the lines of the English Acts in lieu of the procedure by private bills which was before necessary, and the latter consolidates and amends the law under which the Government Savings Bank is administered.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The work in country schools was practically brought to an end by the destruction of all the schools. The town schools were much damaged, but were used as temporary shelters for refugees. The masters were utilised in assisting in the distribution of relief until temporary arrangements could be made for re-opening the schools.

These temporary arrangements were made as soon as possible, but the accommodation was in most cases primitive and the schools were only useful in keeping the children together.

Serious efforts towards economy were made by the Education Board, which resulted in the number of aided schools being reduced from 44 to 36.

The Grammar School made satisfactory progress during the year.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The work in the Colonial Hospital and all the Government charitable institutions was abnormal during the year.

In the Hospital the daily average number in Hospital of 96·32 as against 60·92 in 1897 gives some idea of the work done. Up to the 10th September the daily average was about the same as in 1897, and the increase is due to the enormous numbers who were admitted after that date.

The main building of the Hospital was unroofed by the storm and the others were much damaged. Until they could be temporarily repaired much difficulty was experienced in providing accommodation for the patients.

In the out-patient department up to the 10th September 270 cases had been attended to, and after that date up to the end of the year there were 800.

After the storm temporary hospitals were opened at all important centres for the treatment of the sick and injured, but it was finally decided to open a temporary establishment in the old military hospital at Low Point, and to this were transferred all the cases from out-districts which had to be provided for.

In the pauper asylum at Fort Charlotte accommodation had to be found for a large number of people who could not otherwise be provided for. At the end of the year there were about 130 inmates, which is nearly double the number who can be properly accommodated. We have no other means of providing for them.

Savings Bank.

The Savings Bank figures show an actual increase in the number of depositors, and while the deposits were only slightly less than in 1897, the withdrawals were less by more than £600. The nett result was that at the end of the year there was £9,282 14*s.* 11*d.* to the credit of depositors, as against £8,771 3*s.* 3*d.* at the end of 1897.

It would naturally be supposed that after a disaster such as the hurricane there would be a run on the bank by depositors to withdraw their savings to help replace their losses. So far from this being the case, the Savings Bank shortly after the storm received several considerable deposits, which it is to be presumed the depositors had up to that time stored away in some place which the hurricane had rendered no longer safe.

The general conclusion to be drawn, which is borne out by an examination of the accounts, is that the bulk of the money deposited belongs to the better classes who use the Savings Bank as a temporary but safe investment for their money.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The ordinary force of police, which consists of 52 non-commissioned officers and men, was temporarily increased during the last three months of the year by 10 men to meet the increased work thrown upon the police as a consequence of the hurricane.

The statistics of crime do not compare unfavourably on the whole with other years, though under some heads the cases brought before the courts are but a small proportion of the offences actually committed.

Many persons I regret to say availed themselves of the confusion after the storm to help themselves to the wreckage which was lying about in every direction. It was impossible to protect it and there were but few prosecutions.

The most noticeable figures in the returns are those which show the increase of summary convictions for prædial larceny from 52 in 1897 to 119 in 1898. Even these latter figures do not, I fear, give a true idea of the amount of crime of this class, and there is not much doubt that the offenders have not confined their depredations to the property of the large owners. It must be disheartening for an industrious man to find the result of his labour absolutely destroyed in a night by one of these enemies of society, and to an uneducated mind such a misfortune would tend to make the sufferer follow similar courses himself. The general spread of education and a return of greater prosperity may check an evil over which the ordinary processes of law can have but little control.

The cases tried in the Superior Courts are slightly more numerous than in past years, but I do not think they are excessive. Most of the persons convicted were old offenders, whose return to prison after their release is only a question of time.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Owing to the absence of any records which would give an idea of the emigration and immigration, it is impossible to estimate the population at the 31st December, 1898, with any approach to accuracy, but I believe the figure put down—44,000—is a fair approximation.

That emigration is not reducing the natural increase of population to any very large extent is, I think, clear from the statistics of births, which have not shown any great variation in the past few years, and in 1898 were actually higher than they were in 1897.

The large increase in deaths is due to the loss of life by the hurricane. Nearly 300 persons lost their lives, and the number of deaths indirectly caused by injuries and exposure will never be known. It must, however, have been very large.

A form of dysentery was very prevalent all over the Colony after the hurricane, which was attributed to the decaying vegetation which polluted the streams. It did not last long and was not of a dangerous type.

There was the usual outbreak of a pernicious form of malarial fever in the Grenadines in the dry weather, but it was not so bad as it sometimes is.

Owing to the destruction of the observatory shed in the hurricane, the meteorological statistics are, unfortunately, incomplete. The rainfall was slightly less than was recorded last

year (104·05 inches against 109·62) but, had full records been obtainable, I think that it would not have fallen far short of last year's figures.

The actual maximum temperature recorded was 88·5° on the 30th May, and the actual minimum was 65° on the 8th and 19th March.

There was abnormal drought in the early part of the year, which caused some fears for the water supply of Kingstown, but, by judicious management, there was never any failure of the supply, and on almost the last day of the dry weather there was ample water to extinguish what might have been a dangerous fire in the centre of the town.

An interesting and valuable report of observations taken during the hurricane was prepared by the Curator of the Botanic Station, and has been published, and I do not therefore deal fully with them. The barometer fell from 29·539 at 10 a.m. to 28·509 at 11.40. This was the duration of the storm from the north. During the storm from the south, from 12.25 to 3 p.m., the barometer rose steadily.

VIII.—POSTAL.

It is to be recorded that on Christmas Day the penny scale of postage with almost every part of the Empire was brought into force.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The event in the records of St. Vincent for the year 1898 which overshadows all others is the hurricane which passed over the Colony on the 11th September. The damage that it caused, and the steps which were taken to deal with the situation which resulted from it, have formed the subject of special reports, and I do not propose to refer to it in much detail.

Its immediate effects were so far reaching that I have had to refer to it in almost every head of this report, and its ultimate effect on the future of the Colony no one can yet foresee.

Briefly stated, the hurricane left not less than 30,000 persons homeless, and, for a time, dependent on public charity for their maintenance.

The damage to property was estimated at not less than £225,000.

Owing partly to the fact that Kingstown was more substantially constructed, and partly to the fact that it was somewhat removed from the centre of the storm, the buildings in that town were not as a rule so hopelessly wrecked as in the country districts, and they afforded shelter to large numbers of refugees.

The storm came at a time when a large proportion of the population was going through a period of much suffering, owing to the failure of ground provisions in consequence of the drought in the early part of the year.

The additional distress caused by the storm, made it imperative to take immediate steps for relief, and this was done partly by providing work for those able to perform it, and partly by distributing food to those unable to work or for whom work could not be found.

Temporary shelter was provided as far as possible, and the medical staff was temporarily increased to provide attendance for the injured and suffering. Building material in small quantities was distributed, and carpenters employed in re-erecting houses.

A committee was appointed to distribute more systematically all the money which could be made available for the more permanent repair of houses, and this work is approaching completion.

The destruction of works and crops on the estates caused the proprietors for a time to consider the situation, and it was some time before they decided what work they would be justified in undertaking. The employment that might have been expected from the large estates was not, therefore, immediately available, and in the meantime the whole responsibility for employing and feeding the people was thrown upon the Government.

The funds to enable us to do this were liberally supplied by the Mother country and by the neighbouring and other colonies. Up to the 31st December subscriptions to the amount of £28,187 16*s.* 11*d.* had been received, of which £18,000 was from the Mansion House Fund, and a further sum of £25,000 was placed at our disposal by the generosity of Her Majesty's Government.

The latter sum was chiefly expended in the restoration of public works and buildings, of which a full detail will more properly appear in the Blue Book for 1899, as but few works were actually completed during the year under review.

Of the general relief fund a sum of £9,216 10*s.* 8*d.* remained unexpended at the close of the year, and almost the whole of this has now been absorbed in providing assistance in the erection of private homes and in giving relief to the sick and infirm.

Though there is still much want and distress, most districts are returning apparently to their normal state. In the lower lands the vegetation has again assumed its usual tropical luxuriance. In the centre of the Island, in the virgin forest, nature has not shown the same powers of recuperation, and the hill-sides are still brown and in parts bare where before nothing but green was to be seen.

St. Vincent. 1898.

A beginning was made of the system of settling small holders on the land in accordance with the scheme recommended by the Royal Commissioners. An inspection of suitable sites was made by Mr. Cradwick, of the Department of Public Gardens and Plantations in Jamaica, and the Commissioner of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies recommended which of these estates should be acquired for the purpose. Over 4,000 acres of land were so chosen and negotiations were begun for their acquisition. In no case, however, were these negotiations brought to a conclusion during the year, and details of the scheme will therefore more properly form a subject for the report for 1899.

Perhaps the most important direct result of the hurricane, and one which may have an even more important indirect effect on the future of the Colony, is the practical extinction of what remained of the sugar industry in St. Vincent. The crop of sugar in the ground was so seriously damaged that there was not sufficient for local consumption.

The destruction of the sugar works cleared the way for a reformation in the antiquated processes hitherto in vogue, but there does not seem much probability that central factories on a large scale will be instituted.

In one or two cases proprietors are contemplating the introduction of somewhat improved machinery, but without one or more properly equipped central factories, I believe that the production of sugar, except on a small scale for local consumption, must cease to be the staple industry of the Colony.

The industry has been in a moribund condition for many years, but, had it not been for the hurricane, it might have dragged on for a few more years and so made the transition from the old to the new order of things less abrupt than it must now be.

For the moment, the good prices for arrowroot will help both large and small proprietors, but the downward tendency in the price has already begun, and the reaping of the new crop must cause a heavy fall.

The ordinary labourers, both male and female, who form the majority of the inhabitants, derive but little benefit from arrowroot, beyond the wages for digging the crop when it is ripe. For a large part of the year the cultivation requires but little attention, and, during that time, there is no occupation for them.

The immediate outlook for the Colony is by no means hopeful, but I do not even now take a despondent view of its ultimate progress if those who have the largest monetary staple in the Colony fully appreciate their interests and responsibilities.

The ultimate prosperity of the Colony, in the absence of central sugar factories, must be looked for in the establishment of small holders supplemented by working estates. The difficulty in establishing small holders is that large areas of land are unsuited for the production of a variety of products, but there is hardly an estate in which there is not suitable land for this purpose of which no use is made for estate purposes. If proprietors would dispose of these to small holders, they would, in time, have around them a prosperous and contented body of men, whose labour would always be available for the estate, but who would not be absolutely dependent on it.

A social revolution of this sort is far more easily and effectually carried out by voluntary effort on both sides than by Government interference, with all the formalities and safeguards which are necessary, but which must check its healthy development.

HARRY THOMPSON.

28th September, 1899.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-3, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

1899.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 311.

SAINT LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 267.).

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

December, 1900.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., ROSE STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1900.

[Cd. 431-3.] *Price* 2½*d*.

a 2724 a

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
283	Jamaica	1898–99
284	Lagos	1898
285	Seychelles	"
286	Christmas and Cocos-Keeling Islands ...	1899
287	Straits Settlements	1898
288	Basutoland	1898–99
289	Niger Coast Protectorate	"
290	British Guiana	1897–98 & 1898–99
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898–99
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	"
295	Malta	"
296	Fiji	"
297	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
298	Bahamas...	"
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"
307	Ceylon	"
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.

No. 311.

ST. LUCIA,
1899.

SAINT LUCIA.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 267.)

ADMINISTRATOR EGERTON to GOVERNOR SIR C. A. MOLONEY.

Government House,
Saint Lucia,
28th August, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Excellency my Report on the Blue Book for St. Lucia for the year 1899.

I have, &c.,

R. EGERTON, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir Alfred Moloney, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

7043—800—10/1900 Wt 24000 D & S—5

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1899.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The net Revenue for the year was £71,479 3*s.* 8*d.*, being £12,219 8*s.* 4*d.* in excess of the estimated Revenue, £59,259 15*s.* 4*d.* The following table shows the net Revenue for the five years ended 31st December, 1899:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1895	48,564
1896	55,331
1897	60,639
1898	67,628
1899	71,479

As compared with 1898, the Revenue for 1899 showed an increase of £3,851. This increase occurred chiefly under the heads of "Customs" and "Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue."

The following is a comparative statement of Revenue for the year under review:—

STATEMENT OF REVENUE.

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate for 1899.	Actual Revenue to 31st Dec. 1899.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	30,100 0 0	35,865 0 4	32,260 14 9	3,604 5 7	—
2. Port, Harbour, &c. Dues	4,600 0 0	4,716 5 9	5,638 11 8	—	922 5 11
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	14,435 0 0	17,037 0 3	14,818 14 11	2,218 5 4	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in aid.	3,827 8 0	4,073 13 4	3,929 14 3	143 19 1	—
5. Post Office	790 0 0	1,005 0 1	2,842 13 0	—	1,837 12 11
6. Telephone	486 12 0	526 0 9	483 15 10	42 4 11	—
7. Miscellaneous	220 0 0	3,244 16 2	3,865 11 0	—	620 14 10
8. Interest	1,735 5 4	2,030 17 0	1,932 10 9	98 6 3	—
9. Repayment of Loans	1,855 10 0	1,855 10 0	1,855 10 0	—	—
	58,049 15 4	70,354 3 8	67,627 16 2	6,107 1 2	3,380 13 8
10. Imperial Dept. of Agriculture	1,210 0 0	1,125 0 0	—	1,125 0 0	—
Totals ... ... £	59,259 15 4	71,479 3 8	67,627 16 2	7,232 1 2	3,380 13 8

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that, while there were substantial increases under the heads of "Customs and Excise," there was a considerable falling off under "Port and Harbour Dues" and "Post Office." The receipts under the latter head in 1898 were, however, quite abnormal, and have been fully explained in Sir C. A. King-Harman's Report for that year. The net increase in the Revenue of £3,851 is attributable to larger importations of foodstuffs and increased consumption of rum, due to greater circulation of money in connection with Military works.

The estimated Expenditure for the year was £58,670 19*s.* 1*d.*, and the actual Expenditure amounted to £63,820 15*s.* 9*d.*, or £5,149 16*s.* 8*d.* in excess of the Estimates, but £7,658 7*s.* 11*d.* less than the actual Revenue.

The following is a detailed statement of Expenditure for the years 1898 and 1899:—

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1899 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st Dec. 1899.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt ...	13,110 19 7	13,103 7 9	13,177 3 9	—	73 16 0
2. Pensions	721 11 11	641 12 9	373 11 3	268 1 6	—
3. Governor and Legislature	2,570 2 0	2,533 7 10	2,496 0 11	37 6 11	—
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department	3,107 12 11	3,055 13 3	2,914 0 1	141 13 2	—
5. Audit	487 16 0	459 4 6	392 11 8	66 12 10	—
6. Port and Marine Department	1,088 4 0	1,022 5 4	784 9 4	237 16 0	—
7. Legal	4,826 14 9	4,763 1 1	4,143 10 0	619 11 1	—
8. Police	3,488 16 0	3,287 1 1	3,303 9 0	—	16 7 11
9. Prisons	1,068 16 0	1,057 2 9	1,018 4 3	38 18 6	—
10. Medical	6,432 3 4	5,983 3 8	6,170 7 10	—	187 4 2
11. Sanitary	383 15 8	320 9 5	249 14 9	70 14 8	—
12. Charitable	900 0 0	905 10 1	900 7 11	5 2 2	—
Carried forward	38,186 12 2	37,131 19 6	35,923 10 9	1,485 16 10	277 8 1

Statement of Expenditure—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1898 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st Dec, 1899.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward	38,186 12 2	37,131 19 6	35,923 10 9	1,485 16 10	277 8 1
13. Immigration	778 0 0	661 14 9	792 0 11	—	130 6 2
14. Education	4,229 16 0	3,803 5 0	3,642 6 0	160 19 0	—
15. Ecclesiastical	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0	1,516 13 4	—	16 13 4
16. Miscellaneous	7,172 10 2	7,113 17 7	3,650 10 7	3,463 7 0	—
17. Post Office	2,235 16 0	2,125 15 11	2,223 6 10	—	97 10 11
18. Telephone	478 0 0	442 17 9	376 13 10	66 3 11	—
19. Agriculture	1,500 0 0	699 13 9	534 2 6	165 11 3	—
20. Public Works and Survey	—	—	1,629 9 2	—	1,629 9 2
Public Works Department	990 1 0	965 17 5	—	965 17 5	—
21. Survey and Crown Lands Department ...	600 0 0	526 7 3	—	526 7 3	—
22. Public Works, Recurrent	6,440 0 0	6,019 15 4	5,883 5 7	136 9 9	—
23. Public Works, Extraordinary	3,220 17 6	2,829 11 6	4,803 3 7	—	1,973 12 1
Totals ... . £	67,331 12 10	63,820 15 9	60,975 3 1	6,970 12 5	4,124 19 9

In the expenditure under head "Public Works Extraordinary" is a sum of £1,832 8*s.* 5*d.*, on account of damage done by the hurricane of 1898, and an amount of £715 14*s.* 5*d.*, being the Colony's contribution towards the cost of a new cemetery for Castries.

Assets and Liabilities and Public Debt.

The balance-sheet of the Colony at the close of 1899 shows a surplus of £11,196 5*s.* 4*d.*, as shown by the following figures:—

	£	s.	d.
Surplus at 31st December, 1898 ...	3,537	17	5
Net excess of Revenue over Expenditure for 1899	7,658	7	11
Surplus at 31st December, 1899	£11,196	5	4

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st December, 1899, amounted to £187,179 11*s.* 0*d.*, as compared with £189,579 11*s.* 0*d.* at the close of 1898.

The Debt is divisible as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock—Colony's share—for Public Works	50,579	11	0
Inscribed Stock for Water Works ...	12,000	0	0
Inscribed Stock — Castries Town Board's share	17,000	0	0
Inscribed Stock—Colony's share—for Immigration purposes ...	5,900	0	0
Total Inscribed Stock ...	£85,479	11	0
Debentures	101,700	0	0
Total Debt at 31st December, 1899 ...	£187,179	11	0

During the year under review £2,400 Debentures were redeemed, leaving the outstanding amount at £101,700, as against £104,100 at the end of 1899.

At 31st December, 1899, the Sinking Funds of the Colony for the repayment of the above loans stood as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For Stock	3,241	18	6
For Debentures ...	7,465	0	0
	£10,706	18	6

At the end of 1898 they were:—

	£	s.	d.
For Stock	2,462	4	10
For Debentures	5,599	12	1
	£8,061	16	11

The charges on account of the Colony's Debt, including Interest and Sinking Fund, amounted to £13,103 7*s.* 9*d.*, against which a sum of £3,562 has been recovered from the Immigration Fund and the Castries Town Fund, being their share of Interest and Sinking Fund on loans raised in their behalf on the security of the Colony.

Castries Town Board.

The net revenue and expenditure of the Castries Town Fund for the five years ended the 31st December, 1899, were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1895	3,726	18	8	3,505	6	3
1896	3,978	6	0	3,626	1	11
1897	4,397	15	6	3,928	10	0
1898	5,276	12	10	4,718	2	8
1899	4,992	5	2	6,026	19	9

TRADE.

Imports and Exports.

Hereunder is a return of the chief articles imported during 1899 as compared with those imported in 1898:—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS I.—ANIMALS, FOOD AND DRINK SUPPLIES, &c.:—				
Cattle	958	1,168	6,975 18 4	5,988 4 1
Sheep	495	577	983 15 6	984 11 6
Ale and beer, bottles	2,529 dozen	1,498½ dozen	991 14 11	563 2 7
" wood	45,023 gallons	40,291 gallons	2,707 17 2	2,281 4 11
Bacon and hams	25,766½ lbs.	27,498 lbs.	698 6 6	711 10 2
Beef and pork, salted and pickled	315,247 "	354,730 "	3,213 7 6	3,500 11 1
Butter	53,959½ "	36,132½ "	1,681 19 8	1,548 16 9
Oleomargarine	79,943 "	124,658½ "	1,466 6 1	2,618 16 0
Cheese	29,396 "	32.597 "	717 13 6	929 11 6
Coffee	47,871 "	50,868 "	741 7 3	858 15 7

Imports and Exports—continued.

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.					
	1898.	1899.	1898.			1899.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
CLASS I.—FOOD AND DRINK SUPPLIES, &c.—*cont.*								
Fish, salted and dried	10,775 cwts.	8,350 cwts.	7,767	10	4	8,232	4	7
Flour (wheat)	15,560 barrels	21,569 barrels	16,443	18	3	20,376	13	11
Fruits and vegetables	—	—	1,546	15	10	1,747	9	1
Ice	401½ tons	359¼ tons	711	19	2	725	5	6
Lard, &c.	98,313 lbs.	74,222 lbs.	898	5	11	1,031	1	11
Medicine	—	—	1,189	11	8	1,096	13	8
Oats...	9,164 bushels	14,769 bushels	1,229	15	9	2,053	2	5
Oil, lard, &c.	6,573 gallons	8,679½ gallons	682	18	1	509	1	2
Peas and beans	4,058 bushels	4,427¼ bushels	758	4	0	1,448	7	9
Preserves	—	—	1,367	4	10	1,717	3	6
Rice...	541,334 lbs.	550,712 lbs.	2,877	11	10	2,696	7	0

Spirits :—				
Brandy	578¾ gallons	597½ gallons	255 18 3	305 12 3
Gin	1,487¼ „	1,590¼ „	368 2 4	432 12 10
Whisky	3,306¾ „	3,676½ „	1,264 0 3	1,439 5 7
Wines	—	—	3,193 12 3	3,103 5 5
Tobacco, manufactured	16,513½ lbs.	18,268 lbs.	1,017 5 10	1,361 6 4
„ unmanufactured	65,675 „	60,147¼ „	1,255 7 4	1,507 11 4
CLASS II.—RAW MATERIALS :—				
Coal...	76,046½ tons	60,686 tons	72,149 0 0	44,306 5 4
Manure	4,498 bags	5,031 bags	2,343 9 5	3,595 14 8
Oil, cotton seed	32,155 gallons	38,622 gallons	2,033 2 4	2,482 2 6
„ petroleum	58,282 „	68,268 „	1,433 9 11	1,817 6 9
Wood, W. pine	734,067 feet	554,050 feet	3,902 1 1	2,775 6 8
„ P. pine	330,516 „	693,838 „	1,739 7 11	6,048 15 6
CLASS III.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES :—				
Cottons and woollens	—	—	25,149 10 1	27,818 11 9
Arms and ammunition	—	—	5,243 2 10	9,046 1 2
Hardware	—	—	3,215 11 4	3,782 4 0
Iron, galvanized	—	—	945 11 10	1,210 18 2

Imports and Exports—continued.

Articles	Quantity.		Value.	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS III.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES—*continued.*				
Machinery and apparatus for industrial and manufacturing purposes.	—	—	1,157 7 9	1,161 15 2
Boots and shoes	—	—	4,459 16 4	5,539 8 7
Building materials	—	—	10,601 1 0	30,110 7 6
Cement	2,088 barrels	2,867 barrels	2,373 8 9	1,273 9 6
Earthenware	—	—	1,980 14 8	1,078 11 4
Furniture	—	—	891 13 6	889 10 6
Glassware	—	—	965 16 8	1,053 9 2
Haberdashery	—	—	11,363 14 7	13,613 3 6
Hats and bonnets	—	—	2,006 0 10	1,557 17 11
Ordnance stores	—	—	26,142 6 6	15,801 13 4
Paints and dyes, &c.	—	—	728 8 3	657 7 11
Soap, common	279,808 lbs.	320,888 lbs.	2,319 15 0	2,598 17 7

The increase in the importation of flour, fresh fruit and vegetables, peas and beans, and rice are no doubt due to the hurricane which swept over the island at the latter part of 1898, destroying the provision gardens. The labouring class had therefore to depend on the imported stuffs.

The large increase shown in the importation of cattle, sheep, pitch pine, building materials, and arms and ammunition are due to the presence of the garrison and the extensive Military works under progress.

The importation of manure shows an increase. This is due to the fact of the sugar factories having a larger area of canes under cultivation and enjoying somewhat better prices.

The increases shown under the other articles are due to general improvement in trade.

The decrease in the value of Ordnance stores is due to smaller importations by the Military.

The decrease as shown under coal is due to fewer steamers having called at Port Castries to replenish their bunkers. This coaling trade depends largely on conditions outside of the Colony.

All the other decreases may be accounted for by the ordinary fluctuations of the markets.

The following return shows the total value of the imports for the last five years:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	United States.	France.	Other Foreign Places.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1895 ...	74,512	28,690	39,358	6,809	5,577	154,946
1896 ...	101,983	25,177	45,543	6,930	10,900	190,533
1897 ...	119,355	52,639	57,478	8,899	6,882	245,253
1898 ...	140,329	34,843	82,938	6,514	7,371	271,995
1899 ...	149,374	34,647	85,811	6,210	6,921	282,963

THE SUBJOINED IS A COMPARATIVE TABLE OF THE CHIEF ARTICLES OF EXPORT FOR 1898 AND 1899 :—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS I.—LIVE ANIMALS, FOOD, AND DRINK SUPPLIES : —				
Cattle	—	10	—	35 0 0
Horses	9	5	100 5 0	37 5 0
Cocoa	942,700 lbs.	951,917 lbs.	25,377 2 10	25,734 0 8
Fruit, fresh :—				
Mangoes	1,771 packages	—	808 2 0	643 18 9
Rum	14,618 gallons	6,229 gallons	916 13 4	381 10 7
Sugar :—				
Molasses	162,670 "	62,500 "	2,236 14 3	859 7 6
Muscovado	680,900 lbs.	101,200 lbs.	3,197 15 11	474 7 5
Usine	7,722,800 "	8,834,424 ,	49,370 15 1	56,319 9 1

Exports for 1898 and 1899—*continued.*

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CLASS I.—*continued.*				
Vegetables :—				
Unenumerated	898 packages	2,019 packages	414 15 10	812 0 11
CLASS II.—RAW MATERIALS :—				
Hides	464½ cwts.	582 cwts.	591 12 2	809 15 7
Turtleshell...	—	10 packages	—	47 0 0
Fuelwood	1,790 cords	1,010 cords	850 5 0	479 15 0
Logwood	58 tons	114¼ tons	87 0 0	171 7 6
Pimento sticks	5,909	7,673	49 4 10	63 18 10

The comparatively small increase in the output of cocoa may be attributed to the effect of the hurricane which passed over the island at the latter end of the year 1898. The same reason can be set down for the decrease in the quantity of mangoes exported.

The decrease in the quantity of rum exported is no doubt due to the high protective duties levied on this article at the French ports.

The large decrease in the quantity of molasses exported may be accounted for through the manufacture of Muscovado sugar so steadily decreasing year by year.

The marked increase in the output of Usine sugar is due to there being a larger area under cultivation and better returns.

The decrease in the quantity of firewood exported is due to the low price obtained for this article at Barbados, the port to which it is chiefly exported.

A return of the total value of exports for the last five years is given below:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	United States.	France.	Other Foreign Places.	Bunker Coal.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1895 ...	24,269	2,951	37,760	32,718	4,457	35,714	137,869
1896 ...	24,144	4,842	46,481	14,719	3,534	42,575	136,295
1897 ...	38,042	3,176	98,924	11,461	2,664	76,177	230,444
1898 ...	11,154	6,625	49,054	22,691	3,891	73,093	166,508
1899 ...	20,424	4,696	53,006	16,824	3,623	72,095	170,668

Botanic Station.

The Curator of the Botanic Station has been occupied during the year chiefly in extending and in carrying out much needed

improvements in the Garden. Bridges have been made across the drains, a new office has been erected, garden seats have been imported and established in suitable places, land has been reclaimed and renewed, the nurseries have been improved, and the greater part of the Garden has been enclosed with a strong barbed wire fence. Orders were placed in England for iron palings and gates for the entrances, and arrangements made for the introduction of a good water supply. In addition to the work at the Garden, much has been done in assisting cultivation by distributing economic plants, and in the giving of personal attention and advice to planters in different parts of the island.

During the year a course of instruction in the principles of Agriculture to the teachers of the Primary Schools was given by the Assistant Professor of Chemistry, from Harrison College, Barbados. The course consisted of 15 lectures, and were supplemented by demonstrations in practical gardening by the Curator. Much intelligent interest was manifested by the 34 teachers who attended the course.

Mr. G. S. Hudson, who had been appointed to the post of Agricultural Instructor, assumed the duties of his office in the month of November. The total expenditure on the Station for the year amounted to £699 13*s.* 9*d.*, of which £37 19*s.* 2*d.* was recouped by the sale of plants, fruits, and flowers.

CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The Crown Lands and Survey Department accomplished much good work during the year in the settlement of boundaries, the escheat of vacant lands, and the allotment and alienation of the Crown lands. The confidence of the peasantry in the Department is becoming more assured, as is evidenced in the increased desire to purchase lands for settlement, and during the year 102 applications were received for an aggregate area of 995 acres, including eight town and village lots. In the previous year 87 applications were received for an aggregate area of 965 acres. The number of lots alienated during the year was 64, dealing with an area of 476½ acres, valued at £573 14*s.* 0*d.* In 1898, 39 lots, containing 381 acres and valued at £368 15*s.* 0*d.*, were alienated. This steady increase in the acquirement of landed property by the peasantry is a gratifying indication of the increase of thrift and prosperity.

In 1898, 14 vacant estates, comprising 2,621 acres, were published for escheat, and of these 13, representing 2,257 acres, were vested in the Crown during the year under review.

In addition to the ordinary work of the Department, special attention has been given to the detection and suppression of illicit woodcutting, and there is every reason to believe that the additional supervision is having a good effect.

The revenue of the Crown Lands Department during the year was £1,085 9*s.* 6*d.* and the expenditure £526 5*s.* 9*d.* A further sum of £648 15*s.* 6*d.* was spent on the opening of a new road through forest land, connecting the capital town with the Windward coast. The balance to the credit of the Land Sales Fund at the 31st December, 1899, was £1,364 19*s.* 9*d.*

SHIPPING.

The following comparative table gives the total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years:—

Year.	Steam Vessels.									Sailing Vessels.									Grand Total.		
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total Steam Vessels.			With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total Sailing Vessels.					
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1895	261	304,787	11,666	470	603,206	15,435	731	907,993	27,101	543	28,032	3,062	72	11,643	485	615	39,675	3,547	1,346	947,668	30,648
1896	312	387,076	11,448	558	761,412	17,714	870	1,148,488	32,162	440	27,157	2,922	140	15,145	1,011	580	42,302	3,933	1,450	1,190,790	36,095
1897	330	429,978	11,139	909	1,308,647	26,762	1,239	1,738,625	40,901	500	26,481	3,234	152	15,454	1,114	652	41,935	4,348	1,891	1,780,560	45,249
1898	329	399,598	11,711	784	1,112,938	23,889	1,113	1,512,536	38,600	455	24,985	2,957	206	20,156	1,458	661	45,141	4,415	1,774	1,557,677	43,015
1899	343	424,016	15,347	614	832,160	20,240	957	1,456,176	35,587	422	15,200	2,773	119	7,877	819	541	23,177	3,592	1,498	1,279,353	39,179

The total number of steam vessels entered and cleared at Port Castries during 1899 was 957, or 156 less than in 1898. The total number of sailing vessels entered and cleared was 541, or 120 less than in 1898.

The total tonnage entered and cleared during 1899 amounted to 1,279,353, or 278,324 tons less than the previous year.

During the year under review the number of ships of war which called for coal and other purposes was 48, a decrease of 11 as compared with the previous year. Of these, 24 were Her Majesty's ships, 12 American, seven Dutch, four German, and one French.

LEGISLATION.

During the year 21 Ordinances were passed, of which 20 were assented to. Of these, the most important were:—

1. The Castries Water Supply Ordinance (No. 3).
2. The Castries Town Board (Vesting of Cemetery) Ordinance (No. 10).
3. The Police Ordinance, 1887, Amendment Ordinance, 1899 (No. 12).
4. The Patents Ordinance, 1899 (No. 14).
5. The Minor Products Protection Ordinance, 1899 (No. 16).

The Castries Water Supply Ordinance, 1899, vests in the Castries Town Board, as the Water Authority for Castries, the Water Works lately completed under the direction of Mr. Chadwick, and provides for the proper management of the works by the Board.

The Castries Town Board (Vesting of Cemetery) Ordinance, 1899, vests in the Castries Town Board, for the purposes of a public cemetery for Castries, certain portions of land acquired by the Government along Choc Bay and a portion of the Queen's Chain adjoining them. It provides for the repayment into the Treasury of the cost of the lands so acquired, and for the efficient management of the new cemetery by the Board.

The object of the Police Ordinance, 1887, Amendment Ordinance, 1899, is (*a*) to limit the period of enrolment of a constable to two years, (*b*) to reduce to sixpence the daily stoppage from the pay of constables in hospital, (*c*) to give to constables retiring from the Police Force after five years or more service the right to a refund of monies contributed by them to the Police Reward Fund otherwise than by fines, (*d*) to prevent the loan of money to constables, and (*e*) to introduce certain minor modifications in the Police Law of the Colony.

The Patents Ordinance, 1899, deals generally with the registration and protection of patents, and does away with the

necessity existing hitherto of introducing a separate Ordinance in respect of every patent sought to be protected in the Colony.

The Minor Products Protection Ordinance, 1899, is intended to regulate the sale and purchase of certain agricultural products, such as cocoa, logwood, and any other product of the Colony which may be proclaimed to be a minor product by the Governor-in-Council. It provides for the registration of estates and lands upon which minor products are grown, and establishes a system of permits, with a view of checking the dishonest removal of minor products from the place where they are grown to the place where they are sold or disposed of.

EDUCATION.

During the year 1899 Primary Education was being carried on in 42 schools, all assisted by the Government, and in three others not receiving Government aid. The number on the rolls of the Assisted Schools was 5,735, the average attendance being 3,188. The percentage of children attending school to the whole population was 11·7.

The amount of the Government grant was £3,079 9*s.* 1*d.*, and the cost per child was 19*s.* 6*d.*

One school, belonging to the East Indian Mission, was closed during the year, and of the 41 remaining, 19 were "mixed," or attended by both boys and girls, and 22 were "separate," confined to one or other of the sexes.

An attempt was made during the year to enforce in Castries the provisions of an Ordinance passed in 1889 relating to compulsory education, but the law proved to be unworkable, and the attempt was abandoned pending the introduction of an amending Ordinance.

The average Government grant per school was at the rate of £76 2*s.* 4*d.* per annum, and the average salary of the head teachers was £57 16*s.* 0*d.*

Special attention was given during the year to the teaching of English, and the results of the first examination in that subject were, on the whole, satisfactory.

A course of lectures on the "Chemistry of Plant Life" were delivered to teachers of Primary Schools by an officer of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. The lectures were attended by 34 teachers and were highly successful, the teachers showing much intelligent interest and a manifest desire to profit by the instruction afforded them. Practical demonstrations in the Botanic Station by the Curator accompanied each lecture.

The results of the annual examination of the schools were eminently satisfactory; 2,923 children were examined, and of these 2,722 passed in two subjects, the percentage of passes being 93·1.

ST. LUCIA, 1899.

From an interesting report by the Inspector of Schools I gather the following results of the working of his Department for the year as compared with the previous year, and with the year 1889:—

Year.	1889.	1898.	1899.	Increase for 10 years.
Population ...	43,124	47,976	48,650	5,526
Number of schools	27	39	42	15
Number on rolls ...	3,416	5,280	5,735	2,319
Average attendance	1,865	2,787	3,188	1,323
Number examined	1,370	2,512	2,923	1,553
Number passed in two subjects.	1,011	2,124	2,722	1,711
Percentage of children to whole population.	7·9	11·0	11·7	3·8
Government grant	£ s. d. 1,427 18 4	£ s. d. 2,904 19 1	£ s. d. 3,079 9 1	£ s. d. 1,651 10 9
Cost per unit ...	15 4	1 0 10	19 6	4 2

Secondary education was continued at St. Mary's College for boys and at the Convent of St. Joseph's for girls. At the College the number of boys on the rolls was 70, the average attendance being 63. At the Convent the number of girls on the rolls was 100, the average attendance being 90.

As in former years, the more advanced boys at the College were prepared for the Cambridge Local Examination. Eleven were presented and all have passed, four with honours.

For the last four years no failure in passing this Examination has been recorded.

There are no technical or industrial schools in the Colony.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals, &c.

There are five hospitals in the Colony, *i.e.*, the Victoria Hospital in Castries, with accommodation for 130 patients; the

Soufriere Hospital, containing 26 beds; the Vieuxfort Hospital, with 21 beds; and the Dennery Hospital, with accommodation for 30 patients. There is also a hospital for the exclusive treatment of yaws, which is situated about three miles from Castries, on an island about ½ mile from the shore, and in which accommodation is provided for over 100 patients.

In addition to the hospitals, there is a Poor Asylum in Castries for the reception of infirm and chronic cases, and there is a Government Dispensary in each of the smaller villages in the island.

There is no Lunatic Asylum in the Colony. All cases of insanity are sent for detention and treatment to the Central Asylum at Grenada.

The Colonial Surgeon in his report for 1899 on the Medical Institutions of the Colony states that the general health of the people was satisfactory. No case of contagious disease occurred during the year.

There were 55 cases under treatment in the Yaws Hospital during the year; of these 22 were discharged cured.

SAVINGS BANK.

	£	s.	d.
On the 1st January, 1899, the balance in the Savings Banks at Castries, Soufriere, and Vieuxfort to credit of depositors was	12,081	11	9
The amount deposited during the year and accumulated interest was ...	14,916	15	9
Total ...	£26,998	7	6
Withdrawn during the year	13,113	17	7
Leaving a balance to credit of depositors at 31st December, 1899 ...	£13,884	9	11

hing company, inc.

ST. LUCIA. 1899.

The subjoined table shows the transactions of the Bank during the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Transactions.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	No. of Depositors at 31st Dec. 1899.	Total Amount to Credit of Depositors at 31st Dec. 1899.
		£	£		£
1895	3,201	7,000	7,162	1,275	9,267
1896	3,351	7,165	6,953	1,277	9,810
1897	3,635	8,498	8,162	1,294	10,382
1898	5,113	10,991	9,553	1,516	12,081
1899	7,027	14,567	13,114	1,263	13,884

The decrease in the number of depositors at 31st December, 1899, as compared with the number at the corresponding period of the previous year is due to the closing, after due advertisement had been made for the depositors, of the accounts with small balances, principally accrued interest, which had remained unclaimed for over three years.

The following investments on account of the funds of the Bank were held at 31st December, 1899:—

	£
Canadian Government 3½ per cent.	2,000
New South Wales Government 3½ per cent...	2,000
Colonial Bank 3 per cent.	2,500
Western Australia Government 3 per cent. ...	3,000
Trinidad Government 3 per cent	1,500
South Australia Government 3 per cent. ...	1,500
Barbados Government 4 per cent. ...	1,000
Total	£13,500

The sum of £361 1*s.* 9*d.* was received for interest on the investments, and the interest which accrued to depositors' accounts during the year amounted to £349 19*s.* 5*d.*

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The Registrar of Friendly Societies, in submitting his report on the second year's working of the Friendly Societies Ordinance, 1896, states that, to the four societies in existence on the 31st December, 1898, were added two more in 1899, by registration. The total membership at the close of 1899 was 491, as against 324 in 1898, and the aggregate funds at the end of the year under report amounted to £405 6*s.* 7*d.*, as compared with £230 16*s.* 9*d.* in 1898.

These statements clearly indicate the progress and prosperity of the societies, and the resultant benefits to individuals, and to the general community.

POLICE.

The authorised strength of the Police during the year was 57, namely, three sergeants, four corporals, and 50 privates, of first, second, and third classes. Of this number, two sergeants, two corporals, and 29 privates are stationed in Castries. The Chief of Police complains, and I think with good cause, that the strength of the Force, especially in Castries, is insufficient for the duties which they should perform. In the last five years the numbers of cases before the courts of the island have increased from 684 in 1893 to 1,145 in 1899.

In addition to their ordinary duties, the services of the Police are utilised in assisting to enforce the quarantine regulations in respect of ships coaling alongside the wharves. The cost of the Police Force during the year was £3,287 1*s.* 1*d.*

PRISONS.

The number of prisoners received during the year was:—Males 587, females 205, total 792; the daily average being 58·94.

The numbers in 1898 were:—Males 484, females 210, total 694; the daily average being 53·69, as against 51·48 in 1897.

The increase in the Prison population is due to the large influx of people of the labouring class attracted to Castries by the employment to be obtained on the Military works and in the coaling trade. The present accommodation is insufficient for the numbers received, and an extension of the prison is under consideration.

Of the 587 male prisoners received during the year, 387 were convicted, and of these 146 were Road Tax defaulters and 73

St. Lucia, 1899.

were Military prisoners. The great majority of sentences were short—from eight days to three months, 15 being from one to five years, and four for five years or more.

One hundred and thirty-one convicted prisoners were natives of St. Lucia, 46 were Barbadians, 28 were coolies, 23 (all Road Tax defaulters) were from Dominica, 14 from St. Vincent, 13 from Antigua, eight from Trinidad, six from Montserrat, six from Demerara, five from Martinique, 11 were merchant seamen, and 17 came from other colonies.

The following classification is interesting:—

Natives of St. Lucia	131
Military prisoners	73
Merchant seamen	17
Indian coolies	28
West Indian immigrants ...	138
Total convicted prisoners ...	381

Of the 205 female prisoners, 158 were convicted, and of these 102 were natives of St. Lucia, 28 were from Barbados, 10 from Dominica, one was an Indian coolie, and 17 from other Colonies.

The total expenditure of the Prison was £1,056 12*s.* 9*d.*, of which £614 were paid as salaries to the staff; the daily average cost per head of feeding the prisoners was the same as in 1898, namely, 3½*d.*

The health of the prisoners was fairly good, the daily average on the sick list being 2·25. There were no deaths during the year.

Corporal punishment has not been inflicted in the Prison for the last two years.

There were no escapes during the year.

Criminal Statistics.

The statistics for the year show an increase in the number of criminal offences as compared with the previous year.

The following comparative table is instructive:—

Year.	Number of offences reported to Police.	Number of Persons apprehended.	Number of Summary Convictions.	Number of convictions in Superior Court.
1896	1,309	1,874	1,096	7
1897	1,365	1,834	1,013	12
1898	1,461	1,985	1,056	18
1899	1,750	2,270	1,257	26

The convictions in the Royal Court were for the following offences:—

Cattle stealing	7
Housebreaking	4
Burglary	2
Causing wounds	5
Causing grievous harm	2
Common assault	1
Larceny	1
Manslaughter	1
Arson	1
Unnatural offence	1
Falsification of documents by a Public Officer	1

The nationality of the offenders in the above-cited cases were:—St. Lucia 12, East Indians seven, other countries seven.

In the Cause list of summary convictions it is satisfactory to note that the number of cases of prædial larceny were but 44, as compared with 62 in the previous year.

In his report for the year, the Attorney-General points out that although the records of the last four years do show an increase in the number of criminal offences, yet this increase cannot be regarded as being out of proportion to the growth of the population, seeing that this growth has been materially aided by a steady flow of immigration, and that a high percentage of the immigrants is made up of the more shifty and

turbulent element among the labouring classes of the neighbouring colonies.

Vital Statistics.

The registered births during the year 1900 were 1,865 as against 1,858 in 1899, the birth rate being 3·54 per cent. of the population as against 3·57 in the previous year. Of the children born, 942 were males and 923 females, the legitimate births numbering 853 and the illegitimate 1,030.

These figures show an improvement in the general morality of the population, the rates per cent. in the last three years being as follows:—

Year.	Legitimate rate.	Illegitimate rate.
1897	39·73	60·25 } Per cent. of the population.
1898	42·41	57·59
1899	44·77	55·23

The registered deaths were 1,191, or 23 less than in 1898, the rate per cent. being 2·14 as against 2·17 in the previous year. One death from snake bite was recorded during the year.

The natural increase of the Colony was 674, or 30 more than in 1898, and the total population on the 31st December, without taking into account accession by immigration, was 48,650, of whom 23,621 were males and 25,029 females, equal to 208 to the square mile.

Meteorology.

Observations taken during the year at the Botanic Station in Castries, 10 feet above sea level, show that the mean daily height of the barometer was 29·998, the mean annual temperature was 79·2, and the total rainfall was 84·64 inches. A maximum temperature of 91·1 in the shade was recorded in May and a minimum temperature of 68·5 in December. The highest rainfall was in August, when 17·33 inches were recorded; the lowest in April, when only 1·31 inches fell. Rain fell on 262 days during the year, the greatest quantity falling on any one day being 6·92 inches, on the 30th August.

POST OFFICE.

The Post Office statistics for 1899 show that the business of the department is increasing:—

Received from Abroad.

Year.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.
1897	85,574	50,896
1898	85,201	50,757
1899	108,901	58,343

Sent Abroad.

Year.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.
1897	72,718	6,324
1898	82,531	7,837
1899	109,045	15,586

Parcel Post.

Year.	Received.	Sent.
1897	1,445	459
1898	1,744	509
1899	2,025	613

Money Orders.

Year.	Amount Received.	Amount Sent.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897	978 8 7	4,891 6 4
1898	1,235 15 5	5,809 13 8
1899	1,291 8 0	7,600 13 2

But although the transactions of the department were so largely augmented, the receipts for the year were considerably below those of 1898, the decrease being due to the reduction of postage from 2½*d.* to 1*d.* and to the large stock of 2*d.* stamps purchased in 1898 for speculative purposes and remaining in the hands of dealers and private parties.

The revenue and expenditure for the years 1897, 1898, and 1899 were as follows:—

Revenue.

1897.	1898.	1899.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,879 8 5½	3,027 12 9½	1,439 18 5

Expenditure.

1897.	1898.	1899.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2,139 7 7	2,148 6 9	2,120 19 11

The effect of the reduction of postage from 2½*d.* to 1*d.* has been as follows (the letters despatched in 1898 being taken as averaging 2½*d.* per half-ounce, and those in 1899 as averaging 1*d.* per half-ounce):—

	£	s.	d.
In 1898, 82,531 letters yielded a revenue of	859	13	11½
In 1899, 109,045 letters yielded a revenue of	454	7	1
Approximate loss of revenue ...	£405	6	10½

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

St. Lucia is connected by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's cables with Santiago de Cuba in the north, from whence communication with the United States, Europe, and other parts of the world is obtained, and with British Guiana in the south, touching at St. Vincent, Grenada, Barbados, and Trinidad. In each case a duplicate cable has been laid down. Communication may also be had with the United States and Europe over the cables to Jamaica, and thence by the lines of the Bermuda Cable Company.

A telephone system, completed in 1896, connects Castries with the small towns and villages in the island. One hundred and twenty miles of trunk line are open for traffic. The exchanges at Castries, Soufriere, and Vieuxfort are in charge of paid operators, those at the five villages are worked by the police. The wooden poles on which the line was originally erected are gradually being replaced by iron rails, which are not only better, but will eventually prove cheaper.

The revenue derived from the system for the year under review amounted to £526 0*s.* 9*d.*, as compared with £483 15*s.* 10*d.* in 1898. The expenditure in 1899 was £442 14*s.* 9*d.*, as against £376 13*s.* 10*d.* in 1898. The system is in the hands of the Government.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The total Military expenditure for the year was £79,459 5*s.* 3*d.*, as compared with £54,385 7*s.* 4*d.* in 1898.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The ordinary expenditure in 1899 on repairs of public buildings and wharves, and on a few minor works of construction,

amounted to £2,193 1*s.* 0*d.* Besides this amount, a further sum of £1,832 8*s.* 5*d.* was expended on works in respect of damage due to the hurricane in September, 1898.

The Public Workyard was carried on during the year at a profit, many important repairs to shipping being successfully accomplished. The balance in the Treasury to the credit of the yard at the 31st December amounted to £572 18*s.* 9*d.*

The total ordinary expenditure on the roads of the island was £4,206 7*s.* 0*d.* In addition to this amount, a sum of £1,969 12*s.* 1*d.* was expended from the Mansion House Fund, affording employment and relief to sufferers from the hurricane.

In the First District 15 miles of new roads were opened at an average cost of £57 14*s.* 5*d.* per mile, in the Second District nine and a half miles at an average cost of £29 16*s.* 7*d.*, and in the Third eight miles at an average cost of £36 9*s.* 4*d.* per mile.

The cost of maintenance was:—

	£	s.	d.	
First District	20	16	10	per mile.
Second „	12	3	2	„
Third „	13	0	10	„

The road mileage in the island maintained during the year was:—

—	Highways.	Byeways.	Total.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
First District	53	39½	92½
Second District	37¼	29	66¼
Third District	32	28½	60½
Total	...	...	219¼

The work done is excellent, and reflects great credit on the Road Boards and on their surveyors.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

The indentured service of the coolies remaining in the Colony came to an end at the close of 1898, and the work of the Immigration Department during the year under report was more of a

paternal than a protective nature. The Office of Protector and the Medical Officers were all abolished during the year, and the department was practically closed.

A tolerably regular stream of emigration to the goldfields in French Guiana continued throughout the year. No official record is kept of such emigration, but, as near as can be ascertained, some 1,400 people attempted to better their condition in this direction. The policy of the Government is opposed to the exodus of the inhabitants, and no official sanction is accorded to recruiting.

COAL.

The quantity of coal imported during the year was 61,487 as compared with 76,046 tons in 1898; the exports amounted to 76,417 tons as against 73,411 tons in the previous year.

On every ton or fraction of a ton of coal discharged in Castries a harbour due of sixpence (6*d.*) is levied, and paid by the ship discharging. A duty of sixpence (6*d.*) per ton is in addition paid by the importer.

Of the quantity of coal imported in 1899, 801 tons were imported for the manufacture of sugar, and were exempt from the payment of both of the dues mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Of the 76,417 tons exported during the year, 14,467 tons were supplied to men-of-war and transports, 61,422 tons were put on board merchant steamers, and 528 tons were exported to other colonies.

The revenue derived from coal in 1899 amounted to £3,034. In 1898 the revenue was £3,802.

AGRICULTURE.

Sugar.

The Usine sugar crop of the year amounted to 4,176 tons, being less than that of 1898 by 337 tons. This decrease was due to the severe shaking which the canes received in the hurricane of September, 1898. The production of Muscovado sugar continues to steadily decline, the exports for 1899 being only 101,200 lbs., as compared with 680,900 lbs. in 1898.

Cocoa.

The trees appear to have quite recovered from the shaking received in the hurricane of 1898. The small, or spring crop,

of cocoa was to a large extent lost through the drought on the drier districts, such as Soufriere, but the main crop of November and December was universally regarded as a fair one in these districts. In the more humid localities both the spring and winter crops yielded moderately. The prevalence of high prices has done much to obviate financial difficulties occasioned by the hurricane, yet cocoa planters can hardly be said to have had the benefit of a "good year" since 1895, and, taking into consideration the several hundred acres of young cultivation that have come into bearing since that date, we may confidently look forward to an increased export in the future. Apart from extensions of the smaller proprietors' plantations, the six largest cocoa estates in the Colony can show an increased bearing area of about 400 acres, while their younger plantations are on a considerable scale. Greater attention is now being given to pruning, manuring, and cultivation, and the model cocoa plots which the Imperial Department of Agriculture proposes to establish throughout the island cannot fail to exercise a beneficial effect on this cultivation, when added to the other practical work carried out by this department's local officers.

Nutmegs.

There does not appear to have been any very appreciable extension of this cultivation during the past year, but nevertheless there are some fair plantations in the island that have made considerable progress.

Liberian Coffee.

This cultivation is now somewhat in disfavour in consequence of low prices and a depressed market. In fact, it may be conceded that the present high price of cocoa had had a deterrent effect on the introduction of all lesser known products, planters arguing that they are quite content with cocoa without going further afield. Scale blights have decreased in severity, but are still "en evidence" in the drier districts. The production of Liberian coffee for export would hardly be profitable at current prices (say 30*s*. per cwt.), but local sales were possible at 42*s*. per cwt., which price should prove sufficiently remunerative to keep existing areas in cultivation.

Other Minor Products.

The cultivation of kola, turmeric, annatto, ginger, vanilla, rice, tobacco, india rubber, and muskseed is still carried on. The reports on ginger and rice are very encouraging, and the area under cultivation of these two products is rapidly increasing. The price of kola is not sufficiently remunerative to warrant new plantations of this product being put in.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1899 was a prosperous one for the Colony. On those plantations on which the cocoa trees were not destroyed by the disastrous hurricane of 1898 the trees are rapidly recovering the severe shaking which they received, and the outlook for the 1900 crop is good. There is also a marked increase in the cultivation of this product, many young plantations having been started. The opening up of fertile tracts of Crown lands by the construction of roads, and the communication thus afforded with the several towns, has been of great benefit to the Colony, and accounts in great measure for the increase in the number of applications for the purchase of land.

Although the sugar crop for the year was slightly less than that for 1898, yet the prices realised were higher than those for the previous year. Encouraged by the better prices, the cultivation of the sugar cane by the Usine sugar factories is being extended.

It is satisfactory to record that the general health of the Colony was good. There were no cases of a contagious or infectious nature, and the death rate was lower than that of the previous year.

R. EGERTON, Lieutenant-Colonel,

Administrator.

28

ev. 1 ✓

589643
9-1e
Block 8

X 11

LBFe '06

10

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

334
10

No. 312.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 281.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1900.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., ROSE STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN

1901.

[Cd. 431-4.] *Price 2d.*

M

JV33
G7A4

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
288	Basutoland	1898–99
289	Niger Coast Protectorate	"
290	British Guiana	1897–98 & 1898–99.
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898–99
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	"
295	Malta	"
296	Fiji	"
297	Turks Islands	"
298	Bahamas	"
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"
307	Ceylon	"
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Conditions during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade Report for 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal status of British North American Indians.

No. 312.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 281.)

ADMINISTRATOR DRAYTON to GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MOLONEY.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
24th October, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Blue Book Report for this Colony in respect of the year 1899.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

His Excellency,
Sir ALFRED MOLONEY, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

7343—800—12/1900 Wt 24600 D & S—5

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1899.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The Revenue of the year 1899 from local sources was £29,218, being £2,317 more than in 1898, and £2,636 more than the average of the last five years' Revenue from such sources, which was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1895	25,460
1896	26,487
1897	24,845
1898	26,901
1899	29,218

2. The total Colonial Revenue for the year was, however, £63,293, Imperial Grants-in-Aid amounting to £31,075, and an appropriation of £3,000 from the Hurricane Relief Fund in support of abnormal expenditure on Poor Relief and Hospitals consequent upon the hurricane of September, 1898, having been credited to the General Revenue during the year.

3. The following comparative statement of the Revenues of 1898 and 1899, under the principal heads of account, shows that the satisfactory results of the latter year were due chiefly to receipts from import duties, large importations of food-stuffs and lumber, &c., taking place in consequence of the hurricane; while Post Office Revenue shows a large increase owing to the introduction of a new issue of combined postage and revenue stamps. The decrease under Internal Revenue is attributable chiefly to the fact that a large portion of the Land and Income Taxes was not collected until the current year.

Head of Revenue.	1899.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs...	15,846	13,140	2,706	—
2 Port and harbour dues ...	794	856	—	62
3. Licences, Excise, &c.	7,693	8,460	—	767
4. Fees of office, &c.	609	526	83	—
5. Post Office	2,281	1,691	590	—
6. Telephones	429	390	39	—
7. Rent of Government property	45	81	—	36
8. Interest	1,361	1,606	—	245
9. Miscellaneous receipts... ...	123	79	44	—
10. Sales and leases of Crown lands	37	72	—	35
Total Local Revenue ...	29,218	26,901	3,462	1,145
PARLIAMENTARY GRANTS.				
Grant for Botanical Station and Agricultural School.	775	—	775	—
Grant for damage caused by Hurricane.	25,000	—	25,000	—
Grant made in 1898 in aid of General Revenue.	5,000	—	5,000	—
Grant to meet estimated deficit for January, February, and March, 1899.	300	—	300	—
Appropriation from Hurricane Relief Fund for Hospital and Poor Relief.	3,000	—	3,000	—
Total General Revenue ...	63,293	26,901	37,537	1,145

St. Vincent. 1899.

4. The expenditure in 1899 from sources of revenue other than Parliamentary Grants amounted to £30,322, being £2,648 more than in 1898, and £1,849 more than the average of the last five years; the total expenditure in each of which was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1895	28,811
1896	27,591
1897	27,866
1898	27,674
1899	30,322

5. On examination of the details in comparison with those of 1898, as shown below, it will be seen that the increased results of 1899 were due chiefly to the heavy expenditure on Poor Relief and Hospitals, almost the whole of the labouring class of the Colony having been reduced by the hurricane to a state of destitution. As has been explained in paragraph 2, this abnormal expenditure was met by an appropriation from the funds raised in England and elsewhere to relieve the widespread distress caused by the storm.

6. In addition to the expenditure of £30,322, as shown above, £847 was disbursed from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of the Botanical Station and Agricultural School, and £16,686 from the Imperial Grant of £25,000 towards the damage done by the hurricane, making a total expenditure for the year of £47,855.

Head of Expenditure.	1899.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on account of public debt.	1,835	2,814	—	979
2. Pensions...	2,455	2,449	6	—
3. The Governor and Legislature	820	957	—	137
Carried forward ...	5,110	6,220	6	1,116

Head of Expenditure	1899.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	5,110	6,220	6	1,116
4. Colonial Secretary, Treasury, and Customs.	1,900	1,958	—	58
5. Audit department	311	295	16	—
6. Education	2,051	2,298	—	247
7. Legal departments	2,611	2,535	76	—
8. Police and Excise	2,851	2,790	61	—
9. Prisons	427	414	13	—
10. Medical department	1,618	1,701	—	83
11. Hospitals and dispensaries ...	4,346	2,984	1,362	—
12. Charitable	2,963	713	2,250	—
13. Post Office	1,299	1,523	—	224
14. Telephone department ...	359	353	6	—
16. Public works and surveys ...	1,173	939	234	—
17. Miscellaneous	1,871	1,091	780	—
18. Public works, Recurrent ...	1,343	1,200	143	—
19. Public works, Extraordinary ...	89	311	—	222
Totals	30,322	27,325	4,947	1,950
PARLIAMENTARY GRANTS.				
15. Botanical Station and Agricultural School.	847	349	498	—
20. Special Hurricane Expenditure	16,686	—	16,686	—
Total expenditure ...	47,855	27,674	22,131	1,950

St. Vincent 1899.

7. As affording a measure of relief to the prostrate sugar industry of the Colony, the export duties on sugar and its products, molasses and rum, levied for purposes of General Revenue which had been suspended during 1898 by direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, were finally repealed in 1899, leaving in force only such duties on these exports as were raised in re-payment of the Immigration Loan. These also have been repealed in the current year, so that only export duties on starches, cotton, and cocoa are now in force.

8. As in previous years since 1895, an additional import duty, of ten per cent. on duties payable was levied in 1899 in support of General Revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

9. The year opened with a deficit of £5,318, towards which an Imperial Grand of £5,000 was made in 1898, but not brought to account until 1899; it closed with an apparent surplus of assets of £10,120, but this includes an unexpended balance of £8,314 of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of the damage done by the hurricane, so that the actual surplus is £1,806; and inspection of the returns of revenue and expenditure given above will show that the existence of this surplus is due to the presence in the revenue accounts of funds derived from other than local sources. A tabulated statement of the assets and liabilities at the end of the year is subjoined.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				130	12	8
Colonial Bank, on Current Account ...				2,872	1	5
Investments (Savings Bank Funds) ...				8,500	0	0
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES—						
On Current Account...	1,794	0	5			
On Deposit Account	2,075	5	8			
				3,869	6	1
INTERCOLONIAL ACCOUNTS—						
Government of Grenada	232	15	10			
Government of St. Lucia	76	4	2			
				309	0	0
LOANS FROM GENERAL REVENUE—						
Georgetown Extension Loan ...	199	15	4			
Georgetown Waterworks Loan ...	183	12	1			
				383	7	5
ADVANCES—						
Roads and Land Settlement* ...	3,250	6	0			
Hurricane Loans to Planters ...	5,637	12	0			
Hurricane Relief	410	0	6			
Immigration Fund	103	17	8			
Kingstown Fund	191	0	5			
Chateaubelair Fund	61	15	2			
Georgetown Fund	2	18	4			
Other advances	240	9	9			
				9,897	19	10
Total Assets†				£25,962	7	5

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES—						
Advances pending adjustment ...				5,000	0	0
DEPOSITS—						
Savings Bank Account	9,716	8	9			
Post Office Account	57	15	2			
Graham Bequest Fund	73	16	5			
Police Reward Fund	52	6	1			
Mesopotamia Byeway Fund ...	59	12	0			
Hurricane Relief Fund	713	15	2			
Sundry Deposits	168	17	10			
				10,842	11	5
				15,842	11	5
Excess of Assets‡ ...				10,119	16	0
				£25,962	7	5

The Public Debt is £15,710, of which £5,000 is provided for by an Imperial Grant, held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

* £12,618 7*s.* 9*d.* of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid for these purposes is on deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

† Exclusive of £72 8*s.* 4*d.* advanced for Botanic Station and Agricultural School in excess of payments at 31st Dec. from the Imperial Grant.

‡ This surplus includes £8,313 17*s.* 1*d.*, unexpended balance of Imperial Grant of £25,000 in aid of damage done by the hurricane of 1898.

Public Debt.

10. The Public Debt of the Colony at the end of 1899 stood at £15,710 in debentures, of which £9,710 are at 5 per cent., £1,000 at 4 per cent., and £5,000 at 3½ per cent. This last issue of 3½ per cent. debentures is provided for by an Imperial Grant, held on deposit by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, to extinguish them at due date, so that Colonial Revenue was, at 31st of December, 1899, only liable for £10,710 of the debt, of which £6,950 is repayable from the funds of Kingstown and Georgetown. The debt of £3,760, for which the Colony's Revenues are solely responsible, is being repaid at the rate of £560 per annum, and all but £1,000 in 4 per cent. debentures will be repaid by February, 1905, when a payment of £200 for five years will extinguish the balance.

11. The Immigration Loan of 1889—£4,750—was finally repaid during 1899.

Revenue and Expenditure of Towns.

12. A comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the several town authorities for the last five years is subjoined.

Revenue.

—	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,039	2,017	1,985	1,848	2,082*
Georgetown	277	262	242	219	52
Chateaubelair	38	43	38	29	18
Calliaqua	36	42	37	4	19
Barrouallie	20	34	25	—‡	6
Layou	16	20	26	11	2
Bequia	6	16	10	3	—†

* Includes £93 transferred from Imperial Grant for damage caused by hurricane.

† No assessment in consequence of detruction caused by hurricane.

‡ Account books destroyed by hurricane.

Expenditure.

—	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,272	2,132	2,085	1,985	2,187
Georgetown	250	264	138	275	48
Chateaubelair	44	33	47	26	21
Calliaqua	35	41	36	5	21
Barrouallie	36	95	25	—*	10
Layou	16	19	27	10	2
Bequia	2	16	11	3	—

* Account books destroyed by hurricane.

13. The debts of the Towns are as follows:—

Debts of Towns.

	£	£
Kingstown Water Supply ...	5,500	
„ Town Improvement	750	
		6,250
Georgetown Water Supply ...		700
		£6,950

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the General Revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown Water Supply Loan is being repaid at the rate of £400 per annum, and will be finally retired in 1913; the Town Improvement Loan at the rate of £150 per annum, and will be retired in 1904. The Georgetown Loan is being repaid by instalments of £50, and will be extinguished in 1913.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

14. 1899 being the fourth year in which the statistical value of the trade of the Colony was arrived at by adding customary charges to prime values, a statement is appended showing the total value in the four years of the imports and exports under the usual classes:—

Imports.

Classes.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	31,838	32,684	40,931	50,765
II. Raw materials	10,020	9,044	14,399	15,391
III. Manufactured articles ...	29,632	29,095	32,979	37,471
IV. Coin and bullion*... ...	—	—	—	—
Totals	71,490	70,823	88,309	103,627

Exports.

Classes.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	61,528	63,705	40,008	28,418
II. Raw materials	2,308	1,632	1,054	3,133
III. Manufactured articles ...	3,556	3,598	3,604	2,024
IV. Coin and bullion*	—	—	—	—
Totals	67,392	68,935	44,666	33,575

* No returns, entries not having been required of importers and shippers until 1900.

15. The imports in 1899 exceeded those of 1898 by £15,318 in value, although 1898 was itself a year of abnormal importations, valued at £17,586 more than in 1897. The chief increases are under classes I. and III., and the details are shown in the following comparative statement:—

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1898.	1899.
Class I.	£	£
Biscuits	2,099	1,856
Butter	1,599	1,636
Fish, Salted, &c.	5,997	5,836
Flour, Wheaten	11,341	17,280
Flour, other kinds	850	2,151
Pork, Salted, &c.	2,635	2,326
Rice	3,331	3,114
Salt	595	1,627
Sugar, Muscovado	1,152	2,555
Tobacco, Cigars, &c.	1,023	1,010
Class II.		
Manures	1,182	490
Petroleum Oil	1,052	943
Timber and Shingles	9,389	11,804
Class III.		
Textile manufactures, other than Rope, Cordage, and Canvas.	15,406	16,113
Metal, manufactured	6,293	7,039
Boots and Shoes	799	1,013
Cement	520	1,628
Soap	1,466	1,316

16. Importations of food-stuffs, necessitated by the destruction of the ground provision crop by the storm of September, 1898, and of lumber and other articles to reconstruct the buildings swept away thereby, are the chief causes of the unusual figures of 1898 and 1899. A noticeable feature of the table is the increased quantity of imported muscovado sugar; in 1897 the value of this import did not reach £1, in 1899 it amounted to £2,555; a sad testimony to the devastation of sugar works and cane cultivation wrought by the cyclone.

17. The value of the exports for the year was £33,575—the lowest on record, and less than half the value of those in the year preceding the hurricane. As will be seen from the following comparative statement of the principal products exported in the last four years, this lamentable result is attributable to the practical disappearance of sugar, molasses, cocoa, and spices from the returns, as the result of the hurricane. The other staple of the Colony, arrowroot starch, under the stimulus of causes to which reference will be made later on, kept up its normal figure of value in the period under review.

Article.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
Sugar (Muscovado)	21,512	25,592	14,610	415
Rum	1,892	491	198	234
Molasses	3,396	2,955	1,029	—
Arrowroot	22,007	21,858	14,517	22,457
Cassava Starch	578	1,128	1,657	482
Cocoa	3,209	4,514	3,090	116
Spices	686	1,085	1,328	28
Fruit and Vegetables	2,690	2,476	1,365	788
Whale Oil	726	828	1,016	482
Ground Nuts	422	371	352	170
Live Stock and Poultry	2,814	2,804	2,666	2,643
Cotton and Cotton Seed	446	211	539	352
Firewood	1,083	1,048	317	363
Corn	—	—	—	650

18. The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the four years 1896-9 are shown in the following table. Trade with the United Kingdom was about the same as before the year of the hurricane, while the increased imports from Foreign Countries and British Colonies are explained by the importations of American food-stuffs and lumber, to which reference is made above; a large proportion of these imports passes through the neighbouring Islands of Barbados and Trinidad.

Imports.

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	29,847	28,358	27,291	29,241
British Colonies	31,667	34,908	44,812	52,046
Foreign Countries	9,975	7,558	16,205	22,340
Totals	71,489	70,824	88,308	103,627

Exports.

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	21,131	20,432	14,176	19,383
British Colonies	15,851	21,945	14,260	10,812
Foreign Countries	30,410	26,557	16,230	3,380
Totals	67,392	68,934	44,666	33,575

Agriculture.

19. From the agricultural point of view the year may be described as one of partial recovery from the effects of the hurricane of 1898, which absolutely stunned for awhile both proprietors and cultivators of the soil. It was gradually realised that the destruction wrought by the storm had not been so complete as was at first feared, and this applied more forcibly to arrowroot than to other products. The prospect of better prices,

arising from the limited outpu of arrowroot in 1898, stimulated effort, and the result was an exportation of this staple which, although less in quantity, was worth a little more than in the year before the hurricane. It is, however, matter for regret that the general body of cultivators failed to grasp that only special conditions had created the better prices, and the inevitable consequence has been a reversion to over-production in 1900.

20. Sugar-cane cultivation had apparently received its death-blow in the hurricane, but so deeply rooted is the attachment of the people to this industry that it already shows signs of a certain amount of revival, and, apart from sugar exported, considerable quantities of syrup are being made for local consumption.

The output of rum during the year was seriously affected by the storm, as only two distilleries were able to continue operations, and these manufactured 5,735 gallons. The destruction of illicit distilleries by the hurricane, and the plentiful circulation of relief funds in the island, caused an increased demand for the lawfully made article, so that the stock was soon exhausted, and rum had to be imported to meet the local consumption. It is to be regretted that towards the end of the year illicit distillation again made its appearance, and, although several successful raids have been made by the police, resulting in the capture of stills, and the punishment of offenders, the facilities afforded to smugglers by the difficult and mountainous nature of the country, and the sympathies of the common people are so great that the task of suppression is no easy one.

21. The damage to nutmeg trees is irretrievable, and it is doubtful, after their severe experience, whether cultivators will ever again be rash enough to attempt such a cultivation in this hurricane region. In regard to cocoa, however, the damage has proved to be comparatively partial, for even the fallen trees have in many cases recovered themselves, and where the injured ones have received careful attention directly after the storm there can be no doubt of their ultimate recovery. On estates where efficient windbreaks had been established this is more marked than in other cases; and where this precaution is taken in the future, it would seem that the risk of a hurricane—which after all is in these latitudes only an occasional visitor—may be faced as other risks are.

22. The greatest assistance was rendered by the Hurricane Loan to planters made from the Imperial Treasury. £50,000 was considerately offered by Her Majesty's Government as a loan at 3 per cent., with the object of assisting the planters to rebuild their works, but the peculiar conditions obtaining locally in regard to the ownership of the land (most of the larger owners not requiring such capital) operated to prevent the full amount being issued. It was, nevertheless, gladly taken advantage of by those really in need of it, and during 1899 loans to the

extent of £5,638 were made, and work vigorously pushed forward therewith. The total loans issued to date amount to £13,320. In nearly every case improved buildings and machinery have resulted, and the money put into local circulation in payment of labour on the work done has been invaluable.

23. The scheme for settling small proprietors on their own holdings, the land for this purpose being acquired by an Imperial Grant-in-Aid made towards the end of 1898, was proceeded with during the year. Several estates were purchased, and surveys commenced, dividing them up into allotments of about five acres each, for sale to settlers on a liberal system of instalments extending over sixteen years. The absence of an adequate number of surveyors delayed this work somewhat, but progress was nevertheless made, and in the current year the scheme is being put on a sound working basis, and is proceeding rapidly and satisfactorily. The ultimate good to the Colony from this scheme cannot be over-estimated. It strikes at the root of the conservatism of the typical land owner in St. Vincent, and, by establishing a solid nucleus of peasant proprietors with a variety of cultivable products, will destroy that too exclusive devotion to particular industries which has proved the bane of the Island in the past. It is not to be doubted that the example thus set by the Government of breaking up the land, hitherto held by a few, among many owners, will be followed before long by others who now find their properties a burden rather than a blessing; and although changes of this kind do not work miracles in regard to the prosperity of a colony, it requires little foresight to predict that in the situation thus evolving lies the only chance St. Vincent has of a prosperous future in view of the altered conditions of West Indian products in the markets of the world.

Botanical Station.

24. Good work was done by the staff during the year in issuing plants free of charge to cultivators who had suffered loss in the hurricane, and also in advising the new peasant settlers in connection with their holdings. The station itself was much improved, it becoming for the first time practicable to expend on it a sufficient sum of money for its needs, the Imperial Grant-in-Aid for this purpose taking effect from 1st October, 1898. The projected Agricultural School, connected with the Station, did not become a fact during the year, although the Agricultural Instructor for it was sent out in June; it has been fully established in the current year.

SHIPPING.

25. The following comparative statement of the total tonnage inwards and outwards for the last four years shows that the results of the year under review were less than in the preceding

year, and than the average; this is attributable to the large influx of shipping in 1898 after the hurricane, bringing supplies, &c.; and to the loss of local craft in the storm.

Year.	Tonnage Entered.	Tonnage Cleared.
1896	136,047	137,198
1967	123,937	124,940
1898	127,499	127,326
1899	122,853	122,735
Average ...	127,584	128,050

The total shipping entered and cleared in 1899 was 245,588 tons, of which 224,182 was steam tonnage, and all British; the sailing tonnage was 21,406 tons, of which 14,315 was British. Forty-five foreign vessels visited the island, 27 being Venezuelan, 12 Hollander, 5 American, and 1 French.

LEGISLATION.

26. Nine Ordinances passed into law during the year, the most important being the Land Settlement and the Hurricane Loan Ordinances, the objects of which are explained in paragraphs 22 and 23 above. Next in importance is the Ordinance abolishing export duties on sugar and its products, referred to in paragraph 7.

EDUCATION.

27. The results of Primary Education in 1898 and 1899 compare as follows:—

—	1898.	1899.
Number of Schools	36	33
Number on Roll	7,509	6,027
Average attendance	3,158	2,712
Government Grant-in-Aid	£ 1,957	£ 1,612

In regard to these statistics it must be borne in mind that all of the country schools were destroyed by the storm, and that the work of those in town was much hindered by the use of the buildings as refuges. In 1899, out of the Imperial Grant for damage done by the hurricane, reconstruction of the school buildings was commenced and pushed forward successfully. Many localities in which more than one school had existed before the storm were assigned one school in lieu thereof, and towards the end of the year school affairs began to resume a normal appearance. The destruction of school furniture will have to be remedied in the current year. The Education Code requires simplification, being far too complex and expensive for a small and embarrassed Colony.

28. The Kingstown Grammar School continued to make satisfactory progress, the numbers on roll increasing from 36 to 47 during the year. The curriculum of the school embraces the subjects required for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the annual examination is conducted by the Syndicate. The Government Grant to the school amounted to £128.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Colonial Hospital.

29. The number of the patients treated during the year was 665, of whom 350 were discharged cured, 194 relieved, 47 died, and 74 remained in hospital; the daily average was 80, as against 58 in 1896, 60 in 1897, and 96 after the hurricane in 1898. The abnormal conditions resulting from that disaster continued almost throughout the year. Special assistance in the shape of Medical Officers and Nurses had to be obtained from Grenada and Trinidad, both of which Colonies willingly responded to the call.

Georgetown District Hospital.

30. Under existing conditions this hospital is supposed to be only used for casualties, and the accommodation is limited; it does not, therefore, fulfil the requirements of a hospital for the Windward District, which is much needed, owing to the great difficulty attending the removal of cases, 24 miles by road, to Kingstown. Twenty-nine cases are reported as having been treated during the year, of which 14 were cured, 9 relieved, 4 did not improve, and 2 died: the daily average was 2.

Pauper Asylum.

31. Conditions at this institution in 1899 were unsatisfactory. As a result of the hurricane, the daily average, which had been 100 in 1897, was swollen to 142, which, having regard to the limited section of the buildings then assigned to inmates, over-crowded the Asylum. The figures for the year disclose that 131 inmates remained on at the end of 1898, and 144 were admitted during 1899, of whom 53 were discharged, and 48 died. Many of the defects of this Asylum have been remedied in the current year, and all details of its administration thoroughly re-organised.

Leper Asylum.

32. Fifteen inmates were in Asylum at the opening of the year, 6 fresh cases were admitted, and the daily average was 15; 3 patients died. This institution leaves much to be desired, but the Colony is, unfortunately, not able to provide a really suitable Asylum for all of its lepers. Some improvements have been effected in 1900, but the Asylum remains unisolated and insufficient for the needs of the Colony in this respect.

Low Point Asylum.

33. Following upon the hurricane it was deemed advisable to open a special Pauper Asylum at the old military hospital buildings at Low Point, and in this a daily average of 60 refugees was maintained during 1899. In the current year this has been closed, it having been found possible to discharge the majority of the inmates, and the remainder have been transferred to the re-organised Pauper Asylum, which now contains only 120 inmates altogether.

Savings Bank.

34. From the following statement of the work of the bank for the last five years, the results of 1899 appear to be larger than in the preceding years. The figures, however, are somewhat misleading, as the deposits and balance of 1899 contain a sum of £511 paid in under the provisions of the Land Settlement Ordinance, being the value of certain property acquired by the Government, and not yet claimed by its owner; this cannot be regarded as a true Savings Bank deposit. The number of depositors also includes no less than 248 accounts, in respect of which no transactions have taken place for 12 years, and the balances of which, amounting to £119, should have been forfeited to Colonial Revenue, as required by law, instead of appearing among the balances to credit of depositors at end of 1899.

Steps are being taken in this direction in the current year, and the figures of 1899 should really read as shown at foot of the statement:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits, including capitalised interest.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors 31st December.
		£	£	£
1895	1,012	4,316	4,460	8,974
1896	1,062	4,451	5,350	8,455
1897	1,047	4,515	4,383	8,771
1898	1,091	4,263	3,739	9,283
1899	1,036	5,375	5,123	9,716
Revised figures for 1899.	787	4,864	5,123	9,086

35. An analysis of the revised figures at the end of the year discloses that out of 787 accounts 512 are in sums of £5 or less, and that of the remainder 176 accounts do not exceed £25, evidencing that the bank is being chiefly used for small deposits. £8,500 of the funds of the bank are invested.

36. In the present year the much-needed branches of the bank have been opened at Georgetown and Chateaubelair, thus bringing its facilities home to the people of the country districts, and largely extending its operations and usefulness in the future.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

37. The Colonial Police Force consists of a Chief, a Sergeant-Major of European birth and military training, and 52 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. They are, in addition to their civil duties, drilled and trained to the use of arms, and are armed with Snider rifles. Besides ordinary police work, they render invaluable assistance to the Government in many details of the administration, being charged with the supervision of the excise duty on rum, and with co-operating in collection of customs duties, district post-office work, registration of births, &c., poor relief, and the management of the small district telephone exchanges. In the principal town they are

also responsible for extinguishing fires, receiving from the Town Board additional pay for this service; and the Kingstown Prison has just been incorporated with the Police Department. In fact, the aid given to the embarrassed finances of the Colony by the police force, under its efficient and hard-working Chief, cannot be too highly commended.

Prisons.

38. Three hundred and twenty-three persons were committed to prison in the year—177 men, 137 women, and 9 juveniles. The daily average was 31 against 25 in the previous year, and the total cost per prisoner is returned as being £13 15*s.* 2*d.* as against an average of £18 14*s.* 6*d.* in the seven years ending with 1899. The sanitary condition of the prison appears to have been good throughout the year, but much cannot be said in favour of the discipline enforced. At the date of this report the Police and Prison Departments have been amalgamated, and better results in this direction may be looked for in the future.

Crime.

38. Three hundred and twenty-three persons were committed victions obtained for the several classes of offences in the four years 1896-9:—

Convictions.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
Offences against the Person	188	179	163	164
Prædial Larceny	55	52	119	144
Other offences against Property ...	99	83	130	169
Other offences	377	387	431	427
Totals	719	701	843	904

It will be seen that the results of 1899 are higher than in any year of the series, a natural sequence of the disorganisation ensuing from the hurricane. At the same time it is evident that far less crime than might have been expected followed that

disaster. The Chief of Police writes as follows:—"Considering the demoralised condition of the community in the early part of the year, there was much less crime than might have been expected. Even at the most acute period of their sufferings, after the hurricane, there was no disposition shown by the people to break from the moral restraints of law and order. This is due, no doubt, to the measures of relief adopted by the Government in all parts of the Colony to ameliorate their wants. Prædial larceny of a petty character, to satisfy immediate cravings of hunger, occurred to a great extent, and depredations were openly committed on the sugar-cane cultivation remaining uninjured by the hurricane."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

40. The population at end of 1899 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 44,633. This estimate takes no account of emigration or immigration; of the latter there is little of a permanent nature, but there has necessarily been of late years an outgoing of the people in search of employment under better conditions than obtain locally. The population by last census was 41,054, so that if the estimate at end of last year be correct, there has been since 1891 an increase of 3,579 from natural causes. The natural increase in 1899 is returned as 633, the birth rate 36, and the death rate 21·6 per thousand. There was a marked increase in the number of marriages, 293 being registered as against 205 in 1898, and 189 in 1896, the last previous year in which a return was made.

Public Health.

41. The Colonial Surgeon reports that the health of the Colony in the early part of the year suffered from the special conditions created by the hurricane. Dysentery, diarrhœa, and fever of a typhoid type were prevalent, and were followed by epidemics of whooping cough and influenza, while in the rainy season gastro-enteritis and malarial fever appeared in some parts of the Colony. Severe thunderstorms in September cleared the air, and the remainder of the year proved healthy. He also notes that the disease of yaws (Framboesia), which used to be a scourge of the Island, is not nearly so prevalent since the storm; a result, possibly, he thinks, of the destruction of foul tenements, and the washing away by torrential rains of germ *foci*.

Sanitation.

42. There is a general Board of Health for the Colony in existence, but it never transacts any business, and the local

health law is cumbersome and difficult to work in the altered conditions of the Colony; important changes have been proposed in the current year, which should secure satisfactory sanitary arrangements. The Town Board of Kingstown keeps that town in a fairly good state of sanitation. At date of this report, as the result of special measures, it is particularly clean and well kept. Some of the smaller towns and the villages, however, require attention in this respect; and but for the very healthy climate, and the good natural conditions favouring drainage, there would be much trouble in connection with them.

Climate.

43. The rainfall for the year was below the average, 92 inches being recorded at the Botanic Station in the south of the Island, as compared with an average of 112 inches for the last ten years; 97 inches were received at Tourama, in the north east of the Island. The thermometer record for the year is incomplete, the instruments having been destroyed in the storm, but in the last nine months of the year, during which a record was kept, the minimum reading was 68·5 in December, and the maximum 88·5 in August. The highest corrected reading of the barometer was 30·152 in September, and the lowest 29·823 in December. The direction and force of the wind were normal, the prevailing wind being, as usual, the north-east trade.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

44. 1899 was the first year of the working of the Imperial penny postage rate and the improved triple scale of parcel post, and the results are distinctly satisfactory, as the subjoined figures show:—

—	1898.	1899.	Increase.
Letters to the United Kingdom ...	9,683	10,879	1,196
" " other places	46,626	66,760	20,134
Parcels from United Kingdom ...	705	744	39
" " other places	503	595	92

Post Office Revenue showed a large increase, being £2,281 against £1,691 in 1898; this was caused by the issue of a new set of combined revenue and postage stamps in the course of the year, which led to large orders from stamp dealers and collectors.

45. The revenue of the Telephone Department was £429, and its expenditure £359, excluding charges on loan for construction of system. £62 was also spent from the Imperial Grant on re-construction of lines after the storm. As nearly all of the trees along the Leeward route were destroyed, improved communication has resulted, leakage being thereby obviated. The number of paid messages sent was 606, as compared with 89 in 1898.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

46. A general review of the year 1899, taken from the point of view of an observer not connected with the Colony during the year, shows that, after a period of panic and uncertainty caused by the staggering blow received in the great hurricane of 1898, the Colonists began to make an effort to rehabilitate their fallen fortunes. The immense moral and actual support given by the Mother Country at this severe crisis cannot be either over-estimated or too gratefully acknowledged. The Colony was prostrate, and could never, of its own efforts, have regained its lost ground, when Her Majesty's Government, by a free grant of £25,000 to restore the damage done, and by a loan of £50,000 to enable planters to re-build their estate works, inspired some hope and confidence in the future. And not only did the Imperial Government thus show its practical sympathy with a suffering community, but the people of the United Kingdom and the Colonies also gave tangible proof of their kinship and goodwill by donations, of which the share apportioned to St. Vincent reached the sum of £20,586. This open-handed generosity not only did good by the expenditure within the Colony which it made possible, but brought home to the hearts of the sufferers that they were not being left to face the ordeal unaided, and that friendly eyes in all parts of the Empire were watching their efforts to emerge from the ruin inflicted by the cyclone.

47. That these efforts have not been in vain is evidenced by the condition of affairs in the Colony today, for, although fraught with difficulties, as the future of St. Vincent must necessarily be for some time to come, there can be no doubt that the energies of the Colonists are at work on a higher level than before the storm, when all was doubt and misgiving. Apart from the

Government scheme of land settlement, there is far more land made available to the peasants for cultivation, and as a consequence food is plentiful. The outlook for the arrowroot crop is cloudy, but it still exists, and still pays, even if not so much as it would if properly treated by the proprietors. If its presence as a paying staple can be preserved, a few more years should see it supplemented by other products, to the permanent advantage of the Colony.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Administrator.

St. Vincent,

24th October, 1900.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 316.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 280.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
JOHN MENZIES & CO., ROSE STREET, EDINBURGH, and
90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.
1900.
[Cd. 431-8.] *Price* 3*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
290	British Guiana	1897–98 & 1898–99
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898–99
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	"
295	Malta	"
296	Fiji	"
297	Turks Islands	"
298	Bahamas...	"
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"
307	Ceylon	"
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia	"
312	St. Vincent	"
313	Basutoland	1899–1900
314	Hong Kong	1899
315	Southern Nigeria	1899–1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade Report for 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.

No. 316.

GRENADA. 1899.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 280.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MOLONEY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
25th September, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the report on the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1899, by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Honourable Leslie Probyn.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor.

7303—800—11/1900 Wt 24600 D & S—5

GRENADA.
1899.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1899

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Revenue for 1899 was the largest ever collected in the Colony and amounted to £68,757 1*s.* 7*d.*, showing an excess of £5,882 3*s.* 7*d.* over the Revenue of 1898, and an excess of £9,239 over the average annual Revenue during the five previous years.

The estimated Revenue for the year was only £61,175.

The Expenditure amounted to £59,358 13*s.* 10*d.*, which, although £1,747 in excess of the Expenditure during 1898, was £632 less (solely attributable to reductions in personal emoluments) than the average annual Expenditure during the five previous years.

The estimated Expenditure for 1899 was £59,560.

REVENUE.—The following table enables the increases and decreases in the several Heads of Revenue which occurred in 1899 as compared with 1898 to be contrasted with the increases and decreases in 1899 as compared with annual average revenue of the same Heads during the five preceding years:—

TABLE I.

——	Increase.	Decrease.	Average of five years 1894-1898.	1899.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	10,440	—	27,708	38,148	32,713	5,435	—
Licences and Excise	—	1,339	26,305	24,966	24,756	210	—
Fees of Office	307	—	1,033	1,340	1,249	90	—
Post Office	—	761	1,547	786	1,140	—	353
Sale of 4th Centenary Stamps	—	29	105	76	528	—	451
Telephone	57	—	1,091	1,148	1,094	54	—
Rent of Government Property	17	—	408	425	366	59	—
Interest and Sinking Funds	67	—	898	965	769	195	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	—	20	120	100	185	—	85
Land Sales	—	211	298	87	70	17	—
Grant in aid of Botanical Station ...	711	—	711	711	Nil.	711	—
Total	11,599	2,360	60,224	68,752	62,870	6,771	889

GRENADA. 1899.

The Grant in Aid of the Botanical Station from Imperial Funds was made in 1899 for the first time. During 1898 an issue of $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ stamps was sanctioned to commemorate the Fourth Centenary of the discovery of the Colony, the sales of which naturally declined in 1899 as a result of the postage on nearly all extra colonial letters having been reduced from $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1d.$

Eliminating these two heads of revenue, which are shown in the Table in order that the balances may be checked, it becomes clear that the increase in Customs is the only direction in which substantial improvement is shown. Although in 1899 there was an increase of £210 in Licences and Excise, the amount received therefrom was £1,339 less than the average annual receipts for the five preceding years.

The Head of Revenue "Licences and Excise" is made up of revenue from (*a*) excise, (*b*) revenue stamps, (*c*) other sources of internal revenue, *e.g.*, Land and House Tax; from the following table it will be noticed that the principal decline was in Excise. The large increase in the amount received from Other Sources of Revenue is due partly to improved collection of the House and Land Tax, and partly to the increased number of licences taken out during 1899:—

TABLE II.

—	Increase.	Decrease.	Average.	1899.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Excise	—	1,225	11,811	10,586	12,462	—	1,876
Revenue Stamp Duties.	—	26	3,081	3,055	2,456	599	—
Other sources of Revenue.	—	88	11,413	11,325	9,838	1,487	—
Total ...	—	1,339	26,305	24,966	24,756	2,086	1,876

In 1897 the Excise work was transferred to the Police, and the amount of duty collected during that year, although below the average of the three preceding years, was satisfactory, while in 1898 the amount rose to £12,462, the largest amount collected for many years. The decline shown in 1899 cannot therefore be traced to the system introduced in 1896, but is probably due to three causes—(*a*) the importation of rum, which caused nearly

£1,000 of duty to be transferred from Excise to the Head of Revenue "Customs"; (*b*) in a small degree to the fact that the high price of rum brought it into competition with cheap whiskey; (*c*) the increased temptation to illicit trade consequent upon the increased price. [See observations on Imports *infra*.]

The increase shown in Revenue Stamp Duties is chiefly due to the amount collected in 1898 having been abnormally low in consequence of the stamp frauds which were perpetrated during that year and 1897.

The £38,148 collected from Customs was made up as follows:—(*a*) Import Duties £32,852, (*b*) 10 per cent. Additional Import Duty £3,285, (*c*) Export Duty £2,011.

It may be pointed out that the latter amount was £230 less than the duty paid on imported muscovado sugar.

Of the £32,852 Import Duties £25,650 was collected from specific duties on 25 classes of goods. £3,713 was collected from ad valorem duty on unenumerated articles.

Reverting to the decreases shown in Table I., it will be noticed that the most important decrease was in the Post Office, the revenue from which shows a decline of £353 when compared with 1898, and of £761 when contrasted with the average of the five preceding years. The explanation of the decrease is that the penny postage system was introduced during the year, and the relatively large decline from the five years' average is due to the large purchases of stamps in 1895 and 1896, a period during which the old system of having separate classes of stamps for revenue and postage purposes was abolished.

EXPENDITURE.—The expenditure in 1899 was £59,358, which, although an increase of £1,747 over the expenditure of 1898, is, as already stated, £632 less than the annual average for the five years 1894-1898.

The increases and decreases in the several Heads of Expenditure in 1899 as compared with 1898 (showing, as stated, a net increase of £1,747) are not of much interest; for example, decreases of £363 and £286 are respectively explained by the Postal Transit Charges which were paid in 1898, and by the Hurricane Grant to St. Vincent which was also made during that year.

Of the increases £1,134 took place in Public Works Recurrent, and is explained by the enforced economy in 1898 which made the expenditure under this Head during that year lower than in any year for a long time past.

Under Education an increase of £662 is due to the increased result grants which were earned.

Having called attention to the chief decreases and increases in 1899, it might appear natural to make a detailed comparison between the expenditure in 1899 and the annual average expenditure for the five preceding years. Such a course would, however, be misleading in dealing with the Treasury Department and with Education on account of the changes which took place at the end of 1896, the new Education Code having been then introduced, and the Post Office merged with the Treasury, the Excise work (till then done by the Treasury) being transferred to the Police.

TABLE III.

Expenditure on Police, Post Office, and Treasury since the change in 1896, and for the three years preceding the change.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1897	7,911	1,824	9,735
1898	7,811	2,582	10,393
1899	7,817	2,380	10,198
Annual Average	7,846	2,263	10,108
	£	£	£
1894	8,835	2,928	11,765
1895	8,836	2,538	11,374
1896	8,744	2,387	11,132
Annual Average	8,803	2,610	11,423

TABLE IV.

Expenditure on Education for the three years following the introduction of the new Education Code and for the three years before its introduction.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1897	415	5,688	6,103
1898	415	4,848	5,263
1899	400	5,526	5,926
Annual Average	410	5,354	5,764
	£	£	£
1894	408	5,667	6,075
1895	416	6,306	6,723
1896	415	6,675	7,090
Annual Average	413	6,216	6,629

These two tables show that if the expenditure during 1899 on the Departments concerned was compared with the annual average expenditure during the five preceding years, a considerable reduction would be shown in favour of 1899 both in money spent on personal emoluments and on other charges.

As already stated, if the total expenditure in 1899 is compared with the annual average expenditure of the five preceding years, a reduction (£668) is shown in the personal emoluments, while the variation in the total expenditure on "Other Charges" is nominal, the sum spent in 1899 being only £37 more than the five years' annual average. The explanation of there not being a larger reduction is that the savings in "Other Charges" in the heads of expenditure dealt with in Tables III. and IV. were

GRENADA. 1899.

counterbalanced by increases in the Heads—Charge on Account of Public Debt (£630); Pensions (£79); Agriculture (£142). The last increase is due to the contribution to the Botanical Station from Imperial Revenue which enabled more work to be done, and the increase in the Public Debt charges is because the principal Colonial Loan was not entirely spent until 1896.

In Appendix *A* is given the total Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the five years 1894 to 1898 inclusive.

Taxation.—The 10 per cent. Additional Import Duty was imposed throughout the year, but was not re-enacted, and therefore will not operate in 1900.

Assets and Liabilities.

The Assets of the Colony at the close of 1899 were £30,971, showing an increase of £13,888 over the Assets at the end of 1898, and showing a surplus £12,239 over Liabilities as compared with £984, the corresponding surplus in the preceding year.

Of the increase in the Assets, £11,433 was unquestionable, being made up chiefly by an increase of £8,257 on deposit or on current account at the Colonial Bank and by £2,000 invested in Victoria 3 per cent. Stock.

An increase of £597 took place in the amount of advances representing amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not then brought to account. The remaining balance of the increase of £13,888 being made up by a further augmentation of £1,857 in the amount (£3,836) owing, for interest and arrears of sinking fund contributions to the Government from the Parochial Boards.

The Liabilities amounted to £18,270 as compared with £16,098, the corresponding amount in 1898. The increase is due to the larger amount of the Savings Bank Account, which rose by £2,474 to £10,925.

The Supreme Court Account (Suitors' money) showed an increase of £684 and the Post Office Account (Money Orders &c.) a decrease of £576 as compared with the respective amounts in 1898.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt is £127,670, on all of which 4 per cent. interest is paid except upon a £4,000 loan which was raised in 1886-1889 and carries 4½ per cent.

The interest both on the £4,000 and on the balance of the Public Debt is paid half-yearly, and in both cases there is a

sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum. The accumulated sinking fund amounted at the end of 1899 to £8,033. The £4,000 loan is a debenture loan which is redeemed by periodical drawings, but the remainder of the loan is Stock redeemable at par at dates which were fixed when the Stock was issued and which in no case are more than 50 years from the date of issue.

With the exception of £37,890 issued in 1892-'94 for the conversion of previously existing 4½ per cent. debentures, all the Public Debt has been incurred for Public or Parochial work.

The last loan was completed in 1896, since when the Public Debt has not been increased.

Currency.

The Colonial Bank has a branch at St. George's and a district branch at Grenville.

The notes ($5) of the Bank and British silver are considered as legal tender, there being no right to insist upon payment in gold. This customary tender does not, of course, apply to payments made abroad in fulfilment of contracts entered into in the Colony.

In connection with changes due to an alteration in their charter, the Colonial Bank found it necessary to refrain during the early part of the year from issuing any notes. The notes in circulation were naturally lessened in number by this process, and for some weeks the community experienced all the inconveniences of a silver currency except those resulting from the depreciated value of silver. Ultimately notes were again issued and the temporary inconvenience ceased, but the incident has a value as an object lesson showing that the mere fact that a currency is limited to silver will not result in its depreciation.

Of the total note issue sanctioned by the Bank's Charter, $65,000 is at present apportioned to Grenada, an amount shown by experience to be quite sufficient.

Municipal Bodies.

There are six municipal corporations in the Colony, of which five, purely elective, are somewhat inaccurately styled "Parochial Boards," although their jurisdiction is confined to the towns over which they have control. The sixth corporation is the St. George's Town Board, and consists of ten members, of whom half are elected and half nominated by the Governor.

The following table shows the financial position of the Boards:—

TABLE V.

Financial position of the Town Boards at 31st December, 1899.

Town.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus Assets.	Deficit.	Loan Debt.	Accumulated Sinking Fund.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George	2,576	2,879	74	—	7,481	658
Grenville	910	896	—	3,836	13,270	57
Sauteurs	427	411	—	105	1,100	440
Victoria	273	272	—	—	1,404*	97
Gouyave	592	631	—	259	3,304†	152
Hillsborough	133	123	35	—	600	35
Total	4,911	5,212	109	4,200	27,159	1,439

* Does not include £417 advanced for jetty repairs.

† Does not include £250 due to the Government for old Court House premises.

The Boards derive their legal existence from Ordinances which may be regarded as the charter of each corporation. The Parochial Boards Ordinance, 1891, contains provisions enabling a Parochial Board to raise loans (with the consent of the Governor) for the construction of Public Works. The limit on this power is that no loan may issue which would make the charges for interest and sinking fund exceed one-fourth of the income of the Board. The loans shown in the table are all due to the Government.

In the event of the payments for interest or sinking fund being in default the Governor-in-Council is empowered to levy within the town in default such additional rates as may be necessary. By what has been termed their Charter the Parochial Boards are compelled to keep their cash at the Colonial Bank, and if they make default in their payment to the Government, and *if* their account is in credit at the Bank, power is given to the Colonial Treasurer to obtain payment of the amount due to the Government by drawing a cheque on the Board's account.

The St. George's Town Board and the Parochial Boards of Hillsborough and Grenville have, in connection with systems of water supply, jurisdiction beyond the town boundaries.

In appendix *B* will be found a comparative table of the Revenue and Expenditure for a series of years of the Grenville Board, which in its capacity as the Grenville Water Authority is the chief cause of the unfortunate financial position of the ratepayers within the town proper.

The Report of the Parochial Boards Commission was published during the current year, and consequently the conclusions arrived at are not now referred to.

TRADE, &c.

Imports and Exports.

The total Imports amounted to £226,828, being £25,045 more than the Imports in 1898, and £48,278 over the annual average for the five years—1894 to 1898 inclusive.

The total Exports amounted to £267,738, being £10,464 more than the Exports in 1898, and £75,798 over the average for the five years mentioned.

It will be noticed that the excess of Exports over Imports reached £40,910 as compared with £13,290, the average annual excess during the five years preceding 1899.

*Imports.**

The excess of £25,045 was mainly due to the increase in the imports from the British Colonies caused by the larger importation of "Food and Drink Supplies" (Z.—2). The chief increases were an increase in imports from Barbados of £4,700, Trinidad £3,400, St. Kitts £1,000. The imports from St. Vincent diminished by £1,000, in consequence of the results of the hurricane which visited that colony during the last quarter of 1898.

IMPORTS.—The excess of £25,045 in the importations was thus made up:—

(*a*) An excess of £15,413 in Class I. (Live Animals, Food and Drink Supplies, Narcotics), the importation of which amounted to £104,440, an increase of 17 per cent. over the amount in 1898.

(*b*) An excess of £2,248 in Class II. (Raw Materials), which amounted to £18,715.

(*c*) An excess of £7,520 in Class III. (Manufactured Articles), the importation of which amounted to £100,548, an increase of 8 per cent. over the amount in 1898.

(*d*) Coin and Bullion was imported to the value of £3,125, being £135 less than in 1898.

Of the £15,413 excess in Class I., *one half* was caused by increased importations of molasses and muscovado sugar; of the former only £289 was imported in 1898, as compared with £3,142 in 1899. Of muscovado £6,860 was imported, showing an excess of £4,892. The cause of these considerable increases was the collapse of sugar cultivation during the year, and the fact that the stock of rum left at the end of 1898 was low. The price of rum rose from 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon to 4*s.*, and consequently the small cane crop was used by the distillers, with the result that nearly all the muscovado required had to be imported from neighbouring colonies.

The duty paid on this sugar amounted to £2,241.

The importation of Flour (which comes almost exclusively from the United States) declined in value by £1,707 to £25,167, a result of the high prices in 1898; the quantities imported in 1899 showing an excess of 4,653 barrels, and consequently an increase in the duty of £930.

* In the Blue Book for 1898, the importation of manufactured articles (metal) is overstated by £9,000. In this report the comparisons are made on the corrected figures.

An increase of £1,077 is shown in Fish (Dried and Preserved) which is due to high prices. Most of this article is imported from the British West Indies, but some comes from the United States, and this latter quantity rose in 1899 to 239,066 lbs., as compared with 58,045 lbs. in 1898.

An increase of £1,917 took place in the amount of Meat (Salted and Preserved), nearly all of which comes from the United States.

A decrease of £900 is shown in Rice, the price of which rose during the year.

An increase of £311 took place in the value of "Gin and Rum" imported. On this the duty is 5*s.* per proof gallon, and as the duty received from this source increased by £907 to £2,181, it is clear that importation of high proof rum was the cause of the increase.

The importations of Class II. (Raw Material) rose by £2,248, of which nearly one half was caused by the increased use of manure, £1,817 of which was bought. Of this amount £376 came from the United States, from which none was imported in 1898. The Foreign West Indies also supplied £321, as against nil in 1898; while the manure from the United Kingdom increased by £833, and that from the British West Indies showed a large decrease.

During 1898 and 1899 larger quantities of building materials were imported than usual. In 1899, however, less prosperity is shown than in 1898, there having been a decrease in the total value and in the quantity of the "Shingles" imported and a decrease in the quantity of Timber, which latter, however, rose in value. The trade in these materials seems to have been in 1899 rather more favourable to the West Indies and less so to the United States than in 1898.

With regard to the increase of £7,520 shown in Class III. (Manufactured Articles) a large decrease is shown in textile manufactures, which would be adverse to the United Kingdom whence such articles chiefly come. On the other hand, in "Glassware," "Hardware," "New Furniture," and in the "unenumerated metal manufactures," all of which are chiefly imported from England, increases are shown which more than counterbalance the £3,000 diminution in textiles, and which together with well distributed but small increases in other articles of the class result in the net increase of £7,520.

The Imports were thus divided:—

From the United Kingdom	£101,921	showing an excess of	£6,938
" British Colonies	£64,603	" " "	£10,737
" Foreign Countries	£60,303	" " "	£7,370

GRENADA. 1899.

Of the excess of £7,370 from Foreign Countries, £5,534 is due to importations from the United States and nearly £1,300 to importations from France.

Foreign import trade is at present almost entirely confined to the United States, and the following figures may therefore be of interest as having a bearing on the prospects of the new Canadian line.

Year.	Imports from the United States.	Imports from Canada.
	£	£
1896	44,872	1,658
1897	44,529	2,816
1898	52,104	6,372
1899	57,638	6,748

The Blue Book, as has been customary, does not tabulate the principal imports of the Colony for a series of years.

In 1895 the values of imports were for the first time calculated according to their statistical value, consequently the following tables begin with that year. Table VI. contains articles important as indicating the position of the well-to-do classes. Table VII. is limited to what may be regarded as necessaries, while Table VIII. is of intermediate character.

The significance of Table VII. will be understood when it is remembered that in 1894, 1898, and 1899 the price of cocoa was very much higher than during the three intervening years, and also that during the first three years the corn crop probably failed. (Vide Climate).

Abstract of the Values of the Principal Articles imported (exclusive of transhipments) during the years 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899.

	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Butter	1,441 13 4	1,303 10 0	1,176 16 5	869 9 9	1,987 5 10
Fish, Salmon	394 5 5	213 15 1	192 9 6	296 2 5	377 14 6
Malt in bottles	1,201 18 1	1,183 4 4	1,217 13 5	1,336 8 10	1,731 11 6
Mineral Water	372 3 6	219 14 10	267 14 1	285 0 3	342 8 8
Sweetened Bitters	249 1 6	237 12 8	247 10 0	345 7 9	447 9 8
Tea...	256 11 2	262 3 2	219 5 3	430 14 5	344 16 0
Cigars, Long	34 5 3	21 15 11	24 3 6	21 6 10	71 14 3
Cigars, Short	250 10 8	98 1 6	114 1 4	258 1 1	236 13 1
Cigarettes		90 1 3	108 15 0	82 10 0	153 0 8
Jewellery	327 2 2	337 9 3	213 6 6	338 17 11	577 9 4
Books	1,124 19 3	1,381 14 2	689 8 4	506 17 7	1,200 10 9
Carriages	358 1 10	214 1 10	94 4 9	282 4 3	642 8 10
Photographic Apparatus and Chemicals ...	83 9 7	88 16 0	61 5 8	58 3 11	84 0 3
Totals	6,094 1 9	5,652 0 0	4,626 13 9	5,111 5 0	8,197 3 4

GRENADA.
1899.

TABL

Abstract of the Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported (ex

—	1895.		1896.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d
Bread of all kinds	2,725 brls. (in 1894, 244,135 lbs.)	1,148 14 11	2,890¼ brls.	1,054 15
Corn	—	741 13 11	—	330 18
Cheese	—	731 1 8	—	618 12
Fish (dried and preserved) ...	1,262,600 lbs. (in 1894, 1,095,686 lbs.)	9,397 5 0	1,458,971 lbs.	10,335 6
Fish, Mackerel	—	394 5 5	—	536 7
Flour, Wheaten	26,499¾ brls. (in 1894, 31,087 brls.)	24,317 10 6	22,233 brls.	20,438 14 1
Malt in wood...	—	161 9 7	—	137 11
Meal	202,890 lbs. (in 1894, 385,987 lbs.)	791 5 4	197,421 lbs.	608 12
Meat (salted and preserved)	573,508 lbs. (in 1894, 581,537 lbs.)	7,956 9 0	556,829¼ lbs.	6,319 1 1
Molasses	38,991 gals.	1,362 13 9	7,828 gals.	258 18
Oil, Lard	—	432 17 3	—	197 16 1
Olive	—	1,900 0 8	—	1,503 3
Cotton Seed	—	224 4 3	—	234 13
Cocoanut	—	36 18 8	—	83 15
All other kinds used for cooking	—	246 3 7	—	181 15
Pease, Dried	—	410 17 0	—	304 17
Rice	1,021,368 lbs. (in 1894, 1,361,244 lbs.)	4,404 8 7	973,165 lbs.	4,185 9
Salt (fine)	—	519 13 4	—	131 10
Salt (course)				519 11
Sugar, Muscovado	—	—	68,946 lbs.	399 13
Syrup	—	—	—	314 14
Candles, Tallow	—	271 5 0	—	218 13
Totals	—	55,448 17 5	—	48,914 13

II.

sive of transhipments) during the years 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899.

1897.		1898.		1899.	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
—	1,497 11 10	242,419 lbs.	1,977 4 4	260,212 lbs.	1,972 13 5
—	594 1 2	—	360 12 0	—	286 3 0
—	955 5 1	—	812 19 1	—	1,146 2 4
97,743 lbs.	9,881 1 3	1,510,821 lbs.	12,120 7 0	1,384,964 lbs.	13,197 6 3
—	476 12 9	—	271 8 4	—	145 15 2
,429 brls.	23,158 8 5	22,915½ brls.	26,874 6 3	27,568⅝ brls.	25,167 0 4
—	88 10 1	—	179 1 1	—	95 14 3
1,698 lbs.	807 2 1	307,462 lbs.	1,131 17 2	270,778 lbs.	1,030 8 2
7,577 lbs.	6,191 13 11	584,200½ lbs.	7,623 19 1	740,167 lbs.	9,540 8 7
19 gals.	16 11 3	8,190 gals.	289 12 8	56,827 gals.	3,142 6 3
—	170 3 3	—	158 10 2	—	122 2 1
—	1,517 6 4	—	1,273 10 5	—	1,756 1 1
—	278 10 8	—	473 13 10	—	606 2 7
—	9 12 9	—	12 5 9	—	—
—	276 18 10	—	95 8 9	—	220 10 5
—	432 13 11	—	505 15 11	—	396 15 4
,062 lbs.	5,021 14 1	1,122,321 lbs.	4,880 1 0	851,947 lbs.	3,973 15 7
—	96 11 8	—	30 16 1	—	42 2 10
—	564 19 4	—	448 5 2	—	320 17 3
892 lbs.	565 10 7	397,740 lbs.	1,968 13 9	1,075,620 lbs.	6,860 1 1
—	194 10 1	—	288 18 2	—	194 15 7
—	177 8 9	—	191 2 3	—	191 5 0
—	52,972 18 1	—	61,968 8 3	—	70,408 6 7

TABLE VIII.

Abstract of the Values of the Principal Articles imported (exclusive of transhipments) during the years 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898 and 1899.

——	1885.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mules	504 3 11	120 8 9	41 2 1	131 18 4	982 18 6
Lard	1,432 9 4	1,251 17 6	1,064 12 10	1,322 11 2	1,539 1 11
Medicinal Preparations and Extracts	1,889 16 4	1,554 11 8	1,916 19 4	1,6[illegible]7 6 3	1,803 15 10
Oats	2,077 6 3	2,178 14 10	2,029 18 1	2,589 17 1	2,757 6 10
Oleomargarine and Butterine	2,940 2 11	2,315 8 3	2,483 0 5	2,821 18 10	3,476 17 5
Onions	578 14 6	529 6 5	659 15 1	600 5 10	586 0 7
Brandy and Whiskey	1,916 9 10	1,426 13 3	1,465 14 1½	2,096 11 4	2,868 7 7
Gin and Rum	738 4 3	361 7 0	565 16 1	849 16 2	1,160 13 1
Sugar refined	5,193 19 9	2,449 3 0	2,555 2 1	2,989 7 9	3,415 15 6
Wines of all kinds (except medicated) ...	1,690 15 2	1,552 5 7	1,737 18 0	1,760 10 6	2,291 16 1
Tobacco	2,179 10 11	1,735 16 9	2,081 13 11	2,151 5 8	2,141 7 11
Coal*	7,258 18 11	1,299 11 0	234 16 1	128 1 10	397 11 11

Leather (unmanufactured)	637 10 6	627 6 10	316 12 8	1,011 13 0	1,148 0 2
Manure	461 15 8	556 8 4	583 5 3	798 9 7	1,817 8 8
Oil, Petroleum	2,675 11 5	2,146 13 1	1,891 17 1	2,539 18 4	2,878 9 5
Ship Building Materials	20 18 9	56 7 6	58 17 1	45 14 1	17 3 9
Ropes and Cordage	915 12 4	766 9 4	801 19 2	958 8 8	1,305 6 4
Bricks or Tiles	204 14 3	71 18 6	78 7 6	607 15 0	283 6 1
Shingles	724 9 11	755 5 0	1,253 2 4	1,883 15 1	928 0 11
Tallow	39 4 8	35 18 8	24 17 10	22 7 2	29 10 3
Timber (sawn or hewn)	4,558 8 0	5,155 8 4	5,500 13 9	9,155 4 11	10,204 7 11
†Tools for Agriculture	654 12 10	621 0 8	526 18 8	511 10 1	240 7 2
Machinery (exempted and unexempted) ...	548 7 1	1,049 11 4	281 18 0	209 19 0	699 3 5
Musical Instruments	465 19 7	143 0 7	224 4 6	434 5 6	330 2 5
Candles other than Tallow	374 11 4	414 16 8	476 15 10	697 18 0	526 5 10
Carts and Waggons, &c.	240 9 7	77 1 6	93 12 0	41 19 11	52 19 9
Cement	1,343 12 5	965 13 3	671 1 7	1,637 8 8	1,190 17 10
Furniture (new)	867 6 8	448 7 0	205 9 11	932 11 8	1,837 19 2

* The excess shown over the importations in 1899 is accounted for by the fact that St. George's is no longer a coaling port.
† The steady decline cannot be explained.

Abstract of the Values of the Principal Articles imported, &c.—*continued.*

—	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Furniture (old)	363 7 8	115 4 7	39 14 5	72 6 7	517 6 10
India Rubber and Guttapercha Goods ...	96 19 11	151 3 4	108 18 1	104 6 8	255 8 4
Stationery	1,114 11 11	671 14 8	626 6 4	722 5 6	1,016 17 7
Wearing Apparel and Haberdashery	16,319 11 1	4,526 18 10	11,027 14 10	6,141 14 9	6,920 8 0
Hardware	3,470 2 9	2,634 1 0	2,367 12 5	3,624 6 8	5,412 4 1
Sewing Machines of all types	2 6 10	79 10 5	224 1 6	190 7 10	228 18 6
Boots and Shoes	3,123 19 4	4,062 16 4	4,764 16 5	4,372 11 10	4,674 7 7
Earthen and Glassware	2,305 0 0	1,368 15 0	1,940 7 0	2,436 15 1	3,410 12 0
Leather (manufactured)...	1,183 5 11	4,806 2 6	4,400 12 2	1,400 19 6	1,593 16 6
Matches (large boxes)	285 2 6	43 18 4	229 13 8	106 3 4	5 15 10
Matches (small boxes)		154 0 2	41 2 11	319 8 8	367 3 0
Soap	3,166 4 10	3,572 0 4	2,161 19 9	2,921 1 9	3,300 12 9
Totals	75,564 9 10	52,852 16 1	57,759 0 9½	62,990 16 7	74,614 13 3

Two points will at once be noticed from these returns. The rise in 1899 shown in Table VI. indicates in which direction prosperity was most felt.

The cocoa crop ending in September, 1897, was the second best known in the Colony, and more cocoa was actually shipped during 1896 than in any year, yet owing to the low *price* of cocoa the importations fell to the extent shown in the tables.

Exports.

Cocoa was exported during the period 1894 to 1898 as follows, the amount shown as exported in 1898 being the correct amount although not that given in last year's Blue book:—During the year 1894, 72,622 cwt.; 1895, 69,191 cwt.; 1896, 90,193 cwt.; 1897, 65,849 cwt.; 1898, 78,350 cwt.; 1899, 79,472 cwt.

These figures represent the amount of cocoa which according to the departmental returns was exported during the financial year; and they are, of course, quite different from the crop returns, details of which are given later in this report. The departmental returns represent the Colony's spending power for the year and consequently have their value; the crop returns show the progress of the cocoa industry, and should alone be regarded as the test in all matters connected with that progress.

Owing to Nutmegs being exported in packages of irregular shape and weight it is not possible from the departmental returns to show the position of the nutmeg industry for a series of years.

The following table contrasts the exportation of the principal exports in 1899 with the equivalent amounts during the five preceding years:—

TABLE IX.

Value of the Principal Products of Grenada exported in the six years 1894–99.

Year.	Cocoa.	Coffee.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fruit.	Firewood.	Ground Nuts.	Hides.	Kola Nuts.	Live Stock.	Logwood.	Manure.	Pease.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1894 ...	168,498	120	4,267	1,060	422	481	42	221	41	1,302	1,330	15	134	387	9,583	50	170
1895 ...	138,520	66	3,543	1,020	584	466	74	179	133	1,385	1,733	—	476	204	20,984	15	118
1896 ...	159,519	217	3,840	634	880	538	86	167	180	1,304	372	84	128	235	12,424	192	167
1897 ...	132,642	283	2,132	588	540	605	25	105	88	1,230	302	197	6	226	13,503	—	165
1898 ...	227,655	59	2,495	639	427	476	7	168	43	1,211	54	—	43	166	22,107	—	297
1899 ...	234,610	13	2,077	564	672	513	7	198	96	1,086	25	—	126	496	21,761	24	219

As already stated, the Exports amounted to £267,738 0*s.* 10*d.*, being £10,464 more than last year. There being a decline in value both of the spices exported and of the cotton and cotton seed, the excess was chiefly due to the increase in the cocoa and to an export of miscellaneous merchandise, amounting to £2,000, to Venezuela.

The bulk of the cocoa shipped to Europe was sent with an option to unload at Havre or London. In most cases Havre was stated to be the port chosen, with the result that the returns show a diminution of £22,990 in the exports to the United Kingdom and an increase of £24,091 in those to France.

An increase of £5,116 took place in the exports to the United States, which country bought an unusually large proportion of the nutmeg crop.

The Summary of Imports and Exports (Z—1) shows small exports to Holland, Germany, and Denmark, and the details show, I believe for the first time, a not inconsiderable exportation of nutmegs to Canada.

In Appendix *C* is shown the Total Imports and Exports for the five years ending December 31st, 1898.

Agriculture.

In April a successful Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition was held at St. George's.*

The Administration Report upon the Botanical Gardens for 1899 has not yet been received, so that no mention is made in this report of the work done by that institution.

The Cotton crop was poor, there having been, when compared with the annual average of the four preceding years, a decline of 533 cwt. and 370 cwt. in Raw Cotton and Cotton Seed respectively.

The apparent influence of the combined effect of wind and rain upon cocoa crops is alluded to in the observations upon Climate made later in this report. Whether the conclusions there suggested are correct or the reverse, the increased expenditure upon manure, already alluded to in connection with "Imports," is strong evidence to show that great attention was given to the cocoa cultivation during the year.

* A grant of £50 for prizes was contributed by the Imperial Department of Agriculture.

GRENADA. 1899.

Unsatisfactory prices alone prevent an extension in coffee cultivation and in Kola planting. The following show that there is a steady decline in the export both of Coffee and Kola nuts:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£
Coffee	216	283	59	13
Kola Nuts	180	131	43	96

The Grenada Agricultural Society increased its membership during the year, and in addition to its ordinary work, organised the Exhibition referred to. There being no Commercial Association in the Colony it is very difficult to fill in accurately the returns as to wages, price of foodstuffs, cultivated acreage, &c., given in form BB. in the Blue Book.

SHIPPING.

Steam Vessels.—162 steamers entered and 161 cleared during the year; with the exception of one steamer which cleared at Hillsborough, all both entered and cleared at St. George's.

A marked increase is shown in foreign shipping, 22 vessels (eight Norwegian and 14 United States of America) having entered and 22 (nine Norwegian and 13 American) having cleared, as compared with three and three respectively during the previous year and *nil* during 1896 and 1897. Fifty per cent. of these vessels both cleared and entered in ballast, whereas of the British steamers 47 per cent. cleared and only 34 per cent. entered in ballast. The proportion of British vessels which entered in ballast seems unusually low, the percentage having been 41 per cent. in 1898 and 47 per cent. in 1897.

A calculation of the averages shows that though the British steamers were smaller than the foreign vessels, they carried a larger crew:—

—	Average Number of crew per vessel.	Average Tonnage of vessels.	Proportion of Tonnage per head of the crew.
British	41	1,325	32
Foreign	35·5	1,616	45·5

Foreign Steamers.—Of the 22 Foreign Steamers 11 came with cargoes from the United States of America and one from the British West Indies, whence also came the 10 vessels in ballast.

Of the 22 Foreign Steamers which cleared nine went in ballast to the British West Indies and one to the United States of America. Of the remaining 12 which left with cargoes 11 went to the United States and one to the British West Indies.

British Steamers.—60 vessels arrived from and 50 departed for the United Kingdom the numbers being in both cases almost exactly the same as in each of the three preceding years. With the exception of one vessel which arrived in ballast all both arrived and departed with cargoes.

Sixty-two vessels arrived from and 69 departed to the British West Indies as compared with 76 and 77, the average numbers for the three preceding years. In 1896 50 per cent. of the vessels trading to and from the British West Indies were with cargoes, whereas in 1899 only 19 arrived and only 10 departed with cargoes; as the last two numbers were above the respective averages for the two preceding years, it would seem that the trade in 1896 was unusual in character.

Fourteen British Vessels arrived from and 12 departed to the United States of America, both numbers showing a reduction of about one-third on the average of the three preceding years. All the vessels trading between the Colony and the United States, as usual, both entered and cleared with cargoes, in which respect they differed from the vessels going to Venezuela and to the Dutch West Indies, every one of which departed in ballast.

One steamer was taken of the register and registered in the United States, a fact which explains part of the above-mentioned difference between the number of arrivals and clearances.

SAILING VESSELS.—The total number of vessels entered was 391, being an increase of 53 over the number entered in 1898, but almost exactly equal to the totals for 1896 and 1897.

The total of foreign vessels entered was 41, showing an increase on 13, the average for the three preceding years. Of the foreign vessels 50 per cent. entered and 34 per cent. cleared in ballast, whereas in the case of British vessels only 4 per cent. entered and 20 per cent. cleared in ballast.

The following table shows that the foreign vessels were larger than the British and carried proportionately smaller crews:—

—	Average Number of crew per vessel.	Average Tonnage of vessel.	Proportion of Tonnage per head of crew.
British	4·7	27	5·8
Foreign	5·7	44	7·5

The average tonnage of foreign vessels, it may be noted, was much less than the average of the three preceding years.

With unimportant exceptions all the British vessels entered and cleared from and to the British West Indies.

Sixty per cent. of the foreign vessels entered from Venezuela and 25 per cent. from the Dutch West Indies, while 51 per cent. cleared for Venezuela, 30 per cent. for the Dutch West Indies, and 14·5 for the British West Indies.

Nearly all the Venezuelan vessels entered in ballast and cleared with cargoes.

In Appendix *D* a summary is given of the shipping during the last five years.

LEGISLATION.

There was no legislation of importance during the year, a fact due to the recent revision of the Laws of the Colony.

EDUCATION.

EDUCATION.—The expenditure on Education was £5,926, being thus apportioned, £4,654 on Primary Schools, £595 on Secondary Schools, and the balance on the salaries of the Inspector of Schools and of the Librarian, and on other miscellaneous matters.

Secondary Schools.—(1.) The Grammar School (undenominational) receives a fixed annual grant of £250, and also a grant of £5 a head on every boy who receives half marks in the annual examination. The average attendance of boys was 44 (the number on the roll being 48), and at the examination (conducted by examiners wholly disconnected with the School), 29 passed. thus making the Government contribution for the year £395, to which sum has to be added £30 paid by the Government in respect of the six scholarships at the Grammar School (tenable for five years) which are awarded to boys from the Primary Schools. The school fees amounted to £226 and voluntary contributions to £25, making a total revenue of £676, which practically balanced the expenditure, the latter averaging £14 1*s.* 0*d.* per scholar on the roll.

(2.) The Girls' High School (undenominational). The Government contribution consists of a grant (not to exceed £100 in all) of £2 per head on the average daily attendance. The latter was only 35 (there being 40 on the roll), so that the school was unable

to earn the full Government Contribution. From school fees the school obtained £180, from voluntary contributions £9, making total revenue of £259, which was £8 more than the expenditure. The school fees, it will be noticed, equal £4 10*s.* 0*d.* per scholar on the roll, as compared with £4 14*s.* 0*d.* in the case of the Grammar School. The School is not endowed in any way and has to pay rent, it is thus possible that one cause of the inability to obtain the maximum Government contribution is that the high school fees which are necessary to keep the school solvent, prevent many from being able to send their girls to the school.

(3.) St. Joseph's Convent School (denominational). The Government grant is given on the same principle as to the Girls' High School. The daily average is 64, thus enabling the school to obtain £100, the maximum of the grant. The school fees amounted to £140 and voluntary contributions to £20, making a total revenue of £260, which is £123 *in excess** of the expenditure. The school fees average £1 15*s.* 0*d.* per scholar.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.—The amount spent on the Education during the three years before and after the Introduction of the Code is shown in Table IV.

The Expenditure on Secondary Education, on the Library, and on miscellaneous educational matters has not varied greatly; the cause of the reduction shown in the Table is the Education Code, which came into operation at the end of 1896. Thus the total Government Contributions to Primary Schools in 1895 was £5,354, in 1896 £5,792; whereas in 1898 the amount was £4,046, and £4,654 in 1899.

The Code of 1896 which now regulates the Government grant to Primary Schools reduced the amount spent on salaries, reduced the Capitation grant, and diverted it from the teachers to the purchase of school supplies; on the other hand, it increased the scale of the result grant, although this last increase is considerable, the result grant to all the schools in 1896 being only £1,141, whereas in 1899 it amounted to £1,630, nevertheless it does not counterbalance the saving in other directions.

In 1899 there were 41 schools open as compared with 37 in 1896. The schools, with the exception of those under Government control, are denominational.

The following table shows the large increase in the number of scholars on the roll since 1896. The large increase in the Catholic Schools is partially accounted for by there being three infant schools now, which was not the case in 1896. This explains also the different figures shown in the table as being the amount after deducting that paid in respect of infants:—

* The expenditure is not debited with Teachers' salaries the tuition being given by the Sisters.

TABLE X.

Denomination.	Number of Schools.		Scholars on the roll in 1896.	Scholars on the roll in 1899.	Rate of increase since 1896.	Present proportion to total scholars on the roll.	Total Government Contribution in 1896 apportioned per head on the roll.	The same in 1899.	Result Grant earned in 1899 apportioned per head of scholars on the roll.
	1896.	1899							
Wesleyan	4	4	756	852	12·5	10·6	247*d.*	141*d.*	49¾*d.*
Anglican	7	7	1,161	1,569	35·2	17·0	230*d.*	138*d.*	47½*d.*
Government ...	10	9	1,721	2,113	22·7	22·8	204*d.*	134*d.*	42½*d.*
Roman Catholic ...	14	19	3,274	4,493	37·2	48·5	153*d.*	101*d.* [or deducting infants 106*d.*]	38½*d.* [or deducting infants 40*d.*]
Presbyterian ...	2	2	216	213	—	—	—	—	—

From this table it will be noticed that since 1896 the expenditure per head in Government Schools has shown a tendency* to approximate to that in the Wesleyan and Anglican Schools. In the Catholic schools, however, the cost per head remains very far lower than in all other schools, a fact the more remarkable when the relatively large earnings (40*d.* per head) from the result grant are borne in mind. The school fees (which go to the teachers) collected per head of average attendance are:—

Denomination.	Per Annum.
Wesleyan	2*s.* 5*d.*
Anglican	2*s.* 7*d.*
Government	3*s.* 4*d.*
Roman Catholic... ...	1*s.* 1*d.*

As these fees may be regarded as voluntary payments, inasmuch as that the non-payment does not effect the Government contribution, it would appear that the Catholic Schools do not require more monetary aid in spite of that now obtained by them being relatively far below the amounts paid to other Schools.

The result grant is only granted in respect of a scholar who has made 200 attendances during the year, and consequently may be regarded as indicating to some extent the discipline of a school as well as its educational position. For this reason the table does not show the average of attendance at the various schools.

If the Code be viewed as having for its main object instruction in the three R's only, the amount earned in result grant is a fairly accurate test of the extent to which a school achieves the object of the Code. Owing, however, to the bulk of that grant being earned in respect of pupils in the preliminary and first three standards the total result grant earned is not an index of a school's efficiency in giving tuition in the higher standards.

Denomination.	Result Grant earned in the Preliminary Standard.	Total Result Grant Earned.
	£	£
Wesleyan	39 or 22 °/₀ of	176
Anglican	87 or 28 °/₀ of	311
Roman Catholic...	249 or 34 °/₀ of	719
Government	142 or 38 °/₀ of	372

* A partial explanation is that certain salary allowances (*e.g.*, house rent) have had to be continued pending a change in the teaching staff.

GRENADA. 1899.

Agriculture is not a compulsory subject under the Code, and probably the first opportunity which children had of learning that it was useful to know something of plant life was in 1897 when they may have overheard the advice given to their parents or neighbours by the Curator during one of his periodical visits.

These visits were made under an arrangement then started by His Excellency Sir Alfred Moloney as a step towards spreading a knowledge of agriculture. During 1899 further progress was made in the same direction, arrangements being then completed whereby the Teachers in all the aided schools would be able to attend during the current year Lectures on Agriculture, given by Lecturers appointed by the Imperial Department of Agriculture, thus enabling them to qualify themselves to teach Agriculture in their respective schools.

The interest taken by parents in the education of their children is a great guide in forming an opinion of the social well being of a country. Judged by such a test the status of the Colony is satisfactory, as the results of the yearly examinations are followed with great interest by the parents, large numbers of whom gather at the schools on examination days.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Colony Hospital.

This well situated building was opened in 1897, so that it is only possible to consider the results of two years work. The staff of attendants, four day and two night nurses, as well as five assistant servants, was the same during both years. In 1899 the number of patients admitted was 781, being 80 more than in the preceding year, an increase solely due to the larger number of female patients admitted.

Judging by results the ailments although more numerous in 1899 were less serious than in 1898, as there were 153 more patients cured and 27 fewer deaths in the former than during the latter year.

The daily average number of patients in the hospital was 103, being seven in excess of the normal number of beds assigned to all the wards, whereas in 1898 the full accommodation of the hospital was not taken advantage of.

Complaints as to irregularity of the water supply resulted in it being decided to give an alternative source of supply, but the work could not be done during the year. In spite of the defect in the water service, however, the general cleanliness and well being of the institution seem to have been maintained, as no cases occurred of a fresh disease breaking out amongst the patients.

The Hospital is not used by sick persons coming for medical treatment from other countries, the large number of Barbadians and Vincelonians, &c. shown by the Returns to have been inmates during the year being in reality permanent inhabitants of Grenada.

The most prevalent disease requiring treatment was ulcer in various forms, there being 203 cases (more than one quarter of the total) during the year. The next most prevalent diseases were, malarial fever (66 cases), rheumatism (44 cases), cardiac disease (44 cases), the first mentioned showing a considerable decrease and the two last a like increase in comparison with the cases in 1898.

There was no increase in cases of Anæmia, and Anchylostomiasis, which was so very frequent in 1898, ceased to be in any way prominent.

Of the 47 deaths, eight resulted from Cardiac Disease, 11 from Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) and only four from Dysentery, the comparative prevalence of which in 1898 had been attributed to the defective water supply already alluded to.

The total receipts from fees, &c. in respect of the Colony Hospital amount to £147, being £1,838 less than the cost of salaries, maintenance, &c.

It will be noticed that the number of fever patients was very low. In the following table the rainfall is based on observations taken at Richmond Hill and Dougaldston, stations which fairly represent that part of the Colony in which there are no district hospitals, and from which consequently come most of the patients at the Colony Hospital:—

Year.	Total Patients Admitted.	Fever Cases.	Rainfall inches.
1896	584	109	112·1
1897	654	85	97·76
1898	701	80	90·21
1899	781	66	79·18

Mosquito nets are not used at the Hospital.

ST. ANDREW'S HOSPITAL.—This hospital has 12 beds, and, unlike the Colony Hospital, was not overcrowded, as the daily average in the Hospital was only 10. Of the 112 patients treated 64 were cured, 33 were discharged, their ailments being relieved, five died, and the balance still remained in the Hospital at the end of the year.

GRENADA. 1899.

As in the case of the Colony Hospital the most prevalent diseases were ulcers, malarial fever, and anæmia, but not rheumatism.

A noteworthy fact in connection with this hospital is that during the dry years 1898 and 1899 (the rainfall at Dunfermline being 73 and 79 inches) the proportion of patients who suffered from malarial fever was less than in 1896 (100 inches) and 1897 (92 inches). If this fact be anything more than a coincidence, a probable explanation is that in dry years certain swamps which fringe portions of the coast in the St. Andrew's District become partially dry. As in the Colony Hospital there was a marked increase in the number of the female patients.

CARRIACOU HOSPITAL.—This hospital has 16 beds, being exactly the number of the daily average of patients. The number of patients who entered was 92 being 52 less than in 1898. There were only eight cases of Malarial Fever, the most prevalent disease being ulcers, as in the other hospitals.

THE YAWS HOSPITAL.—Ninety cases were admitted during the year, as compared with 84 in 1898. If the number of cases remaining uncured at the end of 1898 is added to the admissions a total of 136 patients is arrived at, and of these 89 were discharged cured.

The average length of stay in the hospital was 103 days in the case of women and 114 days for men, both periods being considerably less than those in 1899.

Lunatic Asylum.

The average number resident in the Asylum was 127, an increase of 17 over the number in 1898, thus continuing the constant annual increases which have taken place since 1893, and which have resulted in the accommodation at the Asylum being now insufficient for the combined requirements of St. Lucia and St. Vincent, and Grenada.

The percentage of recoveries on the number admitted was 36·66, being 4·9 under the average percentage for the last 20 years. The percentage of deaths on the average number of residents was 12·59, being 2·59 over the 20 years average. In these two respects the year is the reverse of 1898, during which the number of deaths were abnormally low and that of the recoveries unusually high.

Of the female patients more recovered and fewer died than in the case of male patients.

In spite of the increased number of patients fewer cases (12 as compared with 24 in 1898) took place in which it was necessary to use the Restraining Belt, which is the only form of mechanical

restraint in use. On the other hand, probably largely in consequence of the overcrowding, it was found impossible, in 15 cases, to prevent patients from inflicting small injuries upon one another.

Of 127, the average number of residents, it was possible to occupy on an average 45 daily by employment, and the value of the work so done during the year is estimated at £116.

POOR ASYLUM.—This is a home for aged paupers and for incurable cases. The accommodation for males is 26 and is taken advantage of to the utmost, whereas the accommodation for females (24) is never fully required.

There were six deaths only, as compared with 15 in 1898.

The Savings Bank.

This Bank has seven offices, the chief being at the Treasury in St. George's. The Treasurer is the Manager of the Savings Bank, the Assistant Treasurers and Revenue Officers being sub-managers of the district offices.

By the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1896, one hundred pounds is fixed as the maximum amount which may be deposited in any one year, with this exception there is no limit to the amount which may be deposited, but *all* interest ceases when a deposit amounts to £200.

The interest payable to depositors is fixed by the law at 3 per cent., and the investments are left entirely to the discretion of the Governor-in-Council.

The number of depositors in 1899 was 1,215, being 162 more than in 1898 and more than in any other year.

The amount deposited during the year was £9,203, and is largely in excess of the deposits during any previous year.

The withdrawals amounted to exactly £7,000, being also more than in any other year except 1894 when they rose to £7,893. During the six years 1894 to 1899 the withdrawals have been less than the deposits, except during 1895 and 1896, which, as will be remembered, were both years during which the price of cocoa was low.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors at the end of 1899 was £10,925. At the same date £10,500 stood invested, of which £4,000 brings in 4 per cent. interest and the balance 3 per cent.

As the Savings Bank does not necessitate the employment of any additional staff, it may be regarded as really making a small profit. There was, however, in 1899 a loss of £13 9*s.* 0*d.*

GRENADA. 1899.

on the working of the Bank, which was due to the accident that the interest on one of the investments, although duly paid in England, could not be remitted to the Colony in time to be passed to the credit of the Bank during the year.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Police Force of the Colony consists of 58 constables, exclusive of sergeants and other superior officers. The Force is entrusted with the Excise work in addition to ordinary police duties. The estimated expenditure for the year was £4,732.

There are two Prisons, both at St. George, the one the Male Prison (76 cells) situated at Richmond Hill 500 feet above the sea level, the other the Female Prison (12 cells) being an old spacious building in the town.

The following table shows the extent to which these institutions have been needed during the three years mentioned, it being remembered that 1894 was a year of general prosperity and that in 1896 the Colony was passing through hard times:—

TABLE XI.

—		Number of Persons committed.	Number committed for Debt.	No. of Persons Sentenced.			
				For 5 years or more.	For 1 year but less than 5.	For 3 months or more but less than a year.	For 3 months or under.
Male prison	1894	211	8	1	15	13	137
	1896	238	12	4	11	19	141
	1899	152	2	2	7	9	98
Female prison	1894	81	—	Nil.	Nil.	2	77
	1896	94	—	Nil.	Nil.	3	82
	1899	61	—	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	53

This table shows (*a*) that only five females were sentenced to more than three months imprisonment during the three years

referred to and that during that period none were sentenced for one year or upwards; (*b*) that although 1894 was a prosperous year and that the population was then (naturally) smaller than in 1899, nevertheless the crime was less in the last mentioned year; (*c*) that the poverty in 1896 was accompanied by an increase in crime.

It is also clear that both prisons (especially the Female Prison) have accommodation in excess of the requirements of the Colony.

In both prisons those sentenced by the Supreme Court for a period exceeding one month are awarded marks according to their behaviour, and under this system a person sentenced to two years imprisonment can earn a remission of one-fourth of his sentence.

Penal Labour (shot drill) is compulsory until a prisoner has earned 240 marks (which can be done in 30 days), subsequently the labour consists in the male prison in baking bread for the public institutions, in making bedding, clothing, &c., also for the institutions. Outside labour consists in collecting stone for road repairs and cleaning Government Lands. In the Female Prison employment is found in breaking stones, washing, and preparing cocoa for the public institutions, but no labour outside the prison is allowed. The work thus done was estimated as having saved the Government £1,286 during the year; as no money is actually received under the system the prisoners are not regarded as entitled to "earnings." The expenditure on both prisons was £1,171.

The proportion of those who were committed and who had previous convictions is shown in Appendix *E*.

Criminal Statistics.—The Criminal Statistics of the year are satisfactory. Out of 2,148, which was the total number of persons against whom criminal proceedings were commenced during the year, 1,107 were convicted summarily, and of this number 942 (85 per cent.) escaped by paying a fine or by giving recognisances for good behaviour.

The number of cases determined by the Magistrates during 1899 is slightly below the average number for the three preceding years, and the proportion of convictions to cases dismissed or abandoned is higher, the percentage of convictions being 51·5 in 1899 as compared with 49 per cent., the proportion during the three preceding years. The proportion in 1896 was 47 per cent., so that it seems probable that there is a steady and progressive tendency to refrain from commencing criminal proceedings without sufficient justification.

GRENADA. 1899.

It should, however, be noticed that proceedings against persons for prædial larceny show that hasty action is still by no means uncommon, there having been only 44 per cent. of convictions for such larceny as compared with 56 per cent. of abortive cases.

The following extract from the Report on the Grenada Blue Book for 1888 is of interest as showing the improvement that has been made since that date:—

"78. The Total number of offences coming before the magistrates' courts was 1,873, being at the rate of 37·97 per thousand of the estimated population, as compared with 34·66, calculated on the average of the four years. As the Attorney-General shows, however, in his annual report, there were '956 cases out of 1,873 wherein the parties charged were either not prosecuted or were acquitted'; and he further remarks, 'The number of cases not prosecuted or acquitted bears far to large a proportion to the number of convictions; it betokens a carelessness in the proceedings in cases which come before the magistrate, but whether on the part of private prosecutors or of the police there is nothing to show.'"

In the Supreme Court there were only 17 convictions, of which four were for serious crime (murder and rape). The principal offences during the year which resulted in the offenders being imprisoned (the total being 169) were 31 cases of common assault, 27 cases of abusive language, 18 of disorderly conduct, and 39 cases of theft of cocoa or nutmegs.

It may be mentioned that the annual average number of convictions in the Supreme Court during the four years 1896-1899 was 27, which is the same as for the four years 1879-1882, when the population was only 43,000 as compared with 63,000, the estimated present number.

Vital Statistics.

The estimated population at the close of 1899 was 64,098 as compared with 53,209, the population according to the Census in 1891.

From the following table it will be seen that the deaths in 1899 were fewer in number than in any year since the Census year:—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1891	2,457	1,172
1892	2,465	1,194
1893	2,475	1,395
1894	2,471	1,192
1895	2,624	1,215
1896	2,450	1,184
1897	2,318	1,386
1898	2,617	1,294
Average ...	2,449	1,256
1899	2,630	1,154

In connection with these statistics it should be borne in mind that the law relating to the registration of deaths, births, and marriages was in 1899 an old and not very workable law.

Both from the Hospital returns, from the figures given in the above table, and from the medical reports, it may be safely stated that during 1899 the health of the Colony was satisfactory.

Under the Public Health Ordinance of 1895 the Central Board of Health has large powers enabling prompt action to be taken in cases of epidemic. The Central Board has also formulated a scheme of inland quarantine by which the spread of certain specified contagious and infectious diseases could be checked in the event of an outbreak. Under ordinary circumstances the sanitation of the towns is entrusted to the municipal bodies, and in the country districts to the Road Boards.

Vaccination is compulsory, but considerable difficulty is found in carrying the law into effect. The difficulty is not due to any great reluctance on the part of the parents, but arises from certain difficulties connected with the registration of births, which it is hoped will be removed during the current year.

Owing to the fact that the bulk of the population live in the country* there are no great sanitary difficulties. In St. George,

* The country is so hilly that it is difficult to find level ground on which to build. To save the expense of levelling, most houses are built on pillars of wood or stone and are consequently not affected by moisture arising from the soil.

where the basements of the houses in one street are above the level of the roofs in the next, sanitary difficulties only begin after a prolonged spell of dry weather, as one heavy shower is sufficient to cleanse the open cement drains which run from the hilly parts of the town to the sea.

In matters of Hygiene public education is *not* advanced.

The new Sanitorium (about 1,800 feet above sea level) at the Grand Etang was completed during the year.

CLIMATE.

The year was relatively dry, the greatest rainfall being 151 inches at the Grand Etang.

The rainfall during the months March to July inclusive naturally affects the corn crop and the quantity of "provisions," *e.g.*, yams, &c. In order to compare the several years together it is necessary to select stations which fairly represent those parts of the Colony in which corn, &c., is grown.

Dunfermline, Les Avocats, and Carriacou are the stations chosen for the purpose in the following table:—

TABLE XII.

Year.	Dunfermline.	Les Avocats.	Carriacou.
1894	17·15	22·96	9·44
1895	23·04	42·08	23·15
1896	37·60	53·91	22·90
1897	31·20	51·36	20·25
1898	19·04	32·85	15·38
1899	23·58	28·01	15·85

From the column giving the totals in Carriacou it will be noticed that in the three years 1894, 1898, and 1899 the five months in question were very much dryer than they were in the three intervening years.

The year 1894 was the dryest at all three stations, but there are slight variations in the other years, for example, 1896, although showing the greatest rainfall at Dunfermline and Les Avocats, ranked after 1895 at Carriacou. If in three columns, representing the stations, the years are ranked in their

order of dryness, and their average position thus ascertained, it will be found that the following is the order, the dryest years coming first:—1894, 1898, 1899—1895, 1897, 1896. By dealing on the same principle with the quantities imported of following foodstuffs:—meal, flour, rice, dried fish, and meat, it will be found that the following is the order of the greatest importation:—1898, 1894, 1899—1895, 1896, 1897.

The inference that drought during the five months results in larger importations of foodstuffs, although natural cannot be regarded as conclusively shown by these figures, because the three dry years happen to be, owing to the *high price* of cocoa, the most prosperous years.

During the same five months of the present year, however, a great deal of rain has fallen, and should the price of cocoa continue high and the crop be good the value of the inference will be determined.

The statistics in "KK." show that the relative humidity was low, a fact not without interest on account of the sympathy between the cocoa crop and the average air moisture* during the months when the cocoa is in flower or in its early growth. The records of the cocoa crops kept by Messrs. Hubbard and Co. make each crop end in September of each year, and consequently the months by which the fate of each crop is determined are the twelve months beginning with the preceding April.

Crops as Described in order of Magnitude.	No. of Bags.	Quality.	Relative Humidity for the 12 months described.
1894	55,665	Good	76·53
1897	54,597	Good	76·05
1898	53,384	Medium	74·85
1899	52,141	Medium	74·72
1896	46,504	Bad	73·9
1895	42,827	Bad	73·1

The months April, May, and June are the most important months, and determine whether a crop is going to be very good or the reverse; they do not, however, determine the exact position of a crop, for example, the crop ending in September, 1897, was raised from the third place assigned to it by the air moisture in April to June to its rank as the second highest crop, by the

* These returns differ from those of rainfall because they are affected by the wind.

GRENADA. 1899.

high degrees of moisture in December, 1896, and in the early months of 1897, which resulted in the large shipments which took place during the last three months of the crop year.

The record crop of 1894 probably encouraged planting fresh cocoa, which would mature in time to influence the crop now about to end; very much more manure was used in 1899 than in any previous year; in spite of these advantages it will be a matter of surprise if the crop ending in September, 1900, is more than an average crop.

The air moisture in April, May, and June of the present year was relatively high, a fact which augurs well for the 1901 crop.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

The total Revenue from the Post Office during 1899 was £863, from which sum £77, the proceeds of the sale of the Commemoration Stamps, should be deducted, in order to compare the revenue with £1,086, the amount of the previous year.

The commission earned on Money Orders amounted to £168, showing an excess of £23 over the amount in 1898, and all other small items in the Revenue account also show increases.

The gross receipts from Letters, Parcels, &c., however, amounted to £565 as compared with £939, the amount in 1898, a diminution of £374 or 39 per cent., attributable to the postage rate being reduced to one penny. As one set of stamps serves for both Revenue and Postal services, and as the stamp revenue of the Post Office is calculated on the assumption that it is one quarter of the total sale of stamps during the year, the effect of the penny postage system is best shown by the following table:—

TABLE XIII.

External postage of Letters and Postcards.

Year.	Received.			Despatched.		
	From United Kingdom.	From other places.	Total.	To United Kingdom.	To other places.	Total.
1899	22,256	65,273	87,529	22,385	56,537	78,922
1898	17,875	41,847	59,722	18,928	37,734	56,662
1897	17,732	34,541	52,273	16,696	31,876	48,572
1896	18,252	40,261	58,513	17,795	36,074	53,869
1895	17,550	37,960	55,510	16,463	37,035	53,498
1894	18,278	39,208	57,586	18,561	39,226	57,787

From this table it will be noticed that the total number of letters and postcards despatched to the United Kingdom and to other places during 1899 rose to 78,922, being 24,845 more than 54,077, the annual average during the five preceding years.

Assuming for the purpose of comparison that the letters and postcards sent in 1898 were paid for at an average of 2½*d.* and that the average in 1899 was 1*d.*, the revenue in 1898 would have been £562 and £329 in 1899, making a loss of £223 in the latter year, which, it will be noticed, is 39 per cent. diminution, the same percentage as the actual loss, £374, already referred to.

As postal statistics are usually progressive, the curious fact disclosed in the above table that the letters despatched in 1894 exceeded in number those in 1895, 1896, and 1897, will attract immediate attention. During 1894, 1898, and 1899 the price of cocoa was very much higher than during the three intervening years, and a not unnatural inference would be that prosperity was the cause of the relative pre-eminence of 1894. Before accepting this inference, however, regard should also be had to the fact that during 1894, 1898, and 1899 the five months which determine the prosperity of the corn and "provisions" (yams, &c.) crops, were months which were abnormally dry, and that consequently the crops failed. Without an exhaustive enquiry, which would be out of place in this report, it is not possible to ascertain the exact truth. The following figures are, however, of special interest when it is borne in mind that a larger number of the male inhabitants of the important Dependency of the Colony—Carriacou—emigrate chiefly to Trinidad, when the corn crop in that Island is unusually bad. In the table given under "Climate" it will be noticed that 1894, 1898, and 1899 were years in which the rainfall in Carriacou during the months March to July was less by five inches than that during the same five months of the intervening years.

Year.	Letters and Postcards received from Trinidad.
1894	13,949
1895	11,648
1896	No report.
1897	12,753
1898	16,744
1899	29,952

During the year the local post amounted to 88,956 letters and postcards, as compared with 86,100 in 1898. There was also an increase in the number of parcels, especially those from and going to the United Kingdom.

As the Post Office is amalgamated with the Treasury it is not practicable to separate the expenditure of the two departments, it is, however, a fact that no extra expenditure was incurred in consequence of the increase in the amount of work done.

The money order transactions increased by £2,745 and amounted to £12,839.

Telephone System.

The system, which is wholly unconnected with the Post Office, was established at a cost of £4,733, of which £207 was contributed from general revenue and the balance from Loan Funds. Repayment of the Loan is effected by an annual contribution of 1 per cent. as a Sinking Fund, the interest being fixed at 4 per cent., the rate of the Colonial Loans.

There were in 1899 and have been since 1894, six stations and 106 miles of Trunk lines. The number of connections with the stations, however, naturally varies, the numbers being in 1894, 179; in 1899, 164; and during the intervening years, 179, 175, 153, and 156 respectively. The total receipts in 1899 were £1,148 as compared with £1,157, the total expenditure including interest charges. Of the expenditure £674 is debited against personal emoluments and £482 against other charges, which include, of course, £225, the cost of interest and sinking fund. By deducting the latter figure £257 is arrived at as the amount out of which the rent of the stations is paid and with which the system has to be worked and maintained in efficient condition, the corresponding figures in 1898 being £161 only.

The small loss shown in working the system cannot therefore be attributed to undue expenditure on maintenance, and it is possible that the amount now spent thereon might be profitably increased, because even if a larger loss was involved than that which occurred during 1899 there can be no question of the enormous indirect advantages of the service. Owing to the mountainous nature of the Colony communication by land is difficult and slow, hence, but for the telephone useless journeys could not be stopped, meetings could not be postponed, delay would take place in making good the damage caused by storms —in short, there would be losses in time, money, and sometimes in life which are now avoided by the system.

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT.

The amount spent on these works in 1899 was £8,042, being £1,134 more than in 1898, but almost exactly equal to the annual average expenditure of the four preceding years. The increase is principally due to the amount spent on the maintenance of Public Buildings. The bulk of the expenditure under this head

is for roads, the amount for £6,500 was provided in the estimates for the year. The expenditure on the upkeep does not include the repairs of bridges, on which service £188 was spent during the year. According to the return, there are approximately 402 miles of road in the Colony, divided as follows:—

Main Roads	...	...	132 miles
1st Class bye-ways	...	...	82 „
2nd Class	...	...	188 „

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The amount spent on these works in 1899 was £2,474, being £308 less than in 1898, but almost exactly the amount of the annual average expenditure of the four preceding years. The principal expenditure was on the following works, all of which were completed:—

The Sanatorium at the Grand Etang ...	£490
The Gouyave Embankment Wall ...	396
Wharf construction along the Carenage at St. George	275
Bridge at Duncan's Town	774

ESTABLISHMENT.

Changes in the Establishment.—The office of Police Magistrate of the Southern District became vacant in consequence of the death of the Hon. J. F. Lavington Payne on the 8th October.

Dr. R. D. O'Neale was appointed a Medical Officer, thereby filling a vacancy which resulted from the changes in the service consequent upon Dr. Boyd's promotion to Jamaica in 1898.

Dr. G. L. Latour resigned, thereby causing a vacancy in No. 3 Medical District.

SUMMARY.

A year during which the revenue exceeds that of any previous year and which ends with a proportionately large surplus must be regarded as prosperous, at the same time it should be remembered that the flourishing revenue of 1899 was the result of three causes, which are not certain to be found in combination frequently, and that consequently it would be unwise when

GRENADA, 1899.

considering future expenditure to regard that revenue as certain to be maintained. The three causes were, (*a*) that a large *amount* of cocoa was exported, (*b*) that the *price* of cocoa was high, and (*c*) that there was a large importation of food-stuffs, probably in consequence of the drought.

Tables VI., VII., and VIII. and the explanatory sentences before and after the tables make it clear that the dominant factor in the general prosperity of the Colony is the price of cocoa. If this fact be accepted as an axiom, the wisdom of forming a reserve fund* during years when the revenue is abnormally high will be obvious, as will also be the prudence of not allowing any increase in "Personal Emoluments," which either form or represent that part of a colony's expenditure which it is most difficult to suddenly reduce.

In fact a fall in the price of cocoa may be regarded as a possible accident against which the Colony should insure, as regards revenue, by a reserve and by a strictly controlled expenditure, and with regard to the general prosperity, by fostering other forms of cultivation besides cocoa, and by improving (even if some expenditure is necessary) the quality of the stock, &c., now kept by the smaller proprietors.

The most noteworthy event in the Colony during the year was the failure of sugar cultivation.

The effect of rain and wind on cultivation is only a surmise, but if established would enable future revenue to be estimated at an early date, and would also show the importance of "wind-breaks" and of irrigation.

LESLIE PROBYN,

Acting Colonial Secretary and Attorney General.

September 14th, 1900.

---

* During the current year £5,000 has been so treated.

APPENDIX A.

Total Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for five years ended 31st December, 1898.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1894	63,021 11 11	59,594 8 6
1895	58,467 13 2	63,674 14 7
1896	56,274 13 3	60,522 14 11
1897	56,972 19 3	58,549 6 7
1898	62,874 17 0	57,611 14 5
Total	297,611 14 7	299,952 19 0

GRENADA.
1899.

APPENDIX B.

Grenville Parochial Board.

Revenue.

—	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d
Harbour Fund	413 7 0	325 18 6	329 15 8	294 8 7	380 9 1
Water Fund	79 19 11	134 9 2	259 1 9	330 16 3	245 12
Street Fund	229 16 3	289 10 1	194 5 10	191 1 6	211 9 10
Lighting Fund	28 5 4	39 10 8	25 9 1	27 7 7	28 9 0
General Fund :—					
Rent Fish and Flesh House.	84 0 0	84 0 0	64 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0
Grave Fees	4 18 0	—	10 17 6	12 7 0	14 1 0
Pound Fees	—	—	—	—	0 10 0
Sundries...	25 4 6	0 4 6	2 0 6	3 1 0	5 0 0
Government for Cement	147 10 0	—	—	—	—
Loan from Government for Cemetery.	300 0 0	—	—	—	—
Loan from Government for General Fund.	—	150 0 0	—	—	—
Total	1,313 1 0	1,023 12 11	885 10 4	919 1 11	945 12 0

Expenditure.

—	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Harbour Fund	390 12 1	300 4 8	208 8 11	122 18 4	348 11 9
Water Fund	112 17 9	251 13 5	141 10 2	156 7 5	135 4
Streets	179 10 7	277 11 2	253 2 2	161 19 1	150 1 1
Lighting	22 16 6	30 6 2	15 12 3	9 0 5	58 18 1
General	561 7 8	269 2 11	286 0 8	378 13 4	260 11 10
Total	1,267 4 7	1,128 18 4	904 14 2	828 18 7	953 7 1

APPENDIX C.

Total Imports into and Exports from the Colony for five years ended 31st December, 1898.

Year.	Imports.			Exports.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d
1894	196,997	19	1	189,613	17	4
1895	175,711	13	5	174,497	4	9
1896	154,404	13	9	183,882	14	6
1897	164,355	16	2½	154,438	11	1
1898	210,783	0	8	257,274	1	5½
Total	902,253	3	1½	959,706	9	1½

APPENDIX D.

Steamers and Sailing Vessels entered and cleared in the Colony during five years ended 31st December, 1898.

Entered.

NATIONALITY.	Steamers.						Sailing Vessels.					
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	Total.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	Total.
United Kingdom... ...	180	187	169	162	151	849	1	—	—	—	2	3
Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Norway	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
British North America ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	4	5	6	7	32
British West Indies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	377	438	377	381	311	1,884
Danish West Indies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	4	1	11	27
United States of America	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	6	2	1	4	17
Venezuela...	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	4	5	6	3	23
Russia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Totals	180	189	169	162	154	854	407	458	393	396	338	1,992

Cleared.

United Kingdom... ...	179	187	169	165	151	851	1	—	—	—	2	3
Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Norway	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
British North America ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	5	6	5	7	33
British West Indies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	315	441	284	387	316	1,843
Danish West Indies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	3	3	11	28
United States of America	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	5	2	1	4	16
Venezuela...	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	4	5	6	3	23
Russia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Totals	179	189	169	165	154	856	345	461	400	403	343	1,952

GRENADA.
1899.

APPENDIX

Comparative Statement of Shipping Inwards and

NATIONALITY.	Steamers.								Sailing			
	Inwards.				Outwards.				Inwards.			
	1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.	1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.	1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
United Kingdom	180	187	7	—	179	187	8	—	1	—	—	1
Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Norway	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
British North America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	4	—	6
British West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	377	438	61	—
Danish West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	—	3
United States of America ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	2	—
Venezuela	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	5	4	—	1
Russia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
Total	180	189	9	—	179	189	10	—	407	458	65	14
	1896.	1897.			1896.	1897.			1896.	1897.		
United Kingdom	169	162	—	7	169	165	—	4	—	—	—	—
Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
British North America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	1	—
British West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	377	381	4	—
Danish West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	3
United States of America ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
Venezuela	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	1	—
Russia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	169	162	—	7	169	165	—	4	393	396	7	4

D—*continued.*

Outwards for five years ended 31st December, 1898.

Vessels.				Steamers.								Sailing Vessels.							
Outwards.				Inwards.				Outwards.				Inwards.				Outwards.			
1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.	1895.	1896.	Increase.	Decrease.	1895.	1896.	Increase.	Decrease.	1895.	1896.	Increase.	Decrease.	1895.	1896.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	—	—	1	187	169	—	18	187	169	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	1	—	5	6	1	—
315	441	126	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	438	377	—	61	441	384	—	57
7	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	4	3	—	1
4	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	4	5	2	—	3
5	4	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	4	5	1	—	4	5	1	—
—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	2
345	461	129	13	189	169	—	20	189	169	—	20	458	393	2	67	461	400	2	63
1896.	1897.			1897.	1898.			1897.	1898.			1897.	1898.			1897.	1898.		
—	—	—	—	162	151	—	11	165	151	—	14	—	2	2	—	—	2	2	—
—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	1	—	5	7	2	—
384	387	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	381	311	—	70	387	316	—	71
3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	10	—	3	11	8	—
2	1	—	1	—	3	3	—	—	3	3	—	1	4	3	—	1	4	3	—
5	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	3	6	3	—	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
400	403	5	2	162	154	3	11	165	154	3	14	396	338	16	74	403	343	15	75

APPENDIX E.

—	1895.			1896.			1897.			1898.			1899.			Average.		
	Committals.	Re-committals.	Percentage.	Committals.	Re-committals.	Percentage.	Committals.	Re-committals.	Percentage.	Committals.	Re-committals.	Percentage.	Committals.	Re-committals.	Percentage.	Committals.	Re-committals.	Percentage.
Males	172	68	39·54	174	66	37·93	159	62	39·00	153	70	45·7	145	48	33·1	160	63·0	39·31
Females	102	39	38·24	85	30	35·30	89	36	39·32	67	18	26·8	61	19	31·3	81	28·4	33·99
Juveniles	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	7	1	·14	2	·2	·03
Totals ...	275	107	38·91	260	96	36·92	249	98	39·35	222	88	39·6	213	68	31·8	243	91·6	37·69

company, inc.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1901.

andronicus publishi

g company, inc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 332.

SAINT LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 311.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-2.] *Price* 1*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
308	Leeward Islands	1899
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia...	"
312	St. Vincent	"
313	Basutoland	1899–1900
314	Hong Kong	1899
315	Southern Nigeria	1899–1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899–1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899–1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados...	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.

No. 332.

SAINT LUCIA.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 311.)

ADMINISTRATOR SIR HARRY THOMPSON to GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House,
Saint Lucia,
July 30, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit my Report on the Blue Book for 1900.

I have, &c.,

HARRY THOMPSON,
Administrator.

Governor Sir R. B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., &c.,
Grenada.

9865—875—8/1901 Wt 25152 D & S—5

ST. LUCIA, 1900.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1900.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £72,197 15*s.* 1*d.*, which was £6,150 13*s.* 9*d.* in excess of the estimated revenue, and exceeded the revenue of last year (up to then the largest revenue collected in the history of the Colony) by £628 11*s.* 5*d.*

The following table shows the revenue of the Colony for the last five years :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1896	55,331
1897	60,639
1898	67,628
1899	71,479
1900	72,107

Every head of revenue showed an increase over that of the previous year with the exception of that for Miscellaneous services, which was abnormally large in 1899 owing to special receipts in connection with the frauds in the spirit warehouse discovered in that year. The sum actually paid over for the Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture was also £175 less than in 1899.

The largest increase of revenue was under port, harbour, &c., dues. It amounted to £2,221 and was due to the large number of steamers which visited the port during the year.

The Customs Revenue remained at a high figure in consequence of the continuation of the collection of the additional 15 per cent. duty during the whole of the year.

The original estimate of expenditure was £65,957 1*s.* 4*d.*, which was increased by supplementary votes in the course of the year to £67,733 16*s.* 8*d.* The actual expenditure was £64,749 18*s.* 1*d.* or £7,357 17*s.* 0*d.* less than the revenue.

Most of the heads of expenditure showed a small increase over that of last year, but there was a considerable saving in the Immigration Department owing to abolition of most of the offices on the termination of the indentured service of the immigrants.

The Public Works undertaken during the year were of a limited description and the expenditure on them was £1,440 less than in 1899.

The largest increase in expenditure was under the head "Miscellaneous" and was due to the refund to the Land Sales Fund of £1,000 temporarily transferred to general revenue in 1896, to the wiping off of the debt of the Choiseul Village Fund, amounting to £259 11*s.* 4*d.*, and to a grant of £100 to the sufferers in the fire at Ottawa.

The expenditure on agriculture was much in excess of that of 1899 and was chiefly incurred in permanent improvements to the Botanic Station.

Assets and Liabilities and Public Debt.

The balance sheet of the Colony at the close of 1900 showed a surplus of assets over liabilities of £18,554 2*s.* 4*d.*, having been increased during the year by the excess of revenue over expenditure.

The Public Debt of the Colony at the close of 1900 amounted to £176,679 11*s.* 0*d.*, made up as follows :—

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Inscribed Stock	85,479	11	0
Debentures	91,500	0	0
Total	176,679	11	0

Of this sum £17,000 of inscribed stock has been borrowed for the Castries Town Board and £5,900 of inscribed stock and £6,000 debentures for the Immigration Fund. During the year £10,500 debentures were redeemed, which included the wiping off of the loan of £8,000 raised in 1891 for immigration purposes.

The Sinking Funds of the Colony are reduced by the amount of the Sinking Fund of the last mentioned loan, and the total of the Sinking Funds now stands as follows :—

—	Amount.
	£ s. d.
For Inscribed Stock	4,167 14 11
For Debentures	897 9 8

TRADE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total value of the imports into the Colony was £403,592 as compared with £282,963 in 1899, or an increase of 42 per cent. A very large proportion of this increase is to be attributed to increased importation of stores of all sorts for the use of the Military Authorities.

There are not many items in the list which call for much comment, and, excluding the special importations for military works, the consumption of the various articles of Import remained at about the same figure as in 1899.

With regard to the source of our imports we received £220,825 from the United Kingdom, or nearly 55 per cent. of the total imports. This was an increase of 41 per cent. over the figures of 1899, and a large portion is due to military stores.

From the United States our imports were £124,263 or nearly 31 per cent. of our total imports. There was an increase of 45 per cent. in our imports from this source over those of 1899, but the proportion of the total imports remained about the same.

Coal was responsible for nearly the whole of the increase, and the figures for the coal trade for the last ten years are interesting.

In 1891 there were 34,079 tons of bunker coal exported, valued at £51,118, and this represented about 28 per cent. of the total exports of the Colony.

In 1900 there were 100,055 tons of bunker coal exported, valued at £124,554, and it represented about 54 per cent. of the total exports.

The growth of the coaling trade during the last ten years has, therefore, been very large, and it might be supposed that our

market was worth competing for, but from the following figures it will be seen that the trade has been surrendered to the United States almost without a struggle.

In 1891, of the coal imported for the trade, 88 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, and 12 per cent. only from the United States. In 1900 the figures stood at 16 per cent. from the United Kingdom and 84 per cent. from the United States. The difference in price must no doubt have always been an important factor in the competition, but in spite of this advantage in favour of the American product English coal appears to have held its own fairly well for several years in the proportion of about 65 per cent. of English to 35 per cent. of American. It was only in 1898, after the coal strike in the United Kingdom, when English coal was practically unprocurable, that the American product took the lead, and it is now so firmly established that but few ships besides men-of-war take any other.

The imports from France stood at almost exactly the same figure as they did in 1899.

The slight increase which appears in the imports from British Colonies is due to the specie imported from them.

On the whole the main feature of the increase in the import trade, excluding military stores, is rather in the value of the articles imported than in the volume of trade.

Exports.

The value of the export trade for the year was £229,436 against £170,663 in 1899, or an increase of 34 per cent.

The increase is chiefly attributable to the bunker coal which, I have already mentioned, formed 54 per cent. of the total exports, and showed an increase of 72 per cent. over the exports in 1899.

The value of sugar and its products exported was £55,561 against £58,034 in 1899. It represented 24 per cent. of the total exports in 1900 and 34 per cent. in 1899.

The direction of our sugar trade is illustrated by the following table :—

—	1899.	1900.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	6	26
United States	91	71
Other places	3	3

The increase in the trade with the United Kingdom was due to the fact that almost the whole of the sugar from the Dennery Factory was sent there instead of to the United States.

The export of cocoa, the produce of the Colony, showed a most satisfactory increase both in quantity and value. So far as I can find, it is the largest export of cocoa which there has been in any year in the history of the Colony.

The quantity exported was 1,298,100 lbs., valued at £38,247. It represented nearly 17 per cent. of the total exports. 16 per cent. of the crop went to the United Kingdom, and 84 per cent. to France.

The other minor items of export call for no comment. The direction of our trade during the year was chiefly noticeable for a falling off in the value of exports to the United States, which was chiefly due to the diversion of the Dennery sugar to the English market. The exports to the United States in 1900 were £39,630 against £53,006 in 1899, or a decrease of 25 per cent. In 1899 the United States took 30 per cent. of our total exports, while in 1900 they took 17 per cent. only.

The exports to the United Kingdom were valued at £23,519 as compared with £20,423 in 1899, or an increase in actual value of 15 per cent., but they represented only 10 per cent. of the total exports as compared with 12 per cent. in 1899.

In consequence of the large proportion of the cocoa crop which went to France the exports to that country show a very large increase, from £16,824 in 1899 to £32,352 in 1900.

SHIPPING.

1,857 vessels, with a tonnage of 1,841,593, entered and cleared at Castries. Of these 1,240 with a tonnage of 1,812,316 were steamers, and the British vessels were 1,481 with a tonnage of 1,518,174.

BOTANIC STATION.

The improvements in the Botanic Station were continued, and a neat iron fence with an entrance gate was erected. Pipes were laid on for supplying the nurseries from the new town water supply, and the work of raising economic plants for distribution continued.

A further course of instruction in elementary agricultural principles was given to the teachers of elementary schools.

The most important work, however, in connection with the Department of Agriculture was the selection of sites for experimental plots in various parts of the Island. The year was somewhat advanced before the final selection was made and but little work was, therefore, done on them. I look forward to most excellent results from these practical examples of model cultivation all over the Colony, not only to the small cultivators but also to the large land holders and their employees.

Although no final decision was come to during the year the site for the Agricultural School and the Experimental Station in connection with it was practically determined.

The Agricultural Society, with the assistance of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, continued to do good work. An agricultural show was held at Dennery and the preliminaries for an important experiment in the cultivation of cotton were discussed, and the project was well advanced by the end of the year.

CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The Department continued to do much useful work during the year. 173 applications for land, amounting to 1,591 acres, were received, and there were 39 alienations of land of 623¾ acres, valued at £658 11*s.* 6*d.*

17 cases of escheat for a total area of 3,252 acres were settled during the year.

The revenue of the department was £2,323 16*s.* 6*d.*, including the refund of £1,000 from general revenue already referred to, and the expenditure was £1,685 14*s.* 11*d.*, of which £613 1*s.* 4*d.* was voted on the estimates and paid from general revenue.

The important question of forest conservation is properly forming an important feature in the work of the department, and I am glad to learn that great care is now exercised in allotting land so that the main sources of the water supply may be preserved.

On the whole I think that the department has continued to do useful work and to have the confidence of the purchasers of land.

CASTRIES TOWN BOARD.

The revenue of the Castries Town Board for the year was £5,993 8*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure £5,516 8*s.* 4*d.* Of the revenue £2,451 14*s.* 2*d.* was derived from the sale of water to

ships, an amount far in excess both of that derived from the same source in 1899, and of the anticipated receipt, in consequence of the number of ships which called.

The Market Dues brought in £1,213 8*s.* 8*d.*, showing a small increase over last year.

The new water works gave an ample supply of water to the town, but owing to the continued uncertainty of the direction which legislation for their management would take, no steps were taken during the year for its distribution.

LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed during the year, of which perhaps the most important was "The Agricultural Schools Ordinance" which lays down the principles on which the Agricultural School in the Colony is to be conducted. A useful Ordinance was passed by which a fund is established which enables the Colony to insure its own public buildings.

The importation of, and dealing with, petroleum were also regulated, and provision was made for taking a census during this year.

EDUCATION.

There were 42 assisted schools in operation during the year, of which one was closed in October. The number of children on the rolls of the assisted schools was 6,365, and the average attendance was 3,433. Both these figures compare favourable with those of last year. The grants in aid to these schools amounted to £3,138 4*s.* 10*d.*, or slightly more than in the previous year.

It is estimated that there must be about 8,000 children of school age, *i.e.*, between six and 14, and from particulars obtained from the masters of both assisted and unassisted elementary schools, and from the secondary schools in Castries, there appear to be 5,070 of these children on the rolls of the schools.

These figures show that there is still a good deal to be done to make education as general as it should be. The St. Mary's college for boys and the school of the convent of St. Joseph for girls continued to perform useful work, and the success of the pupils at the Cambridge local examinations was a proof of the careful education they are receiving.

A scholarship at Harrison's college in Barbados, offered by the Imperial Department of Agriculture for competition in the

Windward Islands, was gained by a boy from the St. Mary's college.

A new code for primary schools, embracing among other things an improved system of industrial education, was prepared during the year, but was still under consideration at the end of the year.

HOSPITALS.

From the reports of the medical officers, it appears that 5,025 persons availed themselves of the accommodation provided by the hospitals and other institutions during the year, and there were 30,965 attendances at the various dispensaries.

There were 1,842 persons admitted to the Victoria hospital, of whom 906 were East Indian immigrants, 469 natives of other places, and 40 seamen; so that if it were not for our foreign population this, as well as other institutions in the Colony, might be maintained on a very much smaller scale.

In the Poor asylum there was a daily average of 58 and the death rate was 28·4. Attention is again called in the reports to the miserable condition of this building, and I am glad to say that steps are being taken to improve matters.

Owing to absences, transfers, and sickness, the medical department was often very short handed and difficulty was experienced in providing for the work in the various districts.

On the whole the health of the Colony was good, and there were no epidemics which call for special remark. Malarial fevers still occupy the most prominent position in the list of diseases.

The colonial surgeon calls attention to some serious surgical operations successfully performed by Dr. Gray at the Victoria hospital, and interesting special reports by that officer on malaria and mosquitos, and by Dr. Galgey on filaria sanguinis hominis, in continuation of former reports, attest the interest taken by them in the work of their profession.

SAVINGS BANK.

The savings bank figures continue to show an increase, and the balance to the credit of depositors at the 31st December amounted to £14,418 16*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with £13,884 9*s.* 11*d.* at the 31st December 1899.

The amount was distributed among the savings banks as follows :—

—	Amount.
	£ s. d.
First District	13,883 7 11
Second District	321 15 10
Third District	213 12 8

and was divided among 1,403 depositors.

The invested funds of the bank amounted to £13,416 14*s.* 11*d.*

The interest credited to depositors was £375 4*s.* 0*d.*

To make up the difference between the income derived from invested funds and the expenses of the institution a contribution from general revenue of £77 11*s.* 7*d.* was required.

It is a question how far the general revenue should be called upon to make this contribution, and the matter is now under consideration.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

One society was registered during the year, bringing the number of them up to five. The total membership at the end of 1900 was 638, and the total funds of the societies £635 3*s.* 7*d.*

On the whole the societies seem to have been carefully managed, and though they are still working on a very small scale show signs of progress.

POLICE.

Of the police force not much can be said. The work of the force continued to increase, and its strength remained at the same number that it has for many years past. Such a state of affairs could only result in complaints both from the public and the police authorities. Soon after the close of the year, it was thought advisable to have an enquiry into the police, and I trust that the recommendations of the commission which was appointed may have the effect of making the force a more useful body.

Prisons.

The limited accommodation of the prison continued to be severely taxed during the year.

Though the actual number of prisoners admitted during the year was only 28 in excess of last year, the average daily number in prison rose from 58·94 to 75·26.

Of the prisoners admitted 468 males and 180 females were convicted prisoners, and nearly 50 per cent. of each were natives of places other than St. Lucia, including soldiers and merchant seamen.

The most regrettable incident in connection with the prison was the occurrence of no less than three suicides during the year. The circumstances formed the subject of an enquiry in each case and a special enquiry was held early this year. I am glad to say that nothing was found in the prison management to which these regrettable cases could be attributed.

The circumstances of the Colony are such that an increase in the prison population must naturally be expected and an increase in accommodation will no doubt be necessary before long. For the moment we are sending our long-sentence prisoners to Grenada and thus relieving the congestion.

The health of the prisoners was fairly good and one death only occurred in addition to the three cases of suicide already mentioned.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported and of persons prosecuted were both slightly higher than in 1899, while the number of persons convicted in the inferior Courts was slightly less.

The number of cases in the Royal Court was higher than it has been for the last five years. 48 cases were sent up for trial by the magistrates, of which 38 were actually tried.

32 were convicted and six acquitted, and of those convicted 16 only were natives of St. Lucia.

Though the statistics show a considerable increase in crime during the last few years I do not think that they are altogether unsatisfactory when it is considered what large numbers of people have come into the Island. I think that an even larger increase might not unnaturally have been expected, and the fact that there has been plenty of work for all who wish to find it, has no doubt had its effect in keeping employed those who might otherwise have been inclined to mischief.

POST OFFICE.

The business of the department continued to increase in almost every direction, as appears from the tables in the Blue Book, but there is nothing in the transactions for the year that calls for much comment.

TELEPHONES.

The Telephone System which was completed in 1896 from loan funds began to show evident signs of wear during the year, with the result that communication with the outstations was interrupted very frequently. As far as funds would allow, the wooden posts which collapsed were replaced by iron rails, which, though not sightly objects, will be far more permanent.

I am afraid that the time has come when our expenditure on the maintenance of the lines must increase if they are to be kept in a serviceable condition.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No very important public work was undertaken during the year, but the work of maintenance of roads and buildings continued and many improvements were effected.

The Public Works Yard and Offices, which covered a considerable area, were concentrated on one lot, and the remaining three lots were disposed of by tender for £4,357. Work was begun on the piling of the Prince Alfred Basin, and a sum of £691 13*s.* 10*d.* was expended as a first instalment.

Iron railings were erected at the Botanic Station at the cost of the Imperial Department of Agriculture.

Dredging was carried on in the Castries Harbour for eight months with the Priestman Dredger, when the pontoon broke down and work had to be suspended. Dredging was chiefly done on the shoal at the N.E. corner of the harbour.

On roads and bridges the chief separate work was a fine wooden bridge over the Anse Canot River, which was erected at a cost of £326.

Out of the vote for maintenance of roads £3,987 was spent, and besides the ordinary work of maintenance the following work was done which tended to the permanent improvement of the roads :—

6 retaining walls.
3 bridges.
92 stone culverts.
394 concrete cylinders laid.
14,550 feet of new macadam.

From the Crown Lands Fund the following roads for the development of Crown Lands were continued and maintained at the cost stated :—

	£	s.	d.
Trois Pitons to Pilet	100	0	0
Ravine Souffre	60	0	0
Micoud to Soufrière	198	18	4

The total mileage maintained was 253.

Though much no doubt remains to be done to improve the internal communications of the Colony, I think that there is a general agreement that the improvement during the last ten years has been very great. When it is considered that the estimates for the maintenance of the road prepared by the Road Boards amounted to over £13,000 and we were able to allot them £4,000 only, I think that those bodies may be congratulated on the manner in which they have accepted a difficult situation and made the best of it.

£1,042 was spent on current repairs, and extensive repairs were done to Government House (including painting), Victoria Hospital, Vigie Lighthouse, Vieux-Fort Hospital, and the Police Barracks.

£263 was spent on the maintenance of the wharves, but I foresee that in future years we shall have to provide for a much larger expenditure on them.

Owing to restricted means it has not been possible to devote as much to this work as was necessary, and I fear that a larger expenditure may now be required than would have been necessary if the wharves had been regularly maintained.

The work yard continued to perform useful work, and out of the profits it was possible to purchase new steam machinery at a cost of £226.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The registered births during the year were 1,995, an increase of 130 over last year. The average birth-rate was 3·80, as compared with 3·54 in 1899.

The percentage of legitimate and illegitimate births was slightly in favour of 1900 as compared with 1899. The figures were :—Legitimate, 42·91 ; illegitimate, 57·09.

The deaths were 942, or a rate of 1·93 as compared with 2·14 in 1899.

Allowing for the natural increase, the population at the end of the year was estimated at 49,558, and that this was not very wide of the mark is proved by the results of the census taken in April of this year, which showed a total population of 49,895.

It is to be noted that it was the first year in the history of the Colony in which there was no recorded death from snake bite.

METEOROLOGY.

The only noticeable point in the meteorology of the year was the very small rainfall. It amounted at the botanical station to 73·25 inches only, and is, I believe, the smallest rainfall of which we have any record except that of 1891, when 70·15 inches only were recorded.

There has been a steady decrease in the rainfall for the last six years, and this has been attributed by some to the persistent felling of the forests during these years. Looking to the records of the past years, I do not think that those for recent years are sufficient to justify a definite opinion on the point, but the matter requires careful watching.

GENERAL.

The year under review may be regarded as one of continued prosperity for St. Lucia, and I think I may fairly say that it was on the whole the most prosperous year in the history of the Colony since the time when sugar was supreme.

There were no convulsions of nature, such as hurricanes or earthquakes, and no misfortunes, such as large fires in populous places. The cocoa crop was the largest ever exported, and the prices obtained for it were good; the sugar crop was a fair one with remunerative prices; the coal trade was by far the largest done in any year since the establishment of Castries as a coaling station, and there was a large expenditure on military works which provided remunerative employment to a large number of people, and caused the circulation of considerable sums of money.

After so short a residence in the Colony it is perhaps presumptuous on my part to attempt to say what is necessary for the continued welfare of the Colony, but I should hope that at no distant date we may see our means of communication extended and improved, our public buildings made more suitable to the growing needs of the Colony and to the convenience of the public who have to resort to them, the cultivation of the land extended and taken up by those who now earn a precarious livelihood, often at the cost of their own health, by visiting the Cayenne Gold Fields, and last, but by no means least, such necessary maintenance and improvement of the harbour as will ensure that the successful trade which has been built up with so much spirit and energy may not be tempted to move to some other place which may for a time appear to offer greater attractions.

St. Lucia seems now to be established in a career of prosperity, and I can foresee nothing in the near future which is likely to interfere with it.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 345.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 316.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-15.] *Price* 2½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
323	St. Helena	1900
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899–1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	1900
343	Basutoland	1900–1901
344	Gold Coast	1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 345.

GRENADA, 1900

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 316.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
7th November, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1900, prepared by Mr. E. Drayton.

I have, &c.,
R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

c10347—875—11/1901 Wt 25152 D & S—5

GRENADA, 1900.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1900.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The General Revenue of the year 1900 amounted to £70,363, of which £700 was a grant in aid of the Botanic Station from Imperial funds, so that the revenue from local sources was £69,663, being the largest on record.

The General Revenue for the last five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1896	56,275
1897	56,973
1898	62,875
1899	68,757
1900	70,363

2. The subjoined comparative statement of the revenue in 1899 and 1900 shows that the improved results of the latter year are due to better collection of internal revenue, chiefly the land and house taxes, and to sales of escheated properties, and of a portion of a mountain estate, purchased for conservation in forest, that part of it not required for such purposes being re-sold.

On the other hand, Customs Revenue declined by £1,565, as a consequence of the abolition at the commencement of the year of the 10 per cent. additional import duty which had been imposed to meet the financial difficulties of the four preceding years.

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	36,584	38,148	—	1,564
2. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	26,497	24,966	1,531	—
3. Fees of Office, &c.	1,369	1,340	29	—
Carried forward ...	64,450	64,454	1,560	1,564

Customs Revenue—cont.

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	64,450	64,454	1,560	1,564
4. Post Office	1,089	787	302	—
5. Sale of Commemoration Stamps.	18	76	—	58
6. Telephones	1,150	1,149	1	—
7. Rent of Government Property.	435	426	9	—
8. Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	950	965	—	15
9. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	242	100	142	—
10. Land Sales	1,329	88	1,241	—
11. Grant in aid of Botanical Station.	700	712	—	12
Total	70,363	68,757	3,255	1,649

EXPENDITURE.

3. The General Expenditure of 1900 amounted to £62,718, of which £932 was in respect of the Botanic Station; and the Expenditure for the last five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1896	60,523
1897	58,549
1898	57,612
1899	59,359
1900	62,718

GRENADA, 1900.

4. The comparison of the details of the expenditure of 1900 with that of 1899, given below, shows an increase under nearly every head, the total increase being £3,359.

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	6,429	6,430	—	1
2. Pensions	1,500	1,057	443	—
3. The Governor and Legislature.	2,135	2,135	—	—
4. Colonial Secretary	1,897	1,817	80	—
5. Treasury, Customs, Post Office, &c.	5,763	5,488	275	—
6. Audit Department	493	520	—	27
7. Legal Departments	5,367	5,012	355	—
8. Police and Excise Department.	5,017	4,711	306	—
9. Prisons	1,083	1,120	—	37
10. Medical Department ...	7,444	7,415	29	—
11. Education	6,268	5,926	342	—
12. Ecclesiastical...	486	496	—	10
13. Charitable	511	445	66	—
14. Telephone Department ...	1,245	1,157	88	—
15. Miscellaneous Services ...	3,864	3,713	151	—
16. Public Works Department...	792	740	52	—
17. Public Works Recurrent ...	8,323	8,042	281	—
18. Public Works Extraordinary	3,169	2,474	695	—
	61,786	58,698	3,163	74
19. Agricultural Department ...	932	661	271	—
Total	62,718	59,359	3,434	74

5. Under Pensions, the increase is attributable to £300 granted in compassionate allowances to widows and children of

deceased public officers and to two new pensioners; under Treasury and Post Office, to heavy payments on account of postal transit charges; under Legal Departments, to the appointment of a Registrar with increased salary, to heavy expenses for Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court, and for Escheats, and to the holding of a Session of the Circuit Court of Appeal; under Education, to increased grant in aid of Primary Education, £5,004 being spent as against £4,652 in 1899; under Miscellaneous, to a grant of £150 to the School of Tropical Medicine; and under Public Works, to larger amount of works executed.

CHANGES IN TAXATION.

6. The additional import duty, at the rate of 10 per cent. on all import duties paid, which had been imposed since 1896 to assist in meeting the financial difficulties of the Colony, was, in accordance with the promise to that effect given by the Government at the time of its imposition, abandoned at the end of 1899, as the accounts of that year closed with a large surplus of assets.

GRENADA, 1900.

ASSETS AND

7. After writing off the sum of £4,344, being irrecoverable the surplus of colonial assets at the end of the year was £16,423,

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest...				1,369	12	10
Cash in Colonial Bank—						
On Deposit Account	*7,154	9	8			
On Current Account	7,684	4	9	14,838	14	5
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
Advance Account	2,000	0	0			
Surplus Fund Account	†5,000	0	0			
Remittances in Transit	2,000	0	0	9,000	0	0
Investments—						
South Australia Government 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value £3,804 19*s.* 11*d.*).	4,000	0	0			
Victoria 3 per cent. Stock (nominal value £2,094 3*s.* 10*d.*).	2,000	0	0			
Government of British Guiana ...	500	0	0	‡6,500	0	0
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not yet brought to account—						
Loans to Parochial Boards from General Revenue.	893	5	2			
Distillery Apparatus Advance Account.	1	8	3			
Government of St. Vincent	441	18	2			
Government of St. Lucia	592	15	8			
Other advances	486	12	2	2,415	19	5
Arrears of Revenue—						
Interest on Loans to Parochial Boards Arrears Account.	597	11	8			
Sinking Funds on Loans to Parochial Boards Arrears Account.	163	6	5	760	18	1
Total Assets				34,885	4	9

N.B.—The value of Stores at the Public Works Department is estimated at £643 7*s.* 7*d.*

* £4,500 Savings Bank Funds, £624 9*s.* 8*d.* Sinking Fund St. George's Town Board, and £2,030 Colony's Reserve Fund. † For Colony's Reserve Fund. ‡ Savings Bank Funds.

LIABILITIES.

loans and loan charges due from certain of the Town Boards, as shown in the following statement:—

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
Current Account				1,823	11	5
Deposits as follows—						
Supreme Court Account	905	17	5			
Post Office Account (Money Orders, &c.)	666	3	4			
Parochial Boards Loan Works Account.	886	1	10			
Public Works	903	3	7			
Governor in Chief's Office Fund ...	40	17	4			
St. George's Town Fund	290	6	9			
St. Paul's Water Supply Account	823	4	2			
Suspense Account	0	1	2			
Savings Bank Account	11,168	15	5			
Other Deposits	330	1	2			
				16,014	12	2
Sinking Fund St. George's Town Board for repayment of the Loan of £1,000 from the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Company Limited.				624	9	8
Total Liabilities... ...				18,462	13	3
Surplus Assets...				16,422	11	6
				34,885	4	9

£11,000 Invested (*see* Assets).

GRENADA, 1900.

Of this surplus, £7,030 was set aside as the commencement of a Reserve Fund, to be held for emergencies, and as a safeguard against times of financial depression, which have been in the past of periodic occurrence.

PUBLIC DEBT.

8. The Public Debt at the close of 1900 was £127,570, of which £123,670 was 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, and £3,900 in 4½ per cent. Debentures, £100 more of the latter having been redeemed during the year. Provision is made for redemption of the debt by contributions to sinking funds at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the nominal value of the stock issued, and of 1 per cent. per annum on the total amount of debentures originally issued, the general revenue and assets of the Colony being finally liable for due repayment. The Inscribed Stock Sinking Fund at 31st December amounted to £9,443, and that for Debentures to £30; of the latter, £300 have been already retired by annual drawings.

The Colony is also liable for the repayment by the St. George's Town Board, in March, 1903, of the sum of £1,000, being a loan raised in 1879 for construction of waterworks. A sinking fund has been created by the Board, and is held by the Colonial Treasurer, amounting at end of 1900 to £625.

Revenue and Expenditure of Town Boards.

9. A comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the Boards in whom the administration of the towns of the Colony is vested is appended :—

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	2,477	3,049	2,158	2,576	2,459	1,978	3,021	2,033	2,879	2,707
Grenville	885	919	946	910	940	905	829	953	896	992
Sauteurs	449	463	480	427	540	465	412	556	411	465
Victoria	262	270	281	273	300	300	260	291	272	288
Gouyave	623	557	529	592	—*	562	604	477	631	*
Hillsborough... ...	133	132	128	133	133	202	125	147	123	126

* Correct returns not yet received.

GRENADA, 1900.

Town Boards' Debt.

10. The Town Boards' Debt at 31st December, 1900, stood as follows:—

St. George's	£7,481
Grenville	1,300
Sauteurs	1,100
Victoria	1,394
Gouyave	3,304
Hillsborough	600
	£15,179

11. At the end of 1899 these debts amounted to £27,159, but, as an indirect result of the report of the Parochial Boards Commission of 1896, which was presented on 12th January, 1900, the Grenville Waterworks Loan, £11,933, has been assumed by the Government, and another small balance outstanding against that town for a fire engine written off. Similarly, the sum of £3,687, due from the Grenville Waterworks as arrears of loan charges, together with £240 owed by the town of Gouyave in connection with their market place, and £417, advanced to Victoria for repair of jetty, were abandoned by the Government at the end of 1900 as irrecoverable.

12. The repayment of the present towns' debt is provided for either by sinking fund contributions or refund by instalments, with the exception of £200 owed by Grenville to the Colonial Treasury for a breakwater, and £150 advanced to the same Board from the same source to assist them in paying current liabilities in 1895. Measures are being taken by Government in the current year to improve the administration and finances of the towns.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

13. The Imports for the year 1900 are valued, for statistical purposes, at £232,790, and the Exports at £311,681. The corresponding figures for the four preceding years are:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1896	154,405	183,883
1897	164,356	154,439
1898	210,783	257,274
1899	226,828	267,738

In respect of Imports, therefore, the year under review was but slightly in excess of 1899, but in Exports a marked increase is shown, due to the satisfactory output in 1900 of the Colony's staples—cocoa and spices.

14. To illustrate the trade of the Colony five tables are subjoined. In the first the imports and exports for the five years ended in 1900 are divided into the usual statistical classes.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics ...	71,043	76,598	89,028	104,440	108,353	175,647	148,907	252,263	261,144	303,148
Raw materials	11,410	10,656	16,467	18,715	21,402	6,458	4,314	4,754	4,066	6,484
Manufactured articles	71,952	77,102	102,028	100,548	102,342	599	274	185	1,603	1,649
Coin and bullion	—*	—*	3,260	3,125	693	1,179	944	72	925	400
Totals	154,405	164,356	210,783	226,828	232,790	183,883	154,439	257,274	267,738	311,681

* No returns.

15. In the second, the volume and direction of the trade are shown for the quinquennial period, and here it will be observed that 45 per cent. of the imports last year came from the mother country; the corresponding percentage in 1896 was 43; 25 per cent. came from British Colonies, and 30 per cent. from foreign countries, according to the returns; in 1896 these figures were 28 per cent. and 29 per cent respectively. It must be pointed out, however, that the bulk of the imports from British Colonies consists of American foodstuffs brought in from Barbados and Trinidad. While the import trade with Great Britain may thus be said to have been in 1900 at about the same rate as in 1896, the figures of exports disclose that foreign countries are now competing for a larger share of the Colony's staples, as 15 per cent. of the exports of 1900 went to them, as compared with about 5 per cent. in 1896, the percentages to the United Kingdom being 83 per cent. in 1900 and 92 per cent. in 1896.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	66,485	78,893	98,626	101,922	105,592	169,499	138,656	243,574	220,479	259,079
British Colonies	42,504	40,126	55,254	64,603	57,628	5,790	4,283	3,307	5,636	5,399
Foreign Countries	45,416	45,337	56,903	60,304	69,570	8,594	11,500	10,393	41,623	47,203
Totals	154,405	164,356	210,783	226,829	232,790	183,833	154,439	257,274	267,738	311,681

GRENADA, 1900.

16. The next table traces the foreign trade to the countries with which it is carried on, and here the strides made by the United States of America are worthy of notice, that country claiming 96 per cent. of the imports and 67 per cent. of the exports from and to foreign countries in 1900. When, in connection with the imports, the remarks in the preceding paragraph as to the true nature of the bulk of the Colony's trade with British Colonies are borne in mind, the actual position of the import trade with the United States will be realised. In the past this trade consisted principally of foodstuffs and petroleum, but there is ample evidence that an increasing quantity of manufactured articles is now finding its way in, displacing the corresponding class of British manufactures. This tendency is due not to want of appreciation locally of British manufactures, but to the great advantages enjoyed by the American imports in point of rapid transit, cheaper freight, and lower charges for packing, behind which also lies the well directed advertisement continually employed by the American exporter. The first two are, for the present at all events, beyond the power of the British merchant to compete with, especially as the Colony enjoys the advantage of direct steam service three times a month with New York, but greater attention on his part to packing and advertisement might attract a large share of West Indian trade.

17. The rapidly increasing consumption by the United States of the Colony's staples is one of the most promising guarantees of the future prosperity of Grenada. In 1896 the cocoa exported thither was valued at £4,752, and the spices at £1,276; in 1900 these values had advanced to £22,376 for cocoa, and £9,297 for spices. It is known that the consumption of cocoa in the United States has in the last five years about doubled, and when the enormous population of the States realise the merits of chocolate as a sustaining beverage, as there is good reason to hope they are beginning to do, an immense market for the cocoa-producing Colonies of the West Indies will be opened up. Similar remarks apply to British North America, as yet unexploited in this respect.

18. As has been remarked in previous reports, the statistics of the cocoa export to France are not quite reliable. A certain quantity of the Colony's cocoa is shipped to Havre, "optional" for London, and the Customs authorities have no means of ascertaining how much, if any, actually finds its way into France.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	44,873	44,529	56,073	57,638	66,572	6,300	8,106	8,829	13,945	31,875
France and French Colonies	264	381	350	1,330	1,623	2,107	3,026	1,335	25,427	14,249
Holland and Dutch Colonies	168	67	234	627	798	—	9	—	186	313
Denmark and Danish Colonies	21	360	207	514	34	—	—	—	1	—
Venezuela	89	—	38	6	372	146	59	229	2,064	762
Germany	—	—	—	151	163	41	300	—	—	—
Other Countries	1	—	—	38	8	—	—	—	—	4
Totals	45,416	45,337	56,902	60,304	69,570	8,594	11,500	10,393	41,623	47,203

GRENADA, 1900.

19. The fourth table exhibits the chief articles imported in 1900, and compares their values with those in 1899; the variations are unimportant, and require no comment.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1899.	1900.
	£	£
CLASS I.—		
Live animals	2,236	2,451
Bread of all kinds	1,995	1,945
Butter	1,987	1,502
Cheese	1,146	977
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel)	13,721	11,781
Flour (wheaten)	25,167	28,500
Lard	1,539	1,842
Malt liquor	1,829	2,311
Meal (corn)	1,043	1,214
Meat (salted or preserved)	9,540	9,584
Medicinal extracts, and preparations	1,804	2,218
Molasses	3,142	1,077
Oats	2,757	2,839
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	2,705	2,916
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,477	3,133
Rice	3,974	4,949
Spirits	4,477	5,845
Sugar (refined)	3,416	4,544
Do. (Muscovado)	6,860	5,074
Wines	2,292	2,229
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	2,546	3,001
CLASS II.—		
Coal	398	1,392
Leather	1,148	1,517

Fourth Table—cont.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value. 1899.	Value. 1900.
	£	£
Class II.—*cont.*		
Manures	1,817	1.994
Petroleum oil...	2,878	3,423
Timber and shingles	11,132	12,681
CLASS III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	6,920	5,708
Textiles (unenumerated)	46,484	47,733
Rope and cordage	1,305	1,458
Metal manufactures	15,290	16,337
Books	1,201	897
Soap	3,301	3,587
Stationery	1,017	1,233
Cement	1,191	1,554
Earthen and glassware	3,411	3,576
Furniture	1,838	1,235
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	4,674	5,266
Other	1,594	1,249

20. In the fifth table are shown the values of the principal articles of local produce exported in the five years 1896-1900, and here the satisfactory results of the last year again appear, an increase being shown under most items. Coffee and logwood seem to be disappearing from the exports, while kola nuts show an unexplained rise, which it is hoped, may continue, as the Colony is capable of doing much in this direction. The statistics of Fruit are not reliable, as under existing arrangements a

GRENADA, 1900.

considerable proportion of this export does not find its way into the returns.

Produce Exported.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	159,519	132,642	227,655	234,611	269,931
Spices	12,424	13,503	22,107	21,761	30,153
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,474	2,720	3,134	2,641	4,622
Live stock	1,304	1,230	1,211	1,088	1,133
Firewood	538	605	476	513	560
Fruit	880	540	427	672	404
Poultry	235	226	166	497	283
Turtle and turtle shell ...	291	270	406	337	267
Kola nuts	180	88	43	96	203
Coffee	217	283	59	13	5
Logwood	372	302	54	25	39

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

21. There are no mines, and the only manufactures are those of muscovado sugar (mostly of low grade) and of rum, for local consumption. No record of the sugar made is available, but the quantity of rum made in each of the last five years is given below, and, for convenience of reference, the amount of excise duty collected thereon is also shown:—

Year.	Quantity.	Excise Duty.
	Gallons.	£
1896	52,895	11,188
1897	57,406	11,448
1898	32,662	12,478
1899	48,477	10,605
1900	47,942	11,327

It hence appears that the output last year was 535 gallons less than in 1899, and that the manufacture generally has not yet recovered the position it had reached in 1897, the record year. It is also seen that the duty collected in any year appears to depend upon the quantity distilled in the preceding year. None of this rum is exported. There were 16 distilleries at work during the year.

22. There are no fisheries, properly so called. Fish abounds on the coasts, and considerable quantities are caught daily for local consumption. During the whaling season — January-March—some attempt is made by fishermen on the south-western coast to capture whales, but the efforts made are half-hearted and frequently fail. In 1900 two whales were killed, and 1,381 gallons of whale oil are shown as having been exported.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

23. The crop of the staple produce of the Colony for the year ended 30th September, 1900, was as follows:—

Crop.	Produce.
Cocoa	53,388 bags.
Spices	3,428 barrels. 1,224 half barrels. 931 cases. 49 bags.
Coffee	134 bags.
Cotton...	995 bales.
Cotton seed	5,816 bags.

The cocoa crop was a good one, being 1,247 bags in excess of that for the preceding year, but it fell short by 2,277 bags of the record crop, that of 1894. It is a matter for surprise that with the great extension of cocoa cultivation in Grenada the output should only have doubled itself in the last twenty years. Much is perhaps attributable to the old trees not yielding so vigorously, but the chief cause is undoubtedly that a very large area of the cultivation is in the hands of

peasant proprietors who continue to follow crude methods both of cultivation and curing. An Agricultural Instructor is about to be appointed by the Government in the hope of improving this defect, and the efforts being made in the direction of agricultural education in the primary schools will doubtless also be of assistance to this end.

Prices were favourable during the year, the London market opening with cocoa at 64*s.* to 70*s.*, and closing at 70*s.* to 73*s.* 6*d.*

24. On account of the variety of packages used for export it is difficult to compare the *crops* of spices, so that it is necessary to refer to the recorded exports, and these disclose the following results:—

Average for five years ended 1897	2,533 cwt.
1898	4,373 „
1899	5,005 „
1900	6,687 „

There is, therefore, a steady increase in the output of spices, which are chiefly nutmegs, 5,887 cwt. of the total export in 1900 being of that description.

The cultivation of this tree is principally in the hands of large proprietors, and much care and attention are bestowed upon it.

25. The coffee reaped is now consumed locally, as prices are so low that it no longer pays to export it, and during 1900 only 1 cwt. found its way to the United States of America.

26. The crop of cotton and cotton seed, which is the product of Carriacou, a dependency of Grenada, was good, 2,628 cwt. of cotton and 5,334 cwt. of seed, valued at £4,622, being exported, as compared with 1,768 cwt. of cotton and 4,114 cwt. of seed, valued at £2,641, in the preceding year.

PEASANT PROPRIETARY.

27. As connected with the agricultural development of the Colony, and lying at the root of its material prosperity, some account may here be included of the position of the peasant proprietary of Grenada. It has been erroneously stated in certain quarters that this valuable body is on the decrease, their property being gradually absorbed by the large estates. That this is not the case is conclusively shown by the following comparative statement for the last seven years, from which it will be seen that the total number of land proprietors whose holdings do not exceed ten acres has steadily increased from 6,120 in 1894 to 8,176 in 1900. Further, it will be observed that of this latter total no less than 79 per cent. were holdings of not more

than 2½ acres, and that the chief growth in the seven years has been of this class:—

Year.	2½ acres and under.	Over 2½ acres to 5 acres.	Over 5 acres to 7 acres.	Over 7 acres to 10 acres.	Total.
1894	4,476	1,171	275	198	6,120
1895	4,912	1,074	275	201	6,462
1896	5,077	1,111	260	209	6,657
1897	5,078	1,102	262	202	6,644
1898	6,046	1,192	279	198	7,715
1899	6,198	1,193	308	213	7,912
1900	6,453	1,206	295	222	8,176

28. There can, therefore, be no doubt of the existence in a healthy condition of this important body. The problem of the future is how best to educate them, agriculturally, to the level of their possibilities, so as to make them of the most effective use to themselves and to their country. With a view to the future, too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of agricultural instruction in the primary schools; but in the present much can be done, if the right man can be found for the work, by advice and practical demonstrations from a competent instructor, visiting the peasants' holdings, and communicating with them sympathetically. The Grenada labourer will not as a rule go out of his way to look at object lessons in agriculture, but gives a willing ear to advice brought home to him in regard to his own property.

BOTANIC STATION.

29. The Botanic Station has, since the 1st of October, 1898, been under the charge of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, and is supported by Imperial funds, although expenditure on improvements still takes place from Colonial funds. The following extracts are made from a brief review by Dr. Morris of the Curator's annual report for 1900:—

* * * * * * * *

"It is observed that the cost of upkeep of the garden during "1900 was £811 0*s.* 5*d.*, an increase over the expenditure for

GRENADA, 1900.

"1899 of £150 11*s.* 9*d.*, while the receipts for the sale of plants "were £50 9*s.* 1*d.*, or £33 6*s.* 11*d.* less than those of the "previous year."

* * * * * * * *

"An interesting feature in connection with the work of the "Botanic Station during 1900 was the establishment of seven "experimental cacao plots in various parts of the island under "the control of the Curator and other officers of the Imperial "Department of Agriculture."

* * * * * * * *

"The report is on the whole of a favourable character, and "indicates an evident desire on the part of the Curator to "conscientiously carry out the duties entrusted to him."

SHIPPING.

30. The following is a comparative statement of the total shipping, inwards and outwards, for the last five years, according to the Blue Book returns. From these figures it would seem that, as regards shipping entered, the year 1900 was up to the average, while, as regards shipping cleared, it was much below the average:—

Year	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1896	221,395	224,233
1897	220,179	223,629
1898	216,192	218,006
1899	222,437	231,611
1900	222,399	216,110
Average	222,620	222,738

31. Details of the shipping for the last two years, according to the returns, are contained in the subjoined statement, which also shows the nationality of the vessels. The chief point of interest in this table is the disappearance of the steam tonnage under the American and Norwegian flags, due to the sale of

a regular trader with the Colony, of American registration, and the temporary substitution for her of a steamer belonging to Norway.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1899.			1900.			1899.			1900.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	185,554	9,520	195,074	206,405	10,485	216,890	185,155	9,203	194,358	200,255	10,728	210,983
Foreign	35,561	1,802	37,363	4,204	1,805	6,009	35,453	1,800	37,253	3,304	1,823	5,127
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	23,389	420	23,809	—	436	436	21,639	419	22,058	—	436	436
Holland	—	866	866	—	229	229	—	866	866	—	247	247
Venezuela	—	516	516	604	788	1,392	—	515	515	604	788	1,392
Norway...	12,172	—	12,172	3,600	352	3,952	13,814	—	13,814	2,700	352	3,052

LEGISLATION.

32. Seventeen Ordinances were enacted during the year, of which the most important measures were:—

The Tenants Compensation Ordinance, to enable occupiers of land to obtain compensation for improvements made by them on the land occupied.

The Volunteer Ordinance, making it lawful for the Governor, on behalf of the Sovereign, to accept the services of any persons desiring to be formed into a Volunteer Corps and offering their services for a term of three years, and providing for the due regulation and discipline of the body so formed.

The Marriage Ordinance, to consolidate and amend the local laws relating to marriage, and to provide for the appointment of marriage officers and proper registration.

The Agricultural Interests Protection Ordinance, to prevent the introduction and to provide for the eradication of diseases affecting vegetation.

The Marriage Ordinance has not yet been brought into operation, as it was found necessary to amend certain of its provisions before it could be enforced.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

33. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the Inspector, who is a Government officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of 1*s*. per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils, which are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but allowed only a casting vote.

34. The chief statistics relating to primary education in the Colony are summarised for the last two years in the following table. It will be observed that the Government contributions are on the increase, that there are no voluntary contributions, so that the title of "Grant-in-Aid" Schools appears to be a misnomer, and that school fees have decreased from £505 in 1899 to £397 in 1900.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools	9	1,073	957	2,030	1,098	124	1,269	—	1,392
Grant-in-aid Schools :—									
Anglican	7	946	811	1,757	935	106	941	—	1,047
Roman Catholic...	18	2,336	2,525	4,861	2,153	114	2,091	—	2,206
Wesleyan	4	502	350	852	443	47	531	—	578
Church of Scotland	2	125	106	231	115	6	116	—	122
Miscellaneous receipts and disbursements	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	—	59
Totals for 1900	40	4,982	4,749	9,731	4,744	397	5,007	—	5,404
" " 1899	40	4,748	4,492	9,240	4,817	505	4,655	—	5,159
Increase in 1900	—	234	257	491	—	—	352	—	245
Decrease in 1900	—	—	—	—	73	108	—	—	—

SECONDARY.

35. There are three schools of secondary education, one for boys and two for girls, one of the latter being attached to the Roman Catholic Convent in St. George's. The boys' school receives a fixed grant of £250 per annum from public funds, as well as a result grant of £5 per head on each pupil who obtains not less than half marks at the annual examination. The girls' schools receive each a grant of £2 per pupil, based on the average daily attendance, but not to exceed £100 per annum each; they are examined annually by an officer appointed and paid by Government. A comparative statement of the leading statistics relating to the secondary schools for the last two years is subjoined :—

Secondary Schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—					£	£	£	£
St. George's Grammar School ...	34	—	34	30	163	430	13	631
Girls' High School	—	40	40	35	141	54	—	227
St. Joseph's Convent School ...	11	70	81	66	177	100	110	387
Totals for 1900	45	110	155	131	481	584	123	1,245
" " 1899	56	111	167	143	547	595	55	1,064
Increase in 1900	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	181
Decrease in 1900... ...	11	1	12	12	66	11	—	—

36. There are no industrial, technical, or agricultural schools at present, but the question of agricultural education is not being lost sight of, and it is hoped that before long the curriculum of the primary schools will include at all events elementary instruction in this subject. In the meanwhile, as the first step to that end, two courses of lectures were given to primary school teachers in 1900 by the Imperial Department of Agriculture, with the cordial co-operation of the Government and all concerned. The lectures were well attended, and the subsequent examinations held showed that they had been successful in their object. The lectures were accompanied by practical demonstrations given to the teachers at the Botanic Station. A law has been passed in the current year making it one of the conditions of future grants to primary schools that provision is made to the satisfaction of the Board of Education for Instruction in Agriculture, and a Committee has been appointed to prepare regulations.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Colony Hospital.

37. The number of patients treated during the year was 850, of whom 512 were discharged cured, 193 relieved or not improved, 65 died, and 80 remained in hospital at the end of the year; the daily average was 83, and the daily cost per head a little more than a shilling. The general health of the institution was good, with the exception of an outbreak of influenza while it was epidemic in the island. The amount received from patients paying fees for their treatment was £168, the number of such cases being 100. The erection of a new operating room and of an administration building, to contain office, dispensary, &c., was commenced.

Yaws Hospital.

38. One hundred and eighty-three patients were treated in the year, being an increase of 47 on the previous year. 105 persons were discharged cured, six relieved, and two died from nephritis, 60 being carried over to 1901 for treatment; the daily average was 63, and the daily cost per head about sixpence. The treatment of the disease by thyroid has been abandoned, having been found to give no good results, and the usual treatment by a preparation of arsenic and iodide of mercury has been resumed.

CARRIACOU DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

39. This hospital appears to have done but little service during the year, and very little care seems to have been bestowed upon it by those concerned. Only 67 cases were dealt with, of which 27 were discharged as cured, 21 relieved, 2 died, and 17 remained on; the daily average was 7.

ST. ANDREW'S DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

40. At this institution 147 patients were treated during the year, of whom 108 were discharged as cured, 24 as relieved, 5 died, and 10 remained on to the next year; the daily average was 10, and the gross cost £551, against which should be set the dispensary receipts, amounting to £278.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

41. One hundred and twenty-four patients were in the institution on 1st January, 1900, and 26 were admitted during the year; 18 being from Grenada, 7 from St. Vincent, and 1 from St. Lucia, four of whom were patients who had already been under treatment. Ten patients were discharged, 8 as cured, and 2 transferred to the new Asylum in Trinidad, being the cases from Tobago remaining in the Grenada Asylum since the time that Tobago was attached to the Government of the Windward Islands. 17 deaths occurred, 7 being due to diarrhœa. The daily average was 126, being six in excess of the proper accommodation of the buildings, and the daily cost per head about 8½*d*. The sanitary condition was satisfactory, and a structural improvement was effected by placing the latrines in annexes to the buildings, instead of, as formerly, in the wards. Influenza was prevalent in April.

POOR ASYLUM.

42. There were 43 inmates on 1st January, 1900, 19 were admitted during the year, 18 deaths occurred, and 7 left of their own free will; one male was committed to prison for a violent assault on a fellow inmate, and one female transferred to the Lunatic Asylum. The daily average was 38, and the daily cost per head about 6*d*. The male ward of this asylum for incurables is always full, while there are invariably many vacancies in the female ward.

SAVINGS BANK.

43. The work of the bank in the last five years is set forth in the following statement, which is a record of steady progress. Of the balance at credit of depositors on the 31st December,

1900, £11,000 was either invested in sundry Colonial Government securities or on deposit at 3 per cent. interest with the Colonial Bank:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1896	895	5,026	5,062	6,390
1897	968	6,498	5,518	7,370
1898	1,053	7,803	6,722	8,451
1899	1,215	9,474	7,000	10,925
1900	1,387	9,379	9,136	11,168

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

44. The Police Force comprises a chief and sergeant-major of European birth and military training and 63 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates; it is maintained on a semi-military footing, and is armed with Martini-Henry rifles, a regular annual course of musketry being enforced. It is also (with the assistance of a Superintendent of Excise) charged with the supervision and control of the distillation of rum and the collection of the excise duty thereon, and in the principal town the detachment on duty is responsible for fire brigade duty. The conduct and discipline of the Force in 1900 were good.

PRISONS.

45. Only 189 persons were committed to prison in 1900, 157 being convicted prisoners, 2 debtors, and 30 for safe custody, &c.; of these 6 were convicts from the St. Vincent prison, transferred here for imprisonment in accordance with an arrangement arrived at between the Colonies. The daily average in prison was 41, that is to say, less than half of the highest daily average yet reached, which was in 1894. The cost of the prisons was £1,089, and the value of the work done by prisoners (which includes such work as baking all the bread and preparing the

cocoa consumed at the public institutions, and making the clothing, bedding, and mattresses therefor) was estimated to be £1,179. Good discipline was maintained during the year, and the mark system continued to work satisfactorily.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

46. The following table compares the statistics of crime in 1900 with those of the four previous years, and shows that the general improvement which has been remarked of late years continued. Out of 1,804 persons brought before the Magistrates, convictions were obtained, either summarily or before the Supreme Court, against 986; but, as showing the usually mild character of the offences committed it should be noted that only 157 of these 986 persons were sent to prison. The only offence which shows signs of increase, and it is at a moderate rate, is prædial larceny, for which 71 convictions were obtained against 61 in the previous year, and 51, the average for the three years 1896-8; and it is worthy of remark that this increase has taken place in the face of a law permitting flogging for the offence, a remedy which was applied by one Magistrate in no less than 17 cases in 1900. Another fact of importance connected with this offence is that in the majority of cases brought before the Magistrates a conviction seems to follow, the 116 cases so brought in 1900 resulting as under:—

71 convictions.

24 dismissed on merits.

21 discharged "for want of prosecution."

—	Average 1896–1898.	1899.	1900.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Persons brought before the Magistrate...	2,384	2,148	1,804
Convictions	1,166	1,107	962
Acquittals	389	338	338
Discharged...	784	657	464
Committed for trial in Supreme Court...	45	46	40
Total	2,384	2,148	1,804

Statistics of Crime—cont.

—	Average 1896–1898.	1899.	1900.
Supreme Court :—			
Number of persons brought before the Court.	47	40	46
Convictions	30	17	24
Acquittals	13	15	17
Not prosecuted	4	8	5
Total	47	40	46
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	336	297	288
Prædial larceny	51	61	71
Other offences against property... ...	225	134	122
Other offences	586	632	505
Total	1,198	1,124	986

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

47. According to the registration records, the estimated population at 31st December, 1900, based upon the natural increase only, was 65,523; and carrying the estimate forward to the 7th April, 1901, when the census was taken, it was at that date 66,013. According to the census, however, the population was, on 7th April, 1901, only 63,458, or 2,575 less than this estimate. It is difficult to reconcile these divergent results, but they are attributed by the compiler of the census to emigration from the Colony.

48. The registration returns show a natural increase in 1900 of 1,425, the average for the preceding ten years being 1,237. The birth-rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 40·98, the death-rate 19, and the marriage rate 5·31.

GRENADA, 1900.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

49. With the exception of a severe epidemic of influenza in March-May the public health was good in 1900. The chief causes of deaths in that and the preceding year were as follows:—

Cause of Death.	1899.	1900.
Diarrhœa and dysentery ...	182	140
Fevers	71	80
Phthisis	49	77
Enteritis	33	63
Bronchitis	25	27
Pneumonia	18	34
Influenza	1	48

Diarrhœa and dysentery thus take precedence of all other causes of death. While impure water must be in many villages a prominent factor in developing these diseases, it is noteworthy that in St. David's parish, where the water supply is adversely commented upon by the District Medical Officer, only 15 deaths took place in 1899 out of 182, and in 1900 only five out of 140. In Carriacou, where the water supply is both bad and scanty, there were but six deaths in 1899 and three in 1900 from diarrhœa, none from dysentery being recorded.

SANITATION.

50. The administration of details of sanitation is entrusted to a General Board of Health, with the several Town and Road Boards as local health authorities subordinate to it. In the towns some little attention is paid to sanitation, although nothing like what the conditions demand, but in the rural districts, natural conditions appear to be relied upon as the sole remedial agents. In other words, neither in town nor in country do the local health authorities do their duty properly, and as the Central Board of Health has only had five meetings since its formation in 1895, its controlling influence is practically absent. The islands are fortunately healthy, their configuration favouring good drainage, and the prevalent sea breeze is of itself a powerful sanitary agent.

CLIMATE.

51. The rainfall differs at the several stations in consequence of the shape of the island tending to a mountainous centre, so that three points are selected in illustration of the records in 1900:—

South of island	...	...	...	63·45	inches.
Centre	,,	...	...	...	157·33 ,,
North	,,	...	...	...	74·70 ,,

At Carriacou, an island in the extreme north of the Colony, the record is imperfect for 1900, but 54½ inches were registered in 11 months, so that about 60 inches may be estimated as the probable rainfall there for the year.

52. In connection with the epidemic of influenza above referred to, attention may be directed to the facts that between 15th March and 15th May, the approximate period of its duration, only 4·36 inches of rain fell in the south of Grenada; and that on May 17th the first rains for the season fell, 1·80 inches being recorded in the south that day, the rainfall at that station between 15th and 31st May being 6·11 inches, as compared with 35 parts only in the corresponding fortnight of 1899.

53. The mean temperature was 79·6°, the maximum, 91·5°, being on 4th October, and the minimum, 66°, on 27th June. The north-easterly trade is the prevailing wind, but in 1900 there was an unusual amount of south-easterly wind, which set in about May and attained its maximum in September.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

54. The work of the Post Office has noticeably increased in the five years 1896-1900. In the latter year there were 88,999 more letters and postcards and 625 more parcels dealt with than in 1896, and £4,725 more money orders were issued. The revenue of the office in 1900 was, however, £1,107, as compared with £1,842 in 1896, the decrease being apparently due to the introduction of penny postage.

55. The revenue of the Telephone Department was £1,150, and its expenditure (including loan charges) £1,245. It had been contemplated to make during the year many changes in the working of the department, which had outgrown its original outfit, and as the trunk lines and exchanges had been working for ten years, reconstruction was in many places requisite. The temporary removal of the manager to St. Vincent on special duty prevented anything being done, and towards the end of the year complaints were so numerous and insistent that the services of a special inspector were obtained by the Government for a report on the system. No tangible results, however, followed this report, and in the current year the necessary improvements are being effected.

P.N.-11 28 589643 F. of C Block 860 X-11

GRENADA, 1900.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

56. There is no military force in the Colony. The police are drilled and trained to the use of arms, and there is a law on the statute book enabling the formation of a volunteer corps, but no such body has yet been formed.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

57. The progress of the war in South Africa deeply stirred the loyal sentiments of the colonists, and the several successes of the British arms were celebrated locally with enthusiasm. In January a public meeting was held under the presidency of Governor Sir Alfred Moloney, and subscription lists, both in cocoa and money, were opened for the War Fund, with the result that cocoa to the value of £179 and £416 in money, or £595 altogether, was remitted to England.

58. On 28th July the first steamer of the line to connect the West Indies with Canada, under a subsidy from the Imperial Government, arrived, but unfortunately one of these steamers, the "Orinoco," was, on the morning of the 2nd November, wrecked on the south-east coast of the island in returning from Tobago. This misadventure for a time retarded the work of the line, which should not fail eventually to be of much use in developing a trade with British North America.

59. On 3rd December, Sir Alfred Moloney left the Colony on his appointment to be Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, and on the 12th his successor, Sir Robert Llewelyn, previously Governor of the Gambia, was sworn in, having arrived on the previous evening.

60. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. E. Drayton, was absent from the Colony from the 16th February to the end of the year administering the Government of St. Vincent. Mr. Leslie Probyn discharged the duties of Colonial Secretary in that period, in addition to those of his substantive office of Attorney-General.

61. The year may be described as one of much prosperity for the Colony, and there is every indication that this prosperity is likely to continue. The lessons learned in the "hard times" of 1896 and 1897 have apparently been taken to heart by all concerned, with results which cannot fail to be beneficial to themselves and the whole community.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
31st October, 1901.

LBFe '06

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 350.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899 *see* No. 312.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1902.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-20.] *Price* 2*d*.

a 2924 a
-02

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
329	Malta	1900
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899–1900
337	Leeward Islands...	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar...	1900
343	Basutoland	1900–1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900–1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900–1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica...	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 350.

ST. VINCENT, 1900.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 312.)

ADMINISTRATOR CAMERON to GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House, St. Vincent,

December 14, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to Your Excellency herewith my report on the Blue Book for the year 1900.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Administrator.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1900.

I. FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of Revenue and Expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1899 and 1900, as well as the total Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years, 1896-1900:—

10815—875—1/1902 Wt 2866 D & S - 5

Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	14,849 16 1	15,845 10 5	—	995 14 4
2. Port, Harbour, &c. Dues	936 11 3	794 10 3	142 1 0	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue	8,847 13 7	7,692 11 9	1,155 1 10	—
4. Fees of Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	683 19 3	608 14 9	75 4 6	—
5. Post Office	1,035 4 1	2,280 14 7	—	1,245 10 6
6. Telephones	444 15 7	429 3 3	15 12 4	—
7. Rent Government Property	58 6 6	45 3 6	13 3 0	—
8. Interest	1,194 0 0	1,360 19 9	—	166 19 9
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	261 8 6	123 5 0	138 3 6	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	64 1 4	37 9 10	26 11 6	—
Total Local Revenue	28,375 16 2	29,218 3 1	1,565 17 8	2,408 4 7

Parliamentary Grants—				
Grant for Botanical Station and Agricultural School	2,650 0 0	775 0 0	1,275 0 0	—
Grant for damage caused by hurricane	—	25,000 0 0	—	25,000 0 0
Grant made in '98 in aid of General Revenue	—	5,000 0 0	—	5,000 0 0
Grant to meet Estimated deficit for January, February and March, '99	—	300 0 0	—	300 0 0
Appropriation from Hurricane Relief Fund for Hospital and Poor Relief.	—	3,000 0 0	—	3,000 0 0
Total General Revenue	30,825 16 2	63,283 3 1	2,840 17 8	35,708 4 7

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	1,789 0 0	1,835 5 0	—	46 5 0
2 Pensions	2,325 2 2	2,154 12 6	170 9 8	—
3. The Governor and Legislature	1,022 6 0	820 8 10	201 17 2	—

Expenditure—*continued.*

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
4. Colonial Secretary, Treasury, and Customs	[illegible]	[illegible] 6 7	112 10 7	—
5. Audit Department	[illegible]	[illegible] 7 0	—	6 13 10
6. Education	[illegible]	[illegible] 14 10	35 2 4	—
7. Legal Departments	[illegible]	[illegible] 16 5	—	58 13 11
8. Police and Excise	[illegible]	[illegible] 15 10	—	7 19 1
9. Prisons	[illegible]	426 9 8	37 5 1	—
10. Medical Department	[illegible]	[illegible] 2 3	160 10 3	—
11. Hospitals and Dispensaries	[illegible]	4,346 2 9	—	573 15 8
12. Charitable	[illegible]	[illegible] 17 5	—	1,220 11 7
13. Post Office	[illegible]	[illegible] 5 7	61 17 10	—
14. Telephone Department	[illegible]	338 18 7	—	24 11 8
16. Public Works Department	[illegible]	[illegible] 17 7	—	128 16 2
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department	[illegible]			

18. Miscellaneous	[illegible]	1,871 6 6	—	491 [illegible]
19. Public Works—Recurrent	[illegible]	1,342 16 2	—	149 16 0
20. Do. Do. —Extraordinary	[illegible]	88 18 2	677 18 2	—
Totals	[illegible]	[illegible] 1 8	1,457 11 1	2,698 12 6
Expenditure from Parliamentary Grants.				
15. Botanical Station and Agricultural School	[illegible]	847 8 4	346 4 8	—
Agricultural Instruction	[illegible]	—	119 14 1	—
15a. Erection of Agricultural School	[illegible]	—	1,505 17 8	—
21. Special Hurricane Expenditure	[illegible]	16,886 2 11	—	12,465 15 10
Totals	[illegible]	47,355 12 11	3,429 7 6	15,164 8 4

ST. VINCENT 1900.

Total Revenue and Expenditure for five years **1896–1900.**

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
			Total.			Total.
1896.	Local	26,487		Local	27,591	
	Imperial Grant	—	26,487	Imperial Grant	—	27,591
1897.	Local	24,845		Local	27,866	
	Imperial Grant	—	24,845	Imperial Grant	—	27,866
1898.	Local	26,901		Local	27,674	
	Imperial Grant	—	26,901	Imperial Grant	—	27,674
1899.	Local	29,218		Local	30,322	
	Imperial Grant	34,075	63,293	Imperial Grant	17,533	47,855
1900.	Local	28,376		Local	29,081	
	Imperial Grant	2,050	30,426	Imperial Grant	7,040	36,121

The total local Revenue of the Colony for the year under review was £28,376, being £3,457 in excess of the Estimate, though £842 less than the similar Revenue of 1899.

The gross Revenue, including the Imperial Parliamentary Grant for Botanic Station and Agricultural School, was £30,426.

Importations of foodstuffs, &c., were still above the average of past years, as a sequel of the hurricane of 1898, though not so large as in the year immediately succeeding that disastrous event. Post Office Revenue was abnormal in 1899, owing to the introduction of a new issue of Postage and Revenue Stamps, the demand for which has now considerably slackened.

The Expenditure in 1900, exclusive of the Parliamentary Grant, amounted to £29,081, being £987 less than estimated, and £1,241 less than the sum expended in 1899, a result attributable mainly to reduction in the outlay required on Poor Relief and Hospitals. The gross Expenditure was £36,121.

(B.) Taxation.

No changes took place during the year under review.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities, as shown in the annexed statement, is nominally £4,414, but this includes £4,094, the unexpended balance of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of the damage done by the hurricane, which is being disbursed during the current year.

ST. VINCENT, 1900.

Year ended 31*st*

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				13	4	8
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				1,132	6	5
Investments (Savings Bank Funds) ...				8,500	0	0
LOANS FROM GENERAL REVENUE:						
Georgetown Extension Loan	180	0	0			
" Water Works Loan ...	268	12	1			
Chateaubelair Latrine	55	17	2			
				504	9	3
ADVANCES:						
Roads and Land Settlement* ...	6,440	2	0			
Hurricane Loan Account	3,074	18	0			
Kingstown Fund	131	10	10			
Town of Georgetown	6	13	9			
Town of Layou			4			
Other Advances	374	4	8			
				10,027	9	7
Total Assets ‡				£20,177	9	11

* £12,209 14 0 of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid for these purposes is on

† The Public Debt is £14,470, of which £5,000 is provided for by an The Colony is also responsible for the Hurricane Loan to planters

‡ Exclusive of £769 4 9 advanced for Botanic S ation, Agricultural Buildings, in excess of payments from Imperial Funds at 31st

§ This Surplus includes £4,093 10 0 unexpended balance of Imperial

December 1900.

LIABILITIES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
DEPOSITS:		
Savings Bank Account	10,593 10 2	
Post Office "	173 7 10	
Immigration Fund	78 6 9	
Graham Bequest Fund	72 10 11	
Police Reward "	53 8 2	
Mesopotamia Byeway Fund	59 12 0	
Hurricane Relief "	166 19 10	
Town of Barrouallie	2 10 7	
Town of Chateaubelair...	2 4	
Hurricane Loan Special Fund	69 10 1	
Sundry Deposits...	173 8 6	
		11,443 7 2
INTERCOLONIAL ACCOUNTS.		
Government of Grenada	441 18 2	
" " St Lucia	18 4 1	
		460 2 3
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES:		
Current Account	584 1 5	
Drafts maturing...	3,276 7 0	
		3,860 8 5
Total Liabilities † ...		15,763 17 10
Excess of Assets § ...		4,413 12 1
		£20,177 9 11

deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Imperial Grant, held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
from The Imperial Treasury, which at 31st December 1900 was £13,000.
School, Agricultural Instruction, and erection of Agricultural School
December 1900.
Grant of £25,000 in aid of damage done by the hurricane of 1898.

(D.) Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony at the end of 1900 stood at £14,470. Of this sum, £5,000 is provided for by an Imperial Grant in the hands of the Crown Agents on deposit; £6,350 is repayable from the funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown, and the actual amount to be paid from Colonial Revenue is thus—£3,120, which is being repaid at the rate of £560 per annum.

The Colony is further responsible to the Imperial Government for repayment of a sum of £16,026, loaned to planters to enable them to restore works and buildings destroyed by the hurricane of 1898. Repayment of this sum is provided for by Ordinance, and is made to extend over 23 years.

(E.) Currency.

Gold, American and British, Colonial Bank Notes, with British Silver and Copper, constitute the currency of the island.

The Government's Accounts are kept in Sterling, and Commercial Accounts in Dollars and Cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management and control of the affairs of the town of Kingstown are vested in a Board, half of whom are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by Wardens, annually appointed by the Government.

The following comparative statement gives the total Revenue and Expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,017	1,985	1,848	2,082*	1,961
Georgetown	262	242	219	52	120
Chateaubelair	43	38	29	18	25
Calliaqua	42	37	4	19	13
Barrouallie	34	25	—‡	6	38
Layou...	20	26	11	2	15
Bequia	16	10	3	—†	6

* Includes amount (£93) transferred from Imperial Grant for damage caused by hurricane.

† No assessment in consequence of destruction caused by hurricane.

‡ Account books destroyed by hurricane.

Expenditure.

Town.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,132	2,085	1,985	2,187	1,902
Georgetown	264	138	275	48	133
Chateaubelair	33	47	26	21	26
Calliaqua	41	36	5	21	36
Barrouallie	95	25	—*	10	36
Layou	19	27	10	2	16
Bequia	16	11	3	—	3

* Account books destroyed by hurricane.

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns are as follows:—

Kingstown Water Supply	£5,100	
„ Town Improvement ...	600	
		£5,700
Georgetown Water Supply		650
Total		£6,350

Provision for repayment of these Loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the General Revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown Water Supply Loan is being repaid at the rate of £400 per annum, the Town Improvement Loan at the rate of £150 per annum, and the Georgetown Loan by annual instalments of £50.

The time for repayment of the Kingstown Improvement Loan has had to be extended during the current year in consequence of the insufficiency of the town's Revenue to meet the calls upon it.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statements give the value of the chief articles of Import and Export in 1899 and 1900 and the totals for the last five years:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1899.	1900.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Biscuits	1,856	1,426
Butter	1,636	1,706
Fish, salted, &c.	5,836	5,230
Flour, wheaten	17,280	11,212
Flour, other kind	2,151	1,101
Pork, salted, &c.	2,326	2,624
Rice	3,114	2,598
Salt	1,627	497
Sugar, Muscovado	2,555	980
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	1,010	993
Class II.—		
Manures	490	697
Petroleum oil	943	1,563
Timber and shingles	11,804	10,471
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	16,113	20,232
Metal, manufactured	8,138	7,229
Boots and shoes	1,013	1,399
Cement	1,628	732
Soap...	1,316	1,551

Exports.

Articles.	1899.	1900.
	£	£
Sugar (Muscovado)	415	6,910
Rum	234	800
Molasses	—	560
Arrowroot	22,457	74,748
Cassava starch	482	2,280
Cocoa	116	1,411
Fruit and vegetables	788	1,097
Whale oil	482	611
Ground nuts	170	465
Live stock and poultry	2,643	3,013
Cotton and cotton seed	352	381
Firewood	363	339
Ground provisions and minor products	1,030	1,897

Totals for five years, 1896-1900:—

Imports.

Classes.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	31,838	32,684	40,931	50,765	39,900
II. Raw materials... ...	10,020	9,044	14,399	15,391	15,398
III. Manufactured articles	29,632	29,095	32,979	37,471	40,893
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	71,490	70,823	88,309	103,627	96,191

* No returns.

Exports.

Classes.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	61,528	63,705	40,008	28,418	91,154
II. Raw materials... ...	2,308	1,632	1,054	3,133	1,452
III. Manufactured articles	3,556	3,598	3,604	2,024	5,163
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	67,392	68,935	44,666	33,575	97,769

* No returns.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years, 1896-1900, are shown below:—

Imports.

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	29,847	28,358	27,291	29,241	35,538
British Colonies	31,667	34,908	44,812	52,046	35,882
Foreign Countries	9,975	7,558	16,205	22,340	24,771
Totals	71,489	70,824	88,308	103,627	96,191

Exports.

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	21,131	20,432	14,176	19,383	71,584
British Colonies	15,851	21,945	14,260	10,812	14,584
Foreign Countries	30,410	26,557	16,230	3,380	11,601
Totals	67,392	68,934	44,666	33,575	97,769

The decrease in the value of Imports as compared with the previous year was the natural result of the Colony's return to a more normal condition, the Imports in 1899 having been largely in excess of the average owing to the necessity for repairs and other replenishings as a consequence of the hurricane of 1898.

The increase in value of Exports is similarly a result of the Colony's gradual recovery from the effects of that hurricane. The values, however, of the arrowroot export in the returns in both years are misleading. The 14,000 barrels of 1899 probably realised £40,000 to £45,000, or double the figures given, while the 25,000 barrels of 1900 cannot have brought much more than £50,000 The high prices of 1899 led to a large over-production in 1900, and a continuance of such conditions cannot but have a baneful effect on the industry. Efforts are, however, at the present time being made by proprietors to form a combination to restrict the output. The increase of minor products such as cassava starch, live stock, and ground provisions is a hopeful sign.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures and Fisheries.

Nil.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Station.

Agriculture.

The main and most serious feature to be noted under this head appears to be the unwise over-production and shipment of arrowroot, glutting the London market and resulting in a reduction of the price realised to a figure at which the cultivation of the plant is practically unremunerative.

Sugar and rum are no longer produced to any considerable extent.

Cocoa cultivation is being extended, and will, it is hoped, prove an important factor in raising the fallen fortunes of the Island.

Loans to the extent of £26,026 were granted to Planters from the Imperial Treasury under the provisions of "The Hurricane Loan Ordinance," and re-erection of or repairs to estate works and buildings destroyed or damaged by the 1898 hurricane were carried on pretty generally throughout the Island.

The Land Settlement or Peasant Proprietor Scheme made substantial progress during the year, and from the Leeward Acquired Estates large quantities of provisions and some quantity of small stock are now shipped in small vessels to St. Lucia and Trinidad.

Botanical Station.

The expenditure on this is defrayed from an Imperial Grant, and good work was done throughout the year in distribution of

plants to the Peasant Proprietors, and other encouragements afforded to minor industries.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

Nine applications for Crown Land were received during the year, and twenty-eight grants were issued for land in respect of which payments had been completed, the Land Tax Roll being thereby increased to the extent of 566 acres.

The present price of Crown Land, which is for the most part mountain land, is £1 an acre cash, and £2 if paid in instalments. There was no attempt during the year to recover from the peasantry the large outstanding arrears of Crown Land purchase money, but a beginning has since been made.

(E.) Shipping.

A table is annexed of the Steamers and Sailing Vessels, Inwards and Outwards, during 1899 and 1900, as also a comparative statement of total shipping for the last five years.

These figures do not include men-of-war, of which twelve (British) visited the Island during the year.

Sailing Vessels.

—	1899.				1900.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	257	7,195	253	7,120	323	6,881	322	6,902
United States ...	5	1,753	4	1,638	5	1,333	5	1,333
Venezuelan ...	27	804	24	705	14	695	15	721
Dutch	12	857	16	1,066	9	860	8	763
French	1	53	1	115	—	—	2	29
Totals ...	302	10,762	298	10,644	351	9,769	352	9,818

Steamers.

—	1899.				1900.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	79	112,091	79	112,091	96	132,123	96	132,123
German	—	—	—	—	3	2,871	3	2,871
Venezuelan ...	—	—	—	—	1	83	1	83
Totals ...	79	112,091	79	112,091	100	135,077	100	135,077

Total shipping for last five years.

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Outwards	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Totals	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

III. LEGISLATION.

There were sixteen Ordinances during the year, the principal being the Customs Ordinance, a valuable measure of consolidation, and the Small Towns Ordinance, by which the Finances of these villages have been brought under an apparently much needed Treasury control.

IV. EDUCATION.

(A.) Primary Education.

The results of primary education in 1899 and 1900 compare as follows:—

—	1899.	1900.
Number of Schools	33	31
Number on Roll	6,027	6,000
Average Attendance ...	2,712	2,706
Government Grant-in-Aid...	£ 1,612	£ 1,667

The present condition of the Schools is far from satisfactory, but the whole system has been under consideration during the current year, and it is hoped that under the new Education Code now in preparation a better state of things will be gradually arrived at. The small sum of money available in view of the population to be served and the absence of any qualified Education Officer are factors which militate gravely against advancement.

(B.) Secondary Education.

The Kingstown Grammar School for Boys and Girls is the only Secondary Educational establishment in the Colony. The curriculum of the school embraces the subjects required for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the annual examination is conducted by the Syndicate. The Government Grant to the school amounted to £141.

(C.) Industrial, Technical and Agricultural Schools.

An Agricultural School was established under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture and with Imperial money during the year. The ground was selected and opened up in May. The School itself was opened in a temporary building with fifteen boys in September, and removed in October to the new buildings which had in the meantime been erected by the Public Works Department.

There are now some 24 boys at the School receiving a good serviceable training, including practical field work, and it is hoped that a useful class of young agriculturists will be turned

out in due course who will utilise the training they have received in the development of their native land.

The total cost of the School upkeep during the year was £317.

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

The number of patients treated during the year was 552, of whom 287 were discharged cured, 155 relieved, 54 died, and 56 remained in Hospital. The daily average was 67 as against 60 in 1897, 96 in 1898, and 80 in 1899. A Commission of Enquiry into the administration of the Colonial Hospital, with Sir Francis Lovell, C.M.G., Surgeon-General of Trinidad, as Chairman, was appointed in the middle of the year, on whose finding and recommendations various abuses were stopped, a Resident Medical Officer and a Steward appointed, and a much more satisfactory and economical system of management introduced.

The small District Hospital at Georgetown received 21 patients during the year, of whom 12 were discharged cured, 7 improved, and 2 died.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old Military Barrack at Fort Charlotte is set aside for temporary detention of Lunatics prior to their removal to the Asylum at Grenada.

Six lunatics were sent to Grenada during the year, making a total number under care there of 31, at a cost to the Colony of £651 per annum.

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum at the opening of the year was 17; two fresh cases were admitted, and the daily average was 18.

The Asylum is not all that could be desired and its accommodation is limited, but it is all that the Colony can at present provide, and is fairly kept and economically managed.

(C.) Poor Houses.

The conditions at the Pauper Institution at Fort Charlotte, which had been found to be unsatisfactory, were carefully investigated, and a thorough re-organisation of all details of the

ST. VINCENT, 1900.

management effected during the year by the Acting-Administrator, Mr. Drayton. There were 157 inmates at the end of 1899, and 93 were admitted in 1900, of whom 98 were discharged and 33 died, leaving 119 at the close of the year.

Some much needed repairs to the building are being carried out at the present time, and the Institution is being carefully worked and supervised and is, on the whole, in a fairly creditable state, although falling short, as must necessarily be the case with the small funds at command, of the model conditions obtaining in larger and more flourishing Colonies.

The Low Point old Military Hospital, which had continued open as an overflow Institution for paupers since the hurricane, was closed during the year.

(D.) REFORMATORIES.

Nil.

(E.) SAVINGS BANKS.

The following is a statement of the work of the Bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors 31st December.
		£	£	£
1896	1,062	4,451	5,350	8,455
1897	1,047	4,515	4,383	8,771
1898	1,091	4,263	3,739	9,283
1899	1,036	5,375	5,123	9,716
1900	900	7,790	7,122	10,594

Some 248 accounts, in respect of which no transactions had taken place for twelve years, and the balances of which amounted to £119, were written off during the year and the amounts forfeited to Colonial Revenue as required by law.

The figures of Deposits and Withdrawals are swelled by a sum of £2,926, which passed through the Bank under the provisions of the Land Settlement Ordinance, being the value of certain property compulsorily acquired by the Government, which sum is not a true Savings Bank Deposit.

Branches were opened at Georgetown and Chateaubelair, and considerable advantage has been taken by the people of the facilities thus afforded.

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The Colonial Police Force consists of a Chief, a Sergeant-Major of European birth and military training, and 52 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. They are, in addition to their civil duties, drilled and trained to the use of arms, and are armed with Snider rifles. Besides ordinary police work, they render invaluable assistance to the Government in many details of the administration, being charged with the supervision of the excise duty on rum, and with co-operating in collection of customs duties, district post office work, registration of births, &c., poor relief, and the management of the small district telephone exchanges. In Kingstown they are also responsible for extinguishing fires, receiving from the Town Board additional pay for this service; and, during 1900, an amalgamation was effected by which the Police Department were given the control and management of the Kingstown Prison.

(B.) Prisons.

Two hundred and sixty-seven persons were committed to prison in the year—170 men, 88 women, and 9 juveniles. The daily average was 31 against 31 in the previous year, and the total cost per prisoner is returned as being £14 1*s.* 11*d.* against an average of £18 14*s.* 6*d.* in the seven years ending with 1899.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the Police or to the Magistrates in 1900 was 1,268 against 1,475 in 1899.

Of the offences reported in 1900, 291 were for offences against the person; 55 were for prædial larceny; 181 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny; 741 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Court in 1900 was 795, against 878 in 1899.

These convictions are classed as follows:—135 for offences against the person; 14 for malicious injuries to property; 50 for prædial larceny; 69 for offences against property other than prædial larceny; 230 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c.; 297 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—5 for offences against the person; 10 for offences against property.

The acquittals were as follows:—in the inferior Court, 169; in the Supreme Court, 3.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 Census was 41,054. The population at the end of 1900 is estimated at 45,540, but no account is taken of emigration or immigration, and it is probably correct to make a very liberal discount on the figure of the estimate to cover the considerable immigration, chiefly of the younger and more able-bodied of the population, to more prosperous lands in search of work.

(B.) Public Health.

The public health of the Colony was, generally speaking, good throughout the year. There was no serious disease, but the widespread distribution of ulcers and ulcerous sores among the peasantry, arising in a great measure from their own shiftlessness, is a very regrettable feature, as it saps the vitality of the population and is accountable for a great deal of the drain on Government resources for Pauper Relief.

(C.) Sanitation.

The Medical Report on the Town of Kingstown is not as satisfactory as could be desired, but the powers of the Town Board to effect improvements are limited by their income. From the point of view of a newcomer, I may say that the Town appears to me to be very fairly clean and well kept, though I can conceive that with larger expenditure a better outward effect might be produced. Certain recognised defects have been recently receiving attention.

The smaller towns and country villages may leave somewhat to be desired in the way of sanitation, but no glaring evils are to be noticed.

A new Public Health Act has been passed during the current year.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year was 103·06 inches, recorded at the Botanic Station, just above the Town of Kingstown. The average for the last eleven years is 111·93 inches. The minimum

reading of the thermometer was 67·05 (in February) and the maximum 88 (in August and September).

The direction and force of the wind were normal, the prevailing wind being as usual the North-East Trade.

VIII. POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The Postal Service is performed by a fortnightly service of the steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company from and to Barbados, under contract with His Majesty's Government. There are also lines of steamers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and from the United States, which call at the Port of Kingstown, though at somewhat irregular intervals.

There is an Inland Postal system by which the Windward and Leeward districts of the Colony are daily, and the Islets of the Grenadines, are weekly, served.

The volume of correspondence appears from the Postmaster's returns to have been somewhat less than in the previous year, and the same applies to parcels. Newspapers, however, show a slight increase.

The Revenue was only £1,263 as against £2,281 in 1899, in which latter year the receipts from the sale of Postage Stamps outside the Colony were largely above the average, consequent on the appearance of a new issue.

The Revenue of the Telephone Department was £445 and the Expenditure £334. The lines re-constructed after the hurricane worked well and the service is a most valuable one.

IX. MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Nil.

X. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Having arrived in the Colony only in May of the present year, I am not in a position to review at any length the general events of 1900. It may be said, however, that the year was one of slow emergence from the disastrous conditions induced by the hurricane of 1898, while there are evidences of able administration under circumstances of difficulty for which the Colony has reason to be grateful.

ST. VINCENT, 1900.

The present outlook is certainly not bright, and in regard to the arrowroot industry especially there is grave cause for anxiety on account of the effect of over-production on price, as already explained, particularly as this industry is practically the only remaining general source of wage-earning employment for the agricultural labourer.

On the other hand, however, the Land Settlement Scheme promises fairly well, and the wider distribution of land among the peasantry should gradually bring about an amelioration of the conditions of poverty and distress that are now only too noticeable.

In time it may be hoped that the cloud of gloom that now overhangs this fair island will be dispelled; but, without a widely distributed, paying industry to give steady employment to the population, it would be too optimistic to say that that time is within measurable distance.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Administrator.

4th December, 1901.

2

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

210

No. 376.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 345.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1902.

Br. Brit. Colonial Office.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH:
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1903.

[Cd. 1388.] *Price* 2*d*.

THE LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS

M

JV33
.G7A4

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	"
369	Hong Kong	"
370	Cocos Islands	"
371	St. Helena	"
372	British Solomon Islands	1901–1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands...	"
375	Gold Coast	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies . .	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica...	Report on Caribs.

No. 376.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 345.)

GOVERNOR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
22nd October, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1901.

I have, &c.,
R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

---

875 Wt 28616 1/03 D & S 5 13002 A 2

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1901.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure of First Quarter.

In 1901 the Colony's financial year was changed from the calendar year to that ending on 31st March, and in consequence of that change it became necessary to make the first quarter of 1901 a complete financial period, commencing the new arrangement from 1st April, 1901. Of the finances of the quarter it is only necessary to record here that the Revenue was £16,061 and the Expenditure £15,331, the accounts closing with a surplus of £10,955, *i.e.*, about £500 more than at the 1st of January.

Statements of the Colonial accounts and local revenues are given both for the first quarter and for the year 1901-1902, but all other returns are, as heretofore, compiled in respect of the calendar year 1901.

Revenue.

2. The general revenue of 1901-1902 was £70,075, of which £800 was a grant from the Imperial Treasury for the upkeep of the Botanic Station, so that the revenue from local sources was £69,275. The figures for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1897	56,973
1898	62,875
1899	68,757
1900	70,363
1901–02	70,075

3. For purposes of comparison the revenue for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1901, is shown below instead of that for the year 1900, and it is seen that an improvement in Customs and Internal Revenue took place in 1901-1902, while the total result would have been an increase of about £1,500 had not the figures for the preceding year been inflated by an unusual sale of land, and by transfers to revenue account under Post Office and Miscellaneous Receipts of items overlooked in previous years.

Head of Revenue.	1900–01.	1901–02.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	36,076	36,739	663	—
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	26,315	27,022	707	—
Fees of Office, &c.	1,438	1,425	—	13
Post Office	1,257	1,035	—	222
Sale of Commemoration Stamps	14	—	—	14
Telephones	1,155	1,229	74	—
Rent of Government Property	419	429	10	—
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	1,104	1,080	—	24
Miscellaneous Receipts	252	67	—	185
Land Sales	790	248	—	542
Grant in aid of Botanical Station.	800	800	—	—
Total	69,619	70,075	1,454	1,000

Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure of 1901-1902 was £65,490, which includes £792 from the Imperial grant to the Botanic Station, and the expenditure for the last five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1897	58,549
1898	57,612
1899	59,359
1900	62,718
1901–02	65,490

5. The expenditure for the year 1901-1902 is compared below with that for 1900-1901, this table corresponding to the Revenue Table in paragraph 3. It will be seen that the expenditure for 1901-1902 was less by £893 than that for 1900-1901.

Head of Expenditure.	1900–1901.	1901–1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	6,432	6,730	299	—
Pensions	1,546	1,553	7	—
The Governor and Legislature...	2,154	1,962	—	192
Colonial Secretary	1,992	1,958	—	34
Carried forward	12,124	12,203	306	226

Expenditure—cont.

Head of Expenditure.	1900–1901.	1901–1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	12,124	12,203	306	226
Treasury, Customs, Post Office, &c.	6,092	5,165	—	927
Audit Department	475	510	35	—
Legal Department	5,629	4,837	—	792
Police and Excise Department...	5,138	4,831	—	308
Prisons	1,097	1,004	—	93
Medical Department	7,732	7,639	—	93
Education...	6,545	6,411	—	134
Ecclesiastical	493	496	3	—
Charitable	510	460	—	50
Telephone Department	1,429	1,314	—	115
Ditto Special Expenditure	—	371	371	—
Miscellaneous Services	3,826	5,382	1,556	—
Public Works Department ...	868	891	23	—
Public Works Recurrent ...	8,742	8,818	76	—
Public Works Extraordinary ...	4,734	4,367	—	367
Total	65,434	64,698	2,369	3,104
Agricultural Department ...	950	792	—	158
Total	66,384	65,490	2,369	3,262

The increase under Debt Charges is due to the purchase at a premium of the remainder of the 4½ debentures of the loan of 1886; under Miscellaneous, to the cost of the Census of 7th April, 1901, to the purchase in 1900 of certain premises for use as a Girls' High School which were not paid for until 1901, and to an amount paid as compensation for resumption of the leasehold of certain Crown Lands which had been granted in 1892 to trustees in aid of the maintenance of Queen's Park as a public recreation ground; special expenditure to the amount of £371 also took place on the telephone system of the Colony, which needed reconstruction.

Assets and Liabilities.

6. At 31st March, 1902, the Colonial assets amounted to £36,334, and the liabilities to £18,369, leaving a surplus in favour of the Colony of £17,965. This surplus would have been much larger but for the purchase of the debentures mentioned in paragraphs 5 and 7. As it is, the surplus represents an addition since 1st January, 1901, of £1,542. £7,851 of the surplus is invested as a reserve fund, to be held for emer-

gencies and against periods of financial depression, and it is intended to increase this fund steadily until a safe margin is reached.

Public Debt.

7. The Public Debt at 31st March, 1902, was £123,670 in 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, and the Sinking Fund in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies for its redemption amounted to £12,008. The unredeemed balance of the former debenture loan of £44,475, viz., £3,900 in 4½ debentures, was retired by purchase during the financial year, and the debentures cancelled. The purchase price was £4,203.

8. A debt of the St. George's Town Board of £1,000, borrowed in 1879 for waterworks and repayable in March, 1903, is also secured on the General Revenue of the Colony. The Sinking Fund in the hands of the Colonial Treasurer for its redemption amounted to £967, and before the close of the current financial year it will be repaid.

Town Boards' Revenue and Expenditure.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the several Town Boards in the last five years are shown in the following statement:—

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901-02.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901-02.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	3,049	2,158	2,576	2,459	2,848	3,021	2,033	2,879	2,707	3,114
Grenville	919	946	910	940	909	829	953	896	992	860
Sauteurs	463	480	427	540	601	412	556	411	465	507
Victoria	270	281	273	300	331	260	291	272	288	244
Gouyave	557	529	592	601	579*	604	477	631	551	655*
Hillsborough... ...	132	128	133	133	109	125	147	123	126	173

* For the year 1901.

With the exception of those for the town of Gouyave the figures for the last year of the series are those of the financial year 1901-1902. The accounts of that town were in arrear and had to be specially written up.

Town Boards' Debt.

10. The debts of the towns are as follows:—

Town.	Amount.
	£
St. George's	7,481
Grenville	1,150
Sauteurs	1,100
Victoria	1,384
Gouyave	3,304
Total...	14,429

Repayment of these debts is provided for either by Sinking Fund contributions or annual instalments.

11. The current liabilities of the Boards (with the exception of Sauteurs and Victoria, with surplus assets of £135 and £161, respectively) exceeded their assets at 31st March, 1902, as follows:—

Town.	Amount.
	£
St. George's	247
Grenville	94
Gouyave	291
Hillsborough...	5

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

12. The statistical value of the imports in the year 1901 was £246,567, and of the exports £303,934. In the four preceding years these values were:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1897	164,536	154,439
1898	210,783	257,274
1899	226,828	267,738
1900	232,790	311,681

The imports of 1901, therefore, were more valuable than in any preceding year, and the exports, while at a satisfactory figure, were slightly less valuable than in 1900.

13. The trade of the Colony in the quinquennial period 1897-1901 under the four usual divisions is given in the next table, and the most marked feature is the steady increase in the imports of manufactured articles.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics ...	76,598	89,028	104,440	108,353	106,696	148,907	252,263	261,144	303,148	295,990
Raw materials	10,656	16,467	18,715	21,402	22,842	4,314	4,754	4,066	6,484	5,989
Manufactured articles	77,102	102,028	100,548	102,342	110,882	274	185	1,603	1,649	1,955
Coin and bullion	—*	3,260	3,125	693	6,147	944	72	925	400	—
Totals	164,356	210,783	226,828	232,790	246,567	154,439	257,274	267,738	311,681	303,934

* No returns.

14. The volume and direction of the trade are set forth in the following table, covering the same period, and it will be seen that in 1901 the United Kingdom supplied 46 per cent. of the imports (45 per cent in 1900); British Colonies, 24 per cent. (25 per cent. in 1900); and foreign countries, 30 per cent. (the same as in 1900). Of the

exports 74 per cent. went to the United Kingdom and 24 per cent. to foreign countries, indicating that the tendency of late years for an increasing quantity of the Colony's staples to be sent to the latter continues, the corresponding figures in 1900 being 83 per cent. and 15 per cent., while in 1896 they were 92 per cent. and 5 per cent.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	78,893	98,626	101,922	105,592	113,953	138.656	243,574	220,479	259,079	226,715
British Colonies	40,126	55,254	64,603	57,628	58,949	4,283	3,307	5,636	5,399	4,535
Foreign Countries	45,337	56,903	60,304	69,570	73,665	11,500	10,393	41,623	47,203	72,685
Totals	164,356	210,783	226,829	232,790	246,567	154,439	257,274	267,738	311,681	303,935

15. A feature of the trade with British Colonies which deserves notice this year is the steady growth of the imports from the Dominion of Canada; the figures for the last three years are subjoined:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports
	£	£
1899...	6,749	—
1900...	7,946	282
1901...	11,264	91

The stimulus given to this trade by the subsidised line of steamers which commenced to run in 1900 is beginning to have its effect now that the vessels are more regular and punctual, and in 1901 for the first time wheaten flour appears among the imports from Canada. It is hoped that the Dominion will in time reciprocate by receiving a share of the Colony's staples, cocoa and nutmegs, and with that in view an exhibit of these products has been sent to the Toronto Exhibition in the current year. The exports given above represent nutmegs.

16. Of the other trade with British Colonies that with Barbados and Trinidad is predominant, £46,063 of the imports and £3,880 of the exports in 1901 being in this direction. With the increasing facilities for direct trade with the United States and with Canada this trade may reasonably be expected to diminish in time.

17. Following up the foreign trade to the countries with which it is transacted, as shown in the subjoined table, it is found that the United States of America continues to be the principal customer of the Colony, and that the business steadily increases. In 1901 74 per cent. of the total recorded foreign trade was with that country, and that is exclusive of the quantity of American foodstuffs imported by way of Barbados and Trinidad. As noted in last Blue Book Report, more manufactured articles are coming in from the United States than formerly, the great advantages conferred by direct steam communication with New York three times a month producing their inevitable result. The United States is a most valuable customer of the Colony for its staple products, and there is every indication that this promising market is expanding yearly. Five years ago the cocoa sent thither was valued at £4,752 and the spices at £1,276; in 1901 the corresponding values were £25,992 and £11,054.

18. The figures given for the exports to France are not reliable. A quantity of cocoa is shipped to Havre, "optional" for London, and there is no means at present of ascertaining how much of this actually is imported into France.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	44,529	56,073	57,638	66,572	71,228	8,106	8,829	13,945	31,875	38,894
France and French Colonies	381	350	1,330	1,623	650	3,026	1,335	25,427	14,249	32,909
Holland and Dutch Colonies	67	234	627	798	1,256	9	—	186	313	402
Denmark and Danish Colonies	360	207	514	34	35	—	—	1	—	—
Venezuela	—	38	6	372	9	59	229	2,064	762	481
Germany	—	—	151	163	347	300	—	—	—	—
Other Countries	—	—	38	8	138	—	—	—	4	—
Totals	45,337	56,902	60,304	69,570	73,663	11,500	10,393	41,623	47,203	72,686

19. A comparison of the values of the chief imports in 1900 and 1901 is instituted in the next table. There is no difference of sufficient importance to require explanation.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1900.	1901.
	£	£
CLASS I.—		
Live animals	2,451	1,510
Bread of all kinds	1,945	2,183
Butter	1,502	1,629
Cheese	977	900
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel)	11,781	13,581
Flour (wheaten)	28,500	28,750
Lard	1,842	1,651
Malt liquor	2,311	2,070
Meal (corn)	1,214	680
Meat (salted or preserved)	9,584	9,673
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,218	2,380
Molasses	1,077	271
Oats	2,839	2,838
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	2,916	2,546
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,133	3,429
Rice	4,949	4,516
Spirits	5,845	5,693
Sugar (refined)	4,544	4,607
Do. (muscovado)	5,074	4,689
Wines	2,229	1,977
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	3,001	3,167
CLASS II.—		
Coal	1,392	420
Leather	1,517	1,853
Manures	1,994	1,399
Petroleum oil...	3,423	3,315
Timber and shingles	12,681	15,238
CLASS III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	5,708	6,142
Textiles (unenumerated)	47,733	52,057
Rope and cordage	1,458	1,842
Metal manufactures	13,337	19,365
Books	897	809
Soap	3,587	3,840
Stationery	1,233	982
Cement	1,554	1,772
Earthen and glass ware	3,576	3,628
Furniture	1,235	1,558
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	5,266	4,665
Other	1,249	1,375

20. The leading exports of local produce in the last five years are shown in the next table. Both cocoa and nutmegs

show a decrease in 1901 as compared with the preceding year, which may be attributable to a severe drought experienced in the early months of the year. Kola nuts continue to exhibit an improvement. The fruit statistics are not reliable, the returns being unsatisfactory. Much more is exported than appears to be the case.

Produce Exported.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	132,642	227,655	234,611	269,931	265,979
Spices	13,503	22,107	21,761	30,153	26,714
Cotton and cotton seed ...	2,720	3,134	2,641	4,622	4,905
Live stock	1,230	1,211	1,088	1,133	1,147
Firewood	605	476	513	560	428
Fruit	540	427	672	404	326
Poultry	226	166	497	283	262
Turtle and turtle shell ...	270	406	337	267	351
Kola nuts	88	43	96	203	331
Coffee	283	59	13	5	126
Logwood	302	54	25	39	48

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

21. There are no mines, and the only manufactures are of rum, ice, and muscovado sugar, for local consumption. A record is available of the rum alone, and the following are the figures for the years 1897-1901, together with the excise duty collected thereon:—

Year.	Quantity.	Excise Duty.
	Gallons.	£
1897	57,406	11,448
1898	32,662	12,478
1899	48,477	10,605
1900	47,942	11,327
1901	53,204	11,669

22. There are no fisheries other than the regular daily catch of fish along the shores for local consumption. A lucrative industry might be created by a whale fishery, as in the first quarter of the year numbers visit the coasts, but they are rarely captured, and no systematic attempt is made to do so. An excellent oyster is found in a lagoon at Carriacou, and is protected by enforcing a regular season for its consumption, and by the issue of a limited number of licenses to gather it during the season.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

23. The crops of cocoa in the five years ended 30th September, 1897-1901, were as follows:—

Year.	Bags.
1897	54,597
1898	53,384
1899	52,141
1900	53,388
1901	53,387
Average	53,379

The crop of 1900-1901 was, therefore, up to the average of recent years, and fell only a bag short of that for the preceding year; a bag of cocoa averages about 180 lbs. in weight. The crop was delayed by prolonged drought in the early months, and it was at one time feared that it would be short, but better conditions later on in the year restored the equilibrium. Prices were satisfactory.

24. Much improvement in the methods of cultivating and curing pursued by the majority of the peasant proprietors has to be secured before the cocoa output of the Colony attains to its proper dimensions. An Agricultural Instructor was appointed in 1901, whose most important duty it is to visit the peasant proprietors in all parts of the Colony and advise and assist them sympathetically; the officer selected appears to be doing this work well, and the effort promises to be successful.

25. Probably on account of the drought already referred to, the crop of spices was deficient. Comparing the exports of this staple for recent years the following results are disclosed:—

—	Year.	Cwt.
Average export for five years ended ...	1897	2,433
Export for the year	1898	4,373
Export for the year	1899	5,005
Export for the year	1900	6,687
Export for the year	1901	4,548

Of the total export of 1901, 3,664 cwt. were nutmegs, and 1,945 cwt. of this were sent to the United States of America.

26. The cotton crop, which is exclusively the staple of the Island of Carriacou, the chief dependency of Grenada, was satisfactory. The exports for the last three years were as follows:—

Year.	Cotton.	Seed.	Value.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	£
1899...	1,768	4,114	2,641
1900...	2,628	5,334	4,622
1901...	2,250	4,859	4,905

27. An important movement in regard to this dependency was commenced in 1901, the results of which should be far-reaching. The Government gave notice to certain owners of large properties there of their intention to acquire them under the provisions of a law passed with that object with the intention of re-selling in small lots for the settlement of peasant proprietors thereon. Since the collapse of the sugar industry in the Colony, say thirty years ago, the large sugar estates of those days in Carriacou have remained practically intact, of little use to their owners or to the community, and it has been most difficult for a peasant desiring to own land to invest his savings therein as has been so successfully done in Grenada. The policy of the Government will set free these lands, and in the course of the next few years it may reasonably be hoped that many hundreds of thriving lots will be under cultivation, placing the prosperity of this interesting Island on a sound basis. At the date of this Report surveys are proceeding on the first estate to be acquired, Beau-séjour, the area of which is about 700 acres.

Botanic Station.

28. From the remarks made on the curator's Annual Report by the Commissioner of Agriculture, under whose department the Botanic Station was placed on the 1st of October, 1898, the following extracts are made:—

* * * * * * * *

"It is observed in this Report that the expenditure for the year was £826, and the receipts derived from the sale of plants, &c., amounted to £52 2*s.* 7*d.*, or £1 13*s.* 6*d.* more than those for the previous year."

* * * * * *

"The curator reports that various new works were undertaken during the year. Amongst the more important were the erection of a retaining wall along the bank of a ravine near the office, and laying out a new road along the upper boundary of the Station."

* * * * * *

"The experiment plots of economic plants at the Botanic Station continue to make satisfactory progress. Small plots of limes and alfalfa were added during the year under review. On the experimental cacao plots in the country districts the most satisfactory results would seem to have been obtained at Nianganfoix and Gouyave plots. On the former 322 trees are stated to have given a yield, during a period of 18 months, of 3,335 lbs. of wet cacao, while at Gouyave a yield of 4,985 lbs. from 373 trees was obtained."

* * * * * *

"The general tenour of the Report is favourable and indicates that considerable effort has been made by the curator to carry out the duties entrusted to him."

* * * * * *

29. Under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture visits were paid to the Colony by Mr. A. Howard, the mycologist, and Mr. H. Maxwell-Lefroy, the entomologist, of the Department, in February and March of 1901; the latter in conection with the investigation of "Thrips," an insect pest attacking the cocoa pods, and the former to enquire into sundry fungoid diseases of cocoa. After full and careful enquiry both officers recommended remedial measures, but expressed the opinion that there was at present no cause for alarm, the chances of the cacao crop suffering materially from the attacks of Thrips being, in the opinion of Mr. Maxwell-Lefroy, remote.

30. The Department was also instrumental in procuring a visit to the Colony from Mr. W. K. Morrison, a bee expert, who, after a round of inspection and lectures in March, reported favourably on the practicability of establishing bee-keeping as a minor industry.

31. The local agricultural staff was strengthened in November by the much-needed appointment of an Agricultural Instructor, which has been referred to above. The officer selected was Mr. Murdo McNeill, who had already had Colonial experience in the neighbouring Island of St. Vincent. This officer's emoluments are provided from Colonial funds.

SHIPPING.

32. The total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years is given below, and a marked increase is exhibited in 1901:—

Year	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1897	220,179	223,629
1898	216,192	218,006
1899	232,437	231,611
1900	222,899	216,110
1901	267,972	275,770
Average	231,936	233,025

33. In the next table the shipping is classified into sailing and steam vessels and the nationality is given, a comparison being instituted with the figures for the preceding year:—

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1900.			1901.			1900.			1901.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	206,405	10,485	216,890	254,982	8,952	263,934	200,255	10,728	210,983	263,233	8,999	272,232
Foreign	4,204	1,805	6,009	1,914	2,124	4,038	3,304	1,823	5,127	1,914	1,624	3,538
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	—	436	436	—	1,195	1,195	—	436	436	—	830	830
Holland	—	229	229	—	444	444	—	866	866	—	444	444
Venezuela	604	788	1,392	—	454	454	—	247	247	—	319	319
Norway...	3,600	352	3,952	—	—	—	2,700	352	3,052	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	—	1,914	—	1,914	—	—	—	1,914	—	1 914

LEGISLATION.

34. Twenty Ordinances became law during the year, the most important being:—

The Public Lands Acquisition (Small Holdings) Ordinance, which has been referred to above in connection with Carriacou.

The Education Amending Ordinance, requiring provision to be made for agricultural instruction in primary schools as a condition precedent to a grant from public funds.

The Town Boards Ordinance, abolishing the elective Parochial Boards as the authorities responsible for government of the small towns of the Colony, and creating semi-elective Town Boards in their stead.

The Pensions Ordinance, regulating the grant of pensions to public officers.

The Public Officers Security Ordinance, consolidating and amending the law relating to the security to be given by public officers.

The Town Boards Ordinance was not brought into full operation until 1st April, 1902.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

35. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from Colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the Inspector, who is a Government officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of one shilling per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils, which are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but having only a casting vote.

36. The following table compares the results of the last two years. It will be noticed that there were no voluntary contributions to the Grant-in-Aid Schools, which are consequently supported by the Government grants and by an amount of school fees, which, owing to laxity in collection, is steadily dwindling. Slight increases appear in the numbers on the roll and in average attendance.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools	9	1,121	999	2,120	1,126	105	1,254	—	1,359
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Anglican	7	903	785	1,688	953	108	1,029	—	1,137
Roman Catholic...	18	2,354	2,578	4,932	2,229	103	2,176	—	2,279
Wesleyan	4	489	373	862	448	52	499	—	551
Church of Scotland	2	135	100	235	125	5	129	—	134
Miscellaneous receipts and disbursements	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	27
Totals for 1901	40	5,002	4,835	9,837	4,881	374	5,113	—	5,487
" " 1900	40	4,982	4,749	9,731	4,744	397	5,007	—	5,404
Increase in 1901	—	20	86	106	37	—	106	—	83
Decrease in 1901	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	—

SECONDARY.

37. The returns of the three schools for secondary education are set forth below and compared with the total results of the preceding year. The Grammar School is a boys' school, and receives a grant from public funds of £250 per annum in addition to a result grant of £5 for each pupil obtaining not less than half marks at the annual examination. The other two are girls' schools (although the Convent School admits also a few small

boys), and are paid grants not exceeding £100 per annum each, at the rate of £2 per pupil in average attendance; they are examined annually by an officer appointed by Government, but the Governing Body of the Grammar School appoints its own examiner.

38. In 1901 certain premises in St. George's, known as Bachelor's Hall, which were purchased by the Government with that object in 1900, were handed over to the Governing Body of the Girls' High School, which is now styled the Victoria High School for Girls, for repair and occupation as school buildings.

Description of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—					£	£	£	£
St. George's Grammar School ...	37	—	37	33	140	423	25	609
Girls' High School	—	40	40	28	154	56	—	209
St. Joseph's Convent School ...	11	83	94	68	188	100	110	398
Totals for 1901	48	123	171	129	482	579	135	1,216
" " 1900	45	110	155	131	481	584	123	1,245
Increase in 1901	3	13	16	—	1	—	12	—
Decrease in 1901... ...	—	—	—	2	—	5	—	29

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Colony Hospital.

39. The number of patients treated during the year was 848, of whom 548 were discharged as cured, 173 relieved or not improved, 60 died, and 67 remained in hospital at the end of the year; the daily average was 86, and the daily cost per head, 1*s.* 1*d.* The general health of the institution would have been good had not dysentery made its appearance, being epidemic in the Colony, 110 cases of it occurring, with 20 deaths. The amount received from paying patients was £129, and their number 97. A portion of the new Administration Building was occupied, but further work and expenditure are necessary before the quarters on the first floor, intended for a matron, are fit for habitation.

Yaws Hospital.

40. The number of cases under treatment was 150, or 27 less than in 1900; of these 105 were discharged as cured, 3 were relieved, 3 died, and 45 remained on at the end of the year. The daily average was 52, and the daily cost per head, 6*d.* The majority of the cases treated appear to come from the adjoining parishes of St. George and St. David, and, unless rigid compulsion be resorted to, there is little hope of the cases from outlying districts being treated. Carriacou is almost immune.

St. Andrew's District Hospital.

41. 109 patients were treated, 68 being discharged as cured, 23 as relieved, 7 died, and 11 remained in hospital at 31st December. The daily average was 11, and the gross cost of the institution (excluding the Medical Officer's salary) was £496, against which should be set the dispensary receipts, £186.

Carriacou District Hospital.

42. There 145 cases were treated, 101 being discharged as cured, 24 as relieved, 4 not relieved, 2 died, and 14 remained on to 1902. The gross cost of the institution was £593, but the dispensary receipts cannot be correctly ascertained as on the 11th July the dispensary and dispenser's quarters were destroyed by fire, the origin of which it has so far been impossible to prove. This hospital is infested with the *Anopheles* mosquito, and consequently malarial fever attacks the cases therein. The buildings are too old for successful removal to a site free from this pest, and other premises will have to be provided at no distant date.

Lunatic Asylum.

43. The number of inmates on 1st January, 1901, was 123, and 33 were admitted during the year, being 19 from Grenada, 8 from St. Lucia, and 6 from St. Vincent. 13 patients were discharged as cured, and there were 15 deaths. The daily average was 122, and the daily cost of a patient, 8½*d*. The Asylum is too small for the requirements of the three Colonies, and it is understood that St. Lucia contemplates shortly erecting an Asylum there for its own lunatics. When this is done, the Grenada and St. Vincent patients can be comfortably accommodated in the Richmond Hill Asylum, and the present unsatisfactory conditions prevailing there removed.

Poor Asylum.

44. This is practically an Asylum for incurables, and there were at the commencement of 1901 37 inmates. 21 were admitted in the year, 10 died, and 5 left voluntarily. The daily average was 41, and the daily cost per inmate, 5¾*d*. Expenditure is necessary to make these premises a proper Asylum, and until some steps are taken in this direction it cannot be regarded as a satisfactory public institution.

Savings Bank.

45. A table is subjoined with the figures showing the work of the bank in the five years 1897-1901, and satisfactory progress is shown. £6,500 of the depositors' balances at the close of the year was invested in sundry Colonial Government securities, and £4,500 was held on deposit by the Colonial Bank at 3 per cent. interest. The depositors in the principal bank at St. George's were 738 in number, with balances of £6,222, and in the district branches, 617, with £4,989 balance at end of year. In 1891 these figures were: St. George's, 462 depositors, £6,524 balance; districts, 175 depositors, £1,086 balance. The marked success which has attended the establishment of the branch banks is most encouraging.

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1897	968	6,498	5,518	7,370
1898	1,053	7,803	6,722	8,451
1899	1,215	9,474	7,000	10,925
1900	1,387	9,379	9,136	11,168
1901	1,355	8,603	8,561	11,211

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

46. The Police Force, consisting of a Chief and sergeant-major and 63 non-commissioned officers and privates, is armed with Martini-Henri rifles and kept on a semi-military footing. In addition to its ordinary police duties, it is charged with the supervision of the collection of the excise duty on rum distilled in the Colony, and, in St. George's, the headquarters' detachment is also responsible for fire brigade duty. The Chief reports that in 1901 the discipline of the force was well maintained, and at the annual course of musketry the average per man was 45 out of a possible 80 points.

Prisons.

47. The leading feature of the Grenada Prison returns of late years is the steady decrease in the number of prisoners. The committals from local courts in the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1897...	249
1898...	222
1899...	213
1900...	153
1901...	180

In 1900 six convicts were introduced from St. Vincent, and in 1901 one more from St. Vincent and 12 from St. Lucia, and yet the daily average in prison in the latter year was only 49, the highest on record being 84 in 1894. The decrease in committals may be taken as an index of the improved condition of the lower classes, while the daily average is affected both by this decrease and by the fact that since 1895 there has been a radical change in the length of the sentences passed by the Supreme Court, which previously to that year were characterised by a severity foreign to modern ideas on the subject.

48. The cost of the prisons in 1901 was £1,278, and the value of the work done, which is chiefly of a remunerative nature, was £1,260; so that they are practically, and have been for some years, self-supporting. The usual good health of the prisoners was interrupted during the year by the dysentery epidemic, there being 25 cases of the disease, with two deaths. The discipline was maintained at its usual satisfactory standard at the prison for males. So long as the female prison remains in St. George's little can be effected in this direction, and it is

gratifying to record here that the current year is witnessing the prosecution of active work on the erection of the new prison at Richmond Hill, too long deferred.

Criminal Statistics.

49. The statistics relating to crime in 1901 compare most favourably with those for 1900 and with the average for the preceding three years, as shown below, with one exception, the offence of prædial larceny, which maintains the high figures reached last year. This question has been engaging the attention of a committee of the Legislative Council, which has presented a report in the current year. The committee do not recommend any increase in the severity of the punishment permitted by ths local law, and suggest certain changes in the law relating to sale and purchase by dealers of cocoa and nutmegs. This report is under consideration.

—	Average 1897–1899.	1900.	1901.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Convictions	1,139	962	922
Acquittals	364	338	268
Discharged...	717	464	489
Committed for trial in Supreme Court...	44	40	32
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrate.	2,264	1,804	1,711
Supreme Court :—			
Convictions	25	24	16
Acquittals	13	17	7
Not prosecuted	5	5	3
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	43	46	26
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	322	288	301
Prædial larceny	50	71	70
Other offences against property... ...	183	122	76
Other offences	609	505	491
Total	1,164	986	938

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

50. According to the Census of 7th April, 1901, the population of the Colony was 63,438, and at 31st December it was estimated, from natural increase, to be 64,288. This increase would have been greater but for an abnormal death roll, 1,445 deaths being registered, the highest on record, the cause being a very severe epidemic of dysentery which raged in the Island of Grenada from June to December, claiming no less than 285 victims. The Acting Colonial Surgeon remarks that "The distribution of the disease and its attacking persons living in houses and localities where the purity of the water supply could not be questioned appears conclusive that other climatic conditions aided in its development." This view is confirmed by the immunity of Carriacou, where the water supply is both scanty and defective, from the epidemic.

The birth rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 43·22, the death rate 22·47, and the marriage rate 7·31.

Public Health.

51. With the exception of the epidemic just referred to, the health of the Colony was good. The chief causes of death in the last three years were as follows:—

Cause of Death.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Diarrhœa	135	95	109
Dysentery	47	45	297
Fevers	71	80	75
Enteritis...	33	63	71
Phthisis	49	77	66
Bronchitis	25	27	28
Pneumonia	18	34	17
Influenza	1	48	3

Diarrhœa and dysentery, it will be observed, take precedence of all other causes of death; the percentage on the total deaths being about 16 in 1899, 11 in 1900, and 28 in 1901.

Climate.

52. The principal meteorological statistics for the year are as follows:—

Rainfall, North of Island	97·12
„ Centre of Island...	189·67
„ South of Island...	92·15
Relative humidity (mean)	76·2
Mean temperature (maximum)	83·4
„ (minimum)	74·1
Mean pressure	29·975
Days of rain	233

There was a prolonged and severe drought in the early months of the year. In April, in the south of Grenada, only 0.71 inches of rain were recorded, and in Carriacou only half an inch. The rainy season opened on the 25th of May, and from thence to the end of that month, and in June and July, there was a very heavy rainfall.

53. A severe gale visited the neighbouring Islands of St. Vincent and Barbados and the Northern Grenadines on 20th August. At Grenada heavy sea and violent south-west wind were experienced that day, chiefly on the south of the Island, but little damage was done. The Government revenue cruiser was wrecked at Mayreau in the Grenadines.

SANITATION.

54. The sanitary administration was in 1901, as in previous years since 1895, in the hands of a Board of Health, with the several Road and Town Boards as local authorities subordinate to it, but this arrangement continuing to work unsatisfactorily, a complete change has been effected in the current year.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

POST OFFICE.

55. The work of the Post Office has greatly increased of late years, as will be seen from the following comparison of last year's statistics with those of 1896:—

—	1896.	1901.	Increase.
Letters and post cards	199,022	334,361	135,339
Book packets, &c....	80,066	99,496	19,430
Parcels	2,676	3,952	1,276
	£	£	£
Money orders issued, other than local ...	8,841	14,032	5,191

The department had been amalgamated in 1896 with the Treasury for purposes of economy, but it became necessary to separate them in November, 1901, as the efficiency of both departments, and chiefly the Post Office, was being affected. Much improvement has resulted in the current year in the Post Office administration.

Telephone Department.

56. The revenue from telephones in 1901 was £1,177, and the expenditure on ordinary maintenance was £1,052. In addition, there was spent £130 on reconstruction, £115 on stores ordered by the administration in 1900 but not paid for, and £27, the loan charges for first quarter of the year, making a total disbursement of £1,324, or £147 in excess of revenue. With the resumption by the manager of the department of his duties on 1st of July a complete change was effected in administration, a supervisor and a foreman being appointed with their whole time at the disposal of the Service, and the work of reconstructing the system, rendered necessary by ten years' work and expansion, commenced. Such work can be done but slowly with the funds and staff available, but it will be steadily pursued until completion.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

57. There is no military force in the Colony. As stated above, the police are maintained on a semi-military footing. There is legal provision for the establishment of a Volunteer force, but no steps have yet been found practicable in this direction. Notice has been given in the Legislative Council in the current year of a bill providing for the creation of a Volunteer Reserve, a proposal undoubtedly suited to the present requirements of the Colony.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

58. The most profound grief was felt in the Colony at the death of our late beloved Queen in January, and as a lasting memorial of her long and glorious reign, not only over the destinies but in the hearts of her subjects, Her late Majesty's birthday, the 24th of May, was created an annual public holiday under the title of "Victoria Day."

59. Mr. E. Drayton, Colonial Secretary, returned to the Colony on 6th April, after 14 months' absence in St. Vincent administering the Government of that Colony. Mr. Leslie

Probyn, Attorney-General, left, on promotion, on 1st of March, and his successor, Mr. Charles Major, arrived on 25th June.

60. The erection of three important iron bridges was completed during the year, the crossings bridged being those at Hermitage, St. Patrick's, Grand Roy, St. John's, and De Har, in St. David's parish. Work on a third bridge at La Force in St. Andrew's was commenced and vigorously pushed forward. A rain storm on 5th July in St. Andrew's parish, where eight inches were recorded during the night, and heavy rainfall later on in the year, caused the expenditure of nearly £700 on storm damages to roads, and of £214 on the reconstruction of the Dunfermline bridge, which collapsed.

61. 1901 was a very prosperous year for the Colony, and the future is full of promise.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,

20th October, 1902.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1903.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 384.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 332.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN

1903.

[Cd. 1388-8.] *Price 2d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
360	Straits Settlements	1901
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901–1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St. Helena	1901
372	British Solomon Islands	1901–1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands	"
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	"
377	Northern Nigeria	"
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901
380	Basutoland	1901–1902
381	Southern Nigeria	1901
382	Trinadad and Tobago...	1901–1902
383	Bermuda	1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada...	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla...	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Wei-Hai-Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 384.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 332.)

ADMINISTRATOR SIR GEO. MELVILLE to GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House,

25th February, 1903.

SIR,

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th November last, forwarding the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1901, I have now the honour to forward my Report on the above annual return.

2. I have to express my great regret that, owing to the pressure of work which I have had to attend to and to the late period of the year when I was enabled to take up the preparation of this Report, the transmission of it to Your Excellency at an earlier date has not been possible.

I have, &c.,

GEO. MELVILLE,

Administrator.

---

875 Wt 21109 5/1903 D & S 5 14333 A

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1901.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The General Revenue for the financial year 1901-1902 is returned at £67,365 6*s.* 3*d.*, inclusive of the grant-in-aid from the Imperial Government towards the Botanic Station, which shows a net decrease of £4,742 when compared with the Revenue of the previous year, which amounted to £72,107.

The following table shows the total amount of General Revenue collected during the last five years:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1897	60,639
1898	67,628
1899	71,479
1900	72,107
1901–2	67,365

The accompanying comparative statement of the revenue received for the last two years, 1901-1902 and 1900, shows that the decrease in the last year's revenue appears principally under three heads, "Customs," "Port, Harbour, &c." and "Repayment of Loans."

The decrease under "Customs Receipts" is due to the abandonment at the end of 1900 of the 15 per cent. additional import duty on all import duties paid, except on coal, which was imposed in 1896 to assist in meeting the financial difficulties which existed at that time. The falling off under "Port, Harbour, &c.," can be attributed to the decrease in the quantity of coal imported resulting from the quarantine imposed against the Colony during the latter part of the year. The decrease under "Repayment of Loans" is due to the redemption in 1900 of the loan of £8,000 which was raised for immigration purposes.

The increase of receipts which appears under head "Miscellaneous" is attributable to the balance of the premium on Stock, Water Works Loan, which was transferred during the year, and also to the value of water works stores taken over by the Castries Town Board.

The sum contributed by the Imperial funds towards the grant-in-aid of agriculture was £1,676 in excess of 1900. This was principally for the improvement to the Botanic Station and to the grounds of the Union Estate recently acquired for the Agricultural School, and the erection of the necessary buildings in connection therewith and for furniture, &c., for the school.

Head of Revenue.	1901-2.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	32,123	35,980	—	3,857
2. Port, Harbour, &c. dues ...	5,070	6,938	—	1,868
3. Licences, Excise, &c. ...	17,916	17,657	259	—
4. Fees of Court or Office ...	4,336	4,547	—	211
5. Post Office	1,294	1,047	247	—
6. Telephone	561	554	7	—
7. Miscellaneous	804	456	348	—
8. Interest	2,041	2,079	—	38
9. Repayment of Loans ...	406	1,899	—	1,493
9A. Part proceeds of sale of Reclaimed Lands.	188	—	188	—
10. Imperial Department of Agriculture.	2,626	950	1,676	—
Total	67,365	72,107	2,725	7,467

The rate of taxation remained unchanged during the year.

EXPENDITURE.

The actual General Expenditure for 1901-1902 amounted to £67,486, inclusive of what was spent on the Botanic Station, or £121 more than the total Revenue received. The expenditure for the last five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1897	57,123
1898	60,975
1899	63,821
1900	64,750
1901-2	67,486

The following table gives the details of the expenditure of 1901-1902 as compared with that of 1900, and shows a total increase of £2,736 over the expenditure of the previous year:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1901-2.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charges on account Public Debt.	11,472	13,219	—	1,747
2. Pensions	1,069	835	234	—
3. Governor and Legislature ...	2,854	2,611	243	—
4. Treasury, Customs, &c. ...	2,032	3,055	—	23
5. Audit	488	494	—	6
6. Port and Marine	837	826	11	—
7. Legal	4,234	4,456	—	222
8. Police	3,974	3,400	574	—
9. Prisons	1,303	1,207	96	—
10. Medical	5,854	5,834	20	—
11. Sanitary	193	283	—	90
12. Charitable	1,084	994	90	—
13. Immigration	125	125	—	—
14 Education	3,967	3,950	17	—
15. Ecclesiastical	1,500	1,500	—	—
16. Miscellaneous	7,200	8,400	—	1,200
17. Post Office	2,439	2,259	180	—
18. Telephone	831	522	309	—
19. Agriculture	2,894	1,277	1,617	—
20. Public Works Department ...	1,037	1,039	—	2
21. Survey and Crown Lands ...	600	613	—	13
22. Public Works Recurrent ...	7,150	6,462	688	—
23 Public Works Extraordinary	3,349	1,389	1,960	—
Total	67,486	64,750	6,039	3,303

Under head "Pensions" the increase is attributable mainly to the retirement of three bailiffs of the I. and III. District Courts, and the Chief of Police; under "Governor and Legislature" to the increase to the Administrator's salary; under "Police" to the increase of the Force; under "Post Office" to the new steam service to Dennery; under "Telephone" to the annual contribution for interest and sinking fund for redemption of the loan, this service not having been previously provided for under this head, the cost of construction thereof having been met out of loan money; under "Public Works Recurrent" to increased expenditure on buildings, roads, dredging and Soufriere river bed; and under "Public Works Extraordinary" to erection of the Paupers and Yaws Asylums at Soufriere, the agricultural school buildings, and repairs to jetties. It will be observed that a decrease is shown under "Charge on Account of Public Debt"; this is due to the redemption of the Immigration Loan of £8,000 during 1900. Under head "Miscellaneous" a decrease of expenditure is also

shown; this is mainly due to a smaller contribution during the year towards repatriation of the time-expired coolies.

Assets and Liabilities.

On the close of business on the 31st March, 1902—the end of the financial year—the balance sheet of the Colony showed a surplus of assets over liabilities of £19,416 9*s.* 4*d.*, being an increase of £862 7*s.* over that of the preceding year.

The investment on account of the reserve fund which has been established for the purpose of meeting in the future any emergencies which may arise through financial depression, stood, at the 31st March, 1902, at £15,654 1*s.* 11*d.*; during the year £3,000 were added to the fund.

The total amount has been invested by the Crown Agents in the following securities:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Zanzibar Guaranteed Debentures at 3 per cent.	3,000	0	0
Gold Coast Guaranteed Debentures at 3 per cent.	1,792	4	8
Lagos (Scrip Bank Rate)	6,000	0	0
Sierra Leone (Scrip Bank Rate) ...	4,861	17	3
	£15,654	1	11

Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony at the close of the year 1901 amounted to £173,779 11*s.*, of which £85,479 11*s.* at 4 per cent. were due to holders of inscribed stock, distributed as follows:—£50,579 11*s.* for public works, £5,900 for immigration purposes, £10,000 for Castries Town Board—expended on erection of iron-covered market and other works of public utility, £12,000 contribution from General Revenue towards construction of new water works, and £7,000 Castries Town Board contribution towards the cost of the construction of the water works, and £88,300 due to holders of debentures for the following purposes:—£11,000 at 6 per cent. interest for shares in the St. Lucia central sugar factory, £3,400 at 6 per cent. and £2,400 at 5 per cent. for immigration purposes, £9,100 at 4½ per cent. for preference shares in the St. Lucia central sugar factory, and £62,400 at 4½ per cent. for the improvement of the harbour of Castries.

Debentures were redeemed during the year to the amount of £2,900.

The general revenue of the Colony is liable for the due repayment of these loans.

The inscribed stock sinking fund on 31st December, 1901, amounted to £5,650 9*s.* 5*d.*, and that of debentures to £1,625 14*s.* 0*d.* The latter amount was deposited at interest in the London and Westminster Bank, and the former invested in the following securities:—

	£	s.	d.
Queensland, 3½ per cent.	678	0	7
South Australia, 3 per cent. ...	720	7	4
Tasmania, 3½ per cent.	717	11	4
Trinidad, 3 per cent.	727	13	11
Western Australia, 3 per cent. ...	817	14	0
Gold Coast, 3 per cent.	986	2	4
Lagos Scrip (Bank Rate) ...	603	17	8
Sierra Leone (Bank Rate) ...	477	13	4
Cash in Bank of England... ...	11	8	11
	£5,650	9	5

These securities are held in trust on behalf of the Government by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

TRADE.

Imports and Exports.

A comparison of the total imports into the Colony for the year 1901 and 1900 under a general classification shows the following results:—

Articles.	1901.	1900
	£	£
Class I.—Live Animals, Food and Drink and Narcotics	84,849	78,469
„ II.—Raw Materials:		
(*a*) Textiles	—	—
(*b*) Metal	10	65
(*c*) Other	122,321	114,113
„ III.—Manufactured articles:		
(*a*) Textiles	27,197	30,297
(*b*) Metal	13,749	21,026
(*c*) Other	126,206	147,163
„ IV.—Coin and Bullion	8,320	12,464
Total	382,652	403,597

The figures in the foregoing return show that the total value of the imports for last year fell short by £20,945 of the results of the preceding year. This decrease appears principally under Classes III. and IV., manufactured articles and coin and bullion. It will also be observed that under Classes I. and II. increases are shown; under the latter head the value of coal

appears, which exceeds that of the previous year by £10,870, notwithstanding the fact that the quantity imported of that article was less by 14,045 tons in 1900.

The increased importation during 1901 of live animals, food and drink and narcotics exceeded the value of the previous year by £6,380.

The chief articles of import as compared with those of the previous year are set forth in the following comparative statement:—

Articles.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Cattle	7,853	7,147
Horses and Mules	534	265
Poultry	363	417
Sheep	1,705	1,243
Ale and Beer	3,661	3,039
Bacon and Hams	796	790
Beef and Pork	3,990	4,885
Biscuits (fancy)	620	557
Biscuits (common)	382	573
Butter	2,121	1,791
Oleomargarine	1,630	2,146
Cheese	1,078	1,339
Coffee	1,426	1,441
Confectionery	457	416
Cordials and Liqueurs	300	289
Corn and Maize	772	503
Cornmeal	375	277
Fish (salted & dried)	9,767	10,253
Flour of Wheat	16,454	13,621
Fruit and Vegetables (fresh)	1,940	1,949
Hay and Straw	714	1,072
Ice	656	839
Lard and its Compounds	1,255	1,123
Medicine	1,784	1,820
Oats	1,564	1,387
Oil, Lard, Olive, &c.	1,167	1,067
Pease and Beanes	1,674	1,475
Preserves	3,455	1,716
Rice...	2,720	2,400
Salt (course)	504	226
Brandy	351	321
Gin	261	378
Whisky	1,912	1,740
Sugar (refined)	301	286
Tea	517	447
Wines	4,098	3,535
Tobacco (manufactured)...	1,652	1,333
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	1,327	1,372
Cigarettes	369	236
Coals	99,960	89,090
Leather (unmanufactured)	858	654
Manure	5,980	5,165

Imports—continued.

Articles.	Value. 1901.	Value. 1900.
	£	£
Oil (Cotton Seed)	3,362	3,077
Oil (Engine & Plant)	678	266
Oil (Petroleum)	1,842	2,336
Tallow (Engine)	922	62
Wood (Pitch Pine)	2,667	9,148
Wood (White Pine)	5,505	3,230
Bags (empty)	821	921
Cottons and Woollens	25,140	28,146
Ropes and Cordage	449	723
Twine	396	336
Arms and Ammunition	334	8,250
Hardware	4,258	7,790
Iron (galvanized)	1,131	912
Machinery	5,794	1,996
Nails (iron)	369	403
Boots and Shoes	4,467	4,809
Bottles (empty)	518	239
Building Materials, Military	12,257	90,651
Candles (sperm)	386	384
Candles (tallow)	301	343
Cement	1,289	1,306
Earthenware	1,036	1,007
Patent Fuel	1,396	—
Furniture	1,806	1,317
Glassware	1,143	1,353
Haberdashery	22,299	13,071
Hats and Bonnets...	1,760	2,242
Harness and Saddlery	349	514
Lime (building)	465	341
Matches	576	598
Ordnance Stores for Military	65,102	16,766
Paints, Dyes and Varnish	1,144	759
Perfumery	602	614
Soap (common)	2,671	2,938
Stationery...	949	661
Specie	8,320	12,464

The following are the sources from which the imports took place during the past year:—

Countries.	Amount.
	£
United Kingdom...	204,159
British Colonies	48,861
Foreign Countries	129,632
Total...	382,652

Exports.

Articles.	Value.					
	1901.			1900.		
	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Live Animals, Food, Drinks and Narcotics ...	68,780	450	69,230	95,994	352	96,346
II.—Raw Materials—						
(*a*) Textiles	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*b*) Metal	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*c*) Other	1,819	111,208	113,027	2,441	125,198	127,639
III.—Manufactured Articles—						
(*a*) Textiles	—	119	119	—	105	105
(*b*) Metal	—	4,842	4,842	—	1,284	1,284
(*c*) Other	85	403	488	82	1,215	1,296
IV.—Coin and Bullion	—	360	360	—	2,765	2,765
Total	70,684	117,381	188,066	98,517	130,919	229,436

The accompanying statement shows the principal local produce alone, and the following results are obtained:—

Local Produce.

Articles.	1901.		1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Cocoa	657,000	18,185	1,298,100	38,247
Mangoes	—	778	—	599
	Packages.		Packages.	
Ground Provisions	1,007	360	2,741	918
	barls. bags.			
Ginger	50½ 32½	207	28	63
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Rum	22,838	1,337	13,462	897
	lbs.		lbs.	
Sugar—Muscovado	945,800	3,167	387,600	1,903
" Usine	9,934,000	44,348	8,612,320	51,674
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Molasses	7,780	81	57,960	1,087
	cwt.		cwt.	
Hides...	258	290	471	706
	Cords.		Cords.	
Woods—Fuelwood	1,702	866	1,817	909
	Tons		Tons.	
" Logwood	75	187	119	238
	Bundles.		Bundles.	
Pimento Sticks	249	189	409	461
Other Varieties of Sticks and Timber	—	203	—	41
	Bundles.		Bundles.	
Brooms	109	68	72	42

We have the following results treating the figures for foreign produce in the same way:—

Articles.	1901.		1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Packages.	£	Packages.	£
Wines	96	122	109	167
	Tons. Bags.		Tons. Bags.	
Coal...	226 541	320	523 279	599
	Tons.		Tons.	
Coal, bunker...	85,517	110,196	100,055	124,555
Copper and Lead	—	84	—	208
	Tons.		Tons.	
Iron	2	4	133	107
Machinery	—	418	—	633
Ordnance Stores	—	4,306	—	300
Barrels, empty	6,201	145	5,506	138
	Packages.		Packages.	
Specie...	5	360	2	2,765

The figures in these returns show that the total exports of the Colony fell short of the previous year's value by £41,370. This decrease is principally due to the falling off in the exportation of cocoa, and to a decrease in the quantity of bunker coal taken by steamers.

The decrease as shown under the head of the former article can be accounted for in two ways— short crop, and to a large quantity of this product being shut out from the European markets during the month of December at the time the Colony was quarantined for yellow fever.

The extent to which the trade of the Colony was affected at the time of the yellow fever scare is again illustrated in the falling off in the quantity of coal taken by steamers during this unfortunate period. Steamers and warships requiring coal avoided coming to this port and obtained their supplies from elsewhere.

The following are the places to which the colonial produce and produce of other countries were exported during the past year:—

Countries.	Colonial Produce.	Produce of other Places.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	27,461	4,435	31,896
British Colonies	2,487	1,311	3,798
Foreign Countries	40,736	1,440	42,176
Bunker Coal	—	—	110,196
Total	70,685	7,186	188,066

The total imports and exports for the last five years amount to as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1897	245,253	230,444
1898	271,995	166,508
1899	282,963	170,668
1900	403,598	229,436
1901	382,652	188,067

Savings Bank.

The total balance to the credit of the Savings Bank to the 31st December, 1901, amounted to £13,287 14*s.* 3*d.*, as compared with £14,418 16*s.* 5*d.* of the preceding year. This balance is divided as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
I. District	12,606	11	7
II. "	518	2	8
III. "	163	0	0
	£13,287	14	3

This decrease when compared with the previous year is attributable to the time expired coolies *ex* "Roumania" who were repatriated to India during the year, among whom there were many with large sums deposited in the Savings Bank which were withdrawn by them for transmission to their country.

The investments amounted to £13,416 14*s.* 11*d.*, being £129 0*s.* 8*d.* more than the balance of the account. This was only temporary, and by subsequent increased deposits the position of the bank was soon adjusted.

The total amount of revenue derived from the investments and refund of income tax, &c., amounted to £446 14*s.* 7*d.*, and the amount of interest paid to depositors and working expenses of the bank for the year amounted to £410 10*s.* 8*d.*, thereby showing a balance of £36 3*s.* 11*d.* to the credit of working account.

The investments were held in the following securities:—

	£	s.	d.
Government of Canada Inscribed Stock, at 3½ per cent.	2,000	0	0
Government of New South Wales Stock, at 3½ per cent.	2,000	0	0
Government of Western Australia Stock, at 3 per cent.	3,000	0	0
Government of Trinidad Stock, at 3 per cent.	1,500	0	0
Government of South Australia Stock, at 3 per cent.	1,500	0	0
Government of Barbados, Debentures at 4 per cent.	1,000	0	0
Government of Victoria Inscribed Stock, at 3½ per cent.	416	14	11
At deposit in Colonial Bank, bearing interest at 3 per cent. ...	2,000	0	0
	£13,416	14	11

SHIPPING.

The following schedule gives the number, tonnage and nationality of steam and sailing vessels entered at the Port of Castries during the past year:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	461	770,443	273	9,634	734	780,077
American... ...	11	36,857	2	2,345	13	39,202
Dutch	1	1,152	7	412	8	1,564
Russian	—	—	1	411	1	411
Danish	—	—	1	285	1	285
Spanish	4	7,836	2	190	6	8,026
French	51	19,068	1	132	52	19,200
Norwegian ...	18	30,969	1	485	19	31,454
German	14	15,376	—	—	14	15,376
Italian	18	23,738	—	—	18	23,738
Belgian	6	12,016	—	—	6	12,016
Austrian	1	1,476	—	—	1	1,476
Total ...	585	918,931	288	13,894	873	932,825

The following statement shows the total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years:—

Years.	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1897	890,759	889,801
1898	779,806	776,971
1899	637,538	641,815
1900	921,426	920,170
1901	932,825	931,895

From these returns it is worthy of note that during the year 585 steamers of a total tonnage of 918,931 and 288 sailing vessels of a tonnage of 13,894 visited Port Castries, the total tonnage exceeding that of the previous year.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at Castries during the year was 1,864,720, or 23,128 tons more than the year 1900.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Botanic Station.

Further improvements were carried out during the year at the Botanic Station. An additional iron entrance gate was erected, new walks constructed, grass laid and the permanent collection of plants increased and partly relabelled.

Over 15,000 plants were distributed.

A third course of instruction in elementary agricultural science and practice was given to the teachers of the elementary schools.

Agricultural instruction with practical demonstrations was also given on many estates.

An Agricultural Show was held at Dennery, and lectures with demonstrations in bee-keeping have been given throughout the Island with good results.

On the experimental plots about the Colony very instructive results are being obtained in the demonstration of proper methods of cultivating various tropical plants, particularly cocoa and cotton, and planters are beginning to appreciate the value of these plots and improvements in cultivation on several plantations are noted.

Agricultural School and Experiment Station.

"Union" Estate, near Castries, was acquired by the Government for the purposes of an agricultural school.

The school buildings and officers' quarters were erected, some of the old works being adapted to the requirements of the institution, which was opened in October with ten pupils.

About 12 acres of land were cleared, drained, and roads constructed, and nearly three acres were brought into cultivation.

Crown Lands and Surveys.

The following is a *resumé* of the work done by this important Department during the year:—

Applications for Crown lands received ...	160
Alienations " " " ...	134

Revenue:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey fees	531	9	1
Deposits on account	207	11	0
Instalments	726	3	8
Sundries	36	15	9
	£1,501	19	6

Expenditure:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey fees	477	2	1
Roads	306	9	3
Acquisition of "Union"	1,244	11	2
Refunds	82	3	0
Miscellaneous	104	11	1
	£2,214	16	7

which shows a debit balance of £712 17*s.* 1*d.*, against which "Union" stands as an available asset.

Amount voted from General Revenue for upkeep of office—

	£	s.	d.
Pay of Staff	584	18	0
Incidentals	2	9	2
	£587	7	2

Amount to credit of Land Sales Fund at 31st December was £1,916 9*s.* 2*d.*

Forest Reservation.

Wood on high hill and main ridges was preserved from spoliation by preventing the unauthorised cutting of trees and clearing of land in such localities.

No estates escheated to the Crown during the year 1901.

Establishment and Upkeep of Boundaries.

The boundaries of lands, the property of the Crown, were cleared and, where necessary, marked, and the boundaries of four new estates defined.

Issue of Plants from Botanic Station.

Orders for 7,929 plants of various economic kinds, such as cocoa, coffee, and nutmeg were issued to persons who had purchased Crown Lands as provided for under Crown Lands Regulations.

Expenditure on Roads from Land Sales Fund.

The sums, as under, were expended on the following roads:—

	£	s.	d.
Goldsworthy Road	165	16	4
Soufrière-Micoud	116	14	3
Ravine Soufre	19	15	4
Dufore (Trace)	4	3	4
	£306	9	3

The work which engaged the greatest attention this year was the effort to at once settle persons on plots applied for. To do so, other items of work, such as the escheat of vacant estates was set aside. This was done to meet the increasing demand for garden lands owing to the lack of labour on sugar estates and to the advantage to be derived from owning one's own land. All that could be done by the present staff was done to prevent illicit wood-cutting especially along those high lands or ridges which form the water sheds for the main

valleys. A section of country has been marked out as a forest reserve for the Castries water supply. The boundaries of this were kept up and wood-cutting thereon prevented.

A portion of the lands of the "Union" Estate (an abandoned sugar estate purchased by the Crown from the proceeds of the sale of Crown Lands) together with the buildings thereon were handed over to the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the establishment of an agricultural school, from which it is hoped much benefit will accrue to the rising generation of planters and peasants by means of the tuition to be given at that institution. The remainder of the land is to be cut up into small holdings and sold to peasants.

CASTRIES TOWN BOARD.

The revenue of the Castries Town Board for the year was £6,055 5*s.* 6*d.* and the expenditure £6,776 9*s.*; but on the 1st January, 1901, the Board had a balance in hand of £1,356 0*s.* 8*d.*, and there has been carried forward to the year 1902 a balance of £634 17*s.* 2*d.* The principal items of revenue are

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Water Dues from Shipping ...	1,994	4	0
Market Dues	1,367	5	1
House Taxes	1,691	0	5

and the chief charges against it are—

Maintenance of Water Works, exclusive of pay of Staff	1,369	5	4
Expenses of Fire Brigade ...	542	1	11
Interest and Sinking Fund, on Loans	979	14	4
Repayment of Water Works Debt	673	4	5

LEGISLATION.

During the year twelve Ordinances passed the Legislative Council, but Ordinance No. 9 "To amend the Police Ordinance, 1887," did not receive the Governor's assent. None of them is of sufficient importance to call for special notice, except, perhaps, the Ordinance to provide for the maintenance of a supply of water for the town of Castries. This measure was finally passed by the Council, and accepted by the Town Board after much correspondence caused by differences of opinion as to the expediency of certain of its provisions; and it is, I believe, working satisfactorily.

EDUCATION.

There were 44 assisted primary schools in operation during the year 1901, of which one was closed in September. The number of children on the rolls of these schools was 6,833, and the average attendance 3,577, an advance of 468 and 124 respectively on the numbers for 1900. The grants-in-aid amounted to £3,167 8*s.* 5*d.*, or £29 3*s.* 7*d.* more than in the previous year.

It is estimated that 14·1 per cent. of the population were on the rolls of all the schools, primary and secondary, and 7·45 per cent. in average attendance, as against 13·6 per cent. and 7·4 per cent. respectively for the year 1900.

Owing to the operation of the new Code, there was a large increase in the number of children examined in the primary schools, the number being 4,065 as against 3,134 for the year 1900.

The new Code came into operation, as far as the general regulations were concerned, on the 1st October. The financial regulations take effect from the 1st April, 1902.

The Code provides, *inter alia*, for the strict supervision of the schools by the managers, the right of visiting schools by members of the executive and legislative councils, and other officers of the Government, and the licensing and registration of teachers. The subjects of instruction in addition to the elementary subjects, now include the systematic teaching of English as a spoken language, needlework, drawing object lessons, elementary science, &c. Special encouragement has been given to the teaching of practical agriculture. Grants to schools will depend to a greater extent than formerly on the average attendance, modified, however, by the degree of efficiency as shown by the examinations. A grant of 1*s.* 6*d.* per unit of average attendance in lieu of school fees has the effect of making education in St. Lucia practically free.

The St. Mary's College for Boys and the School of the Convent of St. Joseph for Girls continued to perform useful work. All the pupils of the college who were presented for the Cambridge local examinations, and all the convent girls who were presented for the examinations of the College of Preceptors were successful.

HOSPITALS.

From the Annual Medical Reports it will be seen that 3,050 persons were admitted for hospital indoor treatment, 1,975 less than previous year.

Dispensaries.

There were 34,344 attendants, 3,388 in excess of 1900.

Victoria Hospital.

There were admitted to this institution during the year—

Coolies 1,112, an excess of 206 on 1900.

Natives of other places 619, excess 150 on 1900.

Police officers, gaol warders and seamen, 97.

Natives of the Island, 358, or 4 less than 1900.

Poor Asylum.

In this institution there was a daily average of 56, less by 2 than for 1900; and the average death-rate was 20 per cent. as compared with 28·4 per cent. in 1900. Owing to financial reasons anticipated improvements were delayed until early in current year.

With the exception of a few cases of yellow fever among the troops on the Morne, the general health of the Island was good. Dr. Galgey continued his observations on Filaria and Dr. Gray on malarial parasites.

Great inconvenience is still experienced from want of suitable local accommodation for lunatics.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The law which regulates friendly societies in this Colony is entitled "The Friendly Societies Ordinance of 1896." The societies which have registered under it came into existence from 1898. In that year four were in working order. In 1901 their number had risen to eight. No count has been taken of two which registered in 1901 for the sole purpose, apparently, of enabling their members to parade the streets in naval uniform. They were stamped out of existence in consequence of police prosecution under "The Uniforms Ordinance of 1896," leaving no records and no funds.

The following table shows in detail the position of the societies at the start, their present condition, and the progress which they have made:—

Year.	Membership at end of Year.			Income for the Year			Expenditure. for the Year.			Balance at end of Year.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1898	160	136	296	390	6	4	160	12	8	229	13	8
1899	290	201	491	517	9	7	341	16	9	405	6	7
1900	352	286	638	771	8	0	541	11	0	635	3	7
1901	426	341	767	982	9	7	807	15	2	809	18	0

These figures speak for themselves, and leave no doubt that the people should be encouraged in every way to form themselves into associations which will develop in them ideas of thrift and mutual assistance, thus raising them morally and at the same time relieving the Government which would otherwise, in many cases, be called upon to sustain them in the hospitals and to incur the expense of burying them after death.

POLICE.

Owing to complaints that existed in connexion with the police and prisons a commission was appointed to enquire into the administration of these Departments. As a result of the enquiry, the Police Force was increased to meet the growth of Castries in area and population, and was further strengthened by a sergeant-major and sergeant obtained from the Royal Irish Constabulary. These and other changes produced a decided improvement in the Police.

The absence of proper accommodation is a great drawback, and the condition of the Force will not be satisfactory until suitable quarters can be provided.

PRISONS.

The Commissioners' Report on prison matters dwelt on the unsuitability and inadequacy of the present buildings.

The discipline maintained in the institution was not found unsatisfactory, but attention was drawn to undesirable outdoor labour, since discontinued, that interfered with proper prison management.

The number of admissions reached the highest on record, namely, 1,021: 718 males and 303 females, being 201 in excess of the previous year. Of these, 155 were remands and 866 convictions.

The proportion of these in relation to the inhabitants is noteworthy. Of a population of 49,803, composed of 41,777 St. Lucians and 7,026 natives of other places, the former furnished 284 and the latter 582 of the convicted admissions.

Corporal punishment was inflicted in one instance.

There were more cases than usual treated in the infirmary owing to an acute form of influenza that prevailed in the early part of the year.

Four deaths occurred, three from natural causes and one of suicide in the case of a coolie undergoing a sentence of 12 years.

Criminal Statistics.

There was a large decrease in the number of cases sent up to be tried before the Superior Court for indictable offences, nor were the cases of a very serious character. The number of convictions showed a decrease of 18 as compared with the year 1900, and of 12 as compared with the year 1899. The record for 1900 was, however, the highest known since 1895. Of those convicted, seven only were natives of St. Lucia.

Police offences continued to increase during the year. The number of summary convictions was 1,616 or 371 above the figures for 1900—an increase which is undoubtedly due to the influx of labouring people of a very mixed character from the neighbouring islands, attracted by the prospect of higher wages in connection with military works and coaling. They are, unfortunately, as I understand, not of the agricultural class, so much desired, and attach themselves almost exclusively to the town of Castries.

The Attorney-General in his report observes that "the criminal statistics for 1901 may be said, on the whole, to reflect in a fairly creditable manner on the Colony, having regard to the increase of population and the character of that increase. The figures indicate, at least, that the conditions of life which elsewhere favour the growth of crime do not exist to any serious extent in St. Lucia, and that the people are fairly contented, if not prosperous."

POST OFFICE.

The work done in this Department continues to increase under every head, there being increases in the number of letters under "Foreign Mail Service" of 8,022 and under "Inland Service" of 7,593, as compared with the figures of 1900.

The revenue for the year 1901 was £1,689 4*s.* 1½*d.* and the expenditure £2,361 9*s.* 6*d.*

These figures would make it appear as if the Postal Department did not pay its way, but under expenditure for salaries,

wages, and all expenses of the Postal Service, there appears an item of £1,230 9*s.* 4*d.* paid to the Royal Mail Company for a daily steamer service coastwise to Soufrière, &c. This service, however, is not by any means only for conveyance of mails, and if this item be deducted, as it should be, from the expenses of the Postal Service, the balance shows a net Postal revenue of £558 3*s.* 11½*d.*

Telephones.

The only improvement to the telephone system during the year was effected by the substitution of 145 iron rails for rotten wooden poles. These old poles will be replaced gradually, as funds will allow, by the erection of a few miles each year of iron poles with larger (copper) wire. Telephonic communication in this Island compares very unfavourably with this system in other parts of the West Indies, and constant complaints are made respecting it. To make it a satisfactorily working and paying Department a considerable additional expenditure will be necessary.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Works and Buildings.

The construction of agricultural school premises at "Union" cost £2,044 16*s.* 5*d.*, an imported officer being specially detailed to carry out the work.

The jetties were repaired at a cost of £254 2*s.* 1*d.* At Choiseul the pier was extended seawards 50 feet at a cost of £178 2*s.* 11*d.*

Castries wharves were maintained at a cost of £207 16*s.* 8*d.* The work of refacing the wharf at Prince Alfred Basin was held in abeyance, £221 4*s.* 8*d.* being spent in closing up the work for the year. Wharf extension and harbour improvement was the subject of investigation and borings were commenced.

Dredging operations were carried on. The harbour bed fronting the Northern Wharf was deepened to 28 feet. The expenditure on dredging and disposal (including purchase of plant, refitting, repairs, engineer's salary and working expenses) was £1,575 13*s.* 10*d.*

At Rat Island a stone storage tank was built with a view to equipping the Island as a future quarantine station.

A building of four single rooms for the temporary housing of lunatics was commenced.

At Soufrière a site was selected and plans prepared and operations commenced with a view to transferring the Poor House and Yaws Hospital patients from Castries.

Under "Public Works Recurrent" £942 9*s.* 4*d.* was spent in repair to buildings, the larger items were in respect of Laborie, Dennery, Vieux Fort, Gros Islet, and Micoud Police Stations; Government offices; Prince Alfred Building; Government House; Prison; Yaws Asylum and the hospitals at Vieux Fort and Dennery.

Works were carried out in the work yard for Government institutions, and for 56 private parties. There were also 21 shipping jobs executed. The credit balance was £277 18*s.* 4*d.* at the close of the year.

Roads.

As shown by the Report for the previous year, the greater proportion of the total expenditure was in respect of road maintenance and improvement.

The gross expenditure at 31st December, 1901, in respect of road service was £4,906 9*s.* 3*d.*, as under:—

Recapitulation.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Upkeep of roads and bridges ...				4,130	1	0
Road improvements				307	14	6
Land Sales Fund—						
Goldsworthy Road...	165	17	9			
Ravine Soufre Road	19	15	4			
Micoud Soufrière Road	116	14	3			
Dufore Road ...	4	3	4			
				306	10	8
Public Works Extraordinary—						
Repairs Choc Bridge				31	19	3
Advances—						
Paving Morne Fortuné drains...				25	3	10
Acquisition of section of new road at Sulphur Springs				105	0	0
				£4,906	9	3

With reference to the item of "upkeep," it is recorded in the report on Public Works that the cost of removing landslides and débris occasioned by severe weather, notably on 6th July, 20th August, and 19th September was, in the first district,

£331, in the second district, £186, and £65 in the third district. Permanent damage had to be faced by the boards of the above districts. There were 15 Road Board meetings.

Items of "Improvement" were in the nature of constructive works. 886 lineal feet of culverts were laid; 21,625 lineal feet of macadamized road were constructed; a bridge of stone and iron at Balata was erected; and three smaller stone bridges on Roseau Highway were completed.

Choc Bridge was re-floored in concrete and steel.

Several new roads and ancient tracks were investigated, the majority being recommended as suitable for opening up inland properties. Bridging the principal rivers, especially on cartable roads, appears much in request.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The births registered during the year were 1,958, as compared with 1,995 in 1900—the legitimate births were 43·21 of the total, and the illegitimate showed a percentage of 56·79.

The deaths were 1,279, as compared with 942 in the previous year. Adding the excess of births over deaths between the 7th April, the date when the Census was taken, and the 31st December, the population of St. Lucia at the close of 1901 represented a total of 50,354.

There was no illness of an epidemic form during the year, and during the same period there was an immunity from deaths by snake bites.

METEOROLOGY.

The following meteorological notes are taken from the Botanic Station records for 1901:—

Mean annual barometric pressure, 29·973 inches.

Mean annual temperature, 78° 9.

The highest temperature of 96° in the shade was recorded on May 5th and the lowest of 61° on February 5th.

The mean solar radiation was 146°·7.

The relative humidity, ·75.

The total rainfall was 99·71 inches, being 26·46 more than the previous year, which was exceptionally dry, and slightly over the average for the past 12 years. The greatest fall in any one day was 7·60, on September 19th.

Rain fell on 218 days during the year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

After a residence of only a few months in the Colony, I am unable to make any useful remarks in this paragraph which should be by way of a general review of its condition during the past year; but I may safely say that the statistics of the Blue Book justify the opinion that the Colony was in a generally prosperous condition.

I can, however, repeat the hopes expressed by the late Administrator that our means of communication with Europe especially may be extended and improved; that more suitable buildings may be provided for the conduct of the business of all public Departments; that the country may be opened up by better roads and many very much needed bridges so as to encourage people to take up the cultivation of land as a livelihood; and that, to make this valuable coaling station more useful and more widely known than it is at present, the harbour may be entirely dredged and more facilities given to vessels coaling, not only from piers or wharves but also at anchor in the harbour.

GEO. MELVILLE,

Administrator.

Saint Lucia,

25th February, 1903.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 385.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900 *see* No. 350.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1903.

[Cd. 1388-9.] *Price* 2*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
361	Sierra Leone	1901
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados...	1901–1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St Helena	1901
372	British Solomon Islands	1901–1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands...	"
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	"
377	Northern Nigeria	"
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901
380	Basutoland	1901–1902
381	Southern Nigeria	1901
382	Trinidad and Tobago	1901–1902
383	Bermuda	1902
384	St. Lucia	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica...	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports ... ...
20	Wei-Hai-Wei	General Report... ... ...
21	Dominica...	Report on Caribs. ... ...

No. 385.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 350.)

ADMINISTRATOR CAMERON to GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
28th February, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to Your Excellency herewith my report on the Blue Book for the year 1901, which includes financial returns for the period 1901-1902.

I have, &c.,
EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1901.

I. FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of Revenue and Expenditure and the amounts received under those heads for the first quarters of the years 1900 and 1901, and for the complete years 1900 and 1901-1902, as well as the total Revenue and Expenditure for each of the last five years, 1897—1901-1902:—

875 Wt 21109 5/1903 D & S 5 14332

(TABLE 1.)

Revenue.

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the periods ended 31st March 1900 and 1901.

Heads of Revenue.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	3,571 3 0	2,726 9 0	—	844 14 0
2. Port and Harbour Dues	250 6 0	178 14 5	—	71 11 7
3. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue	2,436 13 0	1,894 16 1	—	541 16 11
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	106 11 11	139 15 8	33 3 9	—
5. Post Office	468 1 8	407 10 9	—	60 10 11
6. Telephones	112 6 1	111 8 10	—	17 3
7. Rent of Government Property	7 13 0	23 16 6	16 3 6	—
8. Interest	166 1 8	77 10 0	—	88 11 8
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	91 7 10	32 17 2	—	58 10 8
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	5 16 6	9 8 2	3 11 8	—
Total Local Revenue	7,216 0 8	5,602 6 7	52 18 11	1,666 13 0
11. Parliamentary Grant	—	—	—	—
Total General Revenue	7,216 0 8	5,602 6 7	52 18 11	1,666 13 0

Expenditure.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the periods ended 31st March 1900 and 1901.

Heads of Expenditure.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge on Account of Public Debt	457 5 0	296 10 0	—	160 15 0
Pensions	511 9 9	634 17 0	123 7 3	—
The Governor and Legislature	175 7 1	186 5 6	10 18 5	—
Government Office, Treasury and Customs	434 5 1	494 3 1	59 18 0	—
Audit Department	75 6 8	75 6 11	3	—
Legal Departments	645 16 0	548 6 9	—	97 9 3
Police, Excise and Prisons	716 13 5	794 3 3	77 9 10	—
Medical Department	463 18 0	439 5 2	—	24 12 10
Hospitals and Asylums	1,121 18 7	726 1 3	—	395 17 4
Poor Relief	585 17 9	312 0 2	—	273 17 7
Education	347 9 8	465 1 9	117 12 1	—
Post Office	116 7 4	297 5 1	180 17 9	—
Telephone Department	61 0 3	78 6 3	17 6 0	—
Miscellaneous	181 3 4	194 9 5	13 6 1	—
Crown Lands Department	157 19 6	150 13 10	—	7 5 8
Public Works Department	55 1 0	111 11 0	56 10 0	—
Public Works Recurrent	339 9 9	233 0 11	—	106 8 10
Public Works Extraordinary	213 4 6	—	—	213 4 9
Total Local Expenditure	6,659 12 8	6,037 7 4	657 5 8	1,279 11 0
Agricultural Department	411 13 11	364 13 5	—	47 0 6
Special Hurricane Expenditure	1,343 0 1[illegible]	988 18 7	—	354 2 4
Total Expenditure	8,414 7 6	7,390 19 4	657 5 8	1,680 13 10

(TABLE 2.)

Revenue.

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1900 and 1901–2.

Heads of Revenue.	1900.			1901–2.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	14,849	16	1	11,176	7	4	—			3,673	8	9
Port and Harbour Dues	936	11	3	774	8	2	—			162	3	1
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue	8,847	13	7	7,468	8	7	—			1,379	5	0
Fees of Court or Office, &c.	683	19	3	693	3	8	9	4	5	—		
Post Office	1,035	4	1	1,102	1	2	66	17	1	—		
Telephones	444	15	7	425	19	9	—			18	15	10
Rent of Government Property	58	6	6	93	1	1	34	14	7	—		
Interest	1,194	0	0	1,355	6	0	161	6	0	—		
Miscellaneous	261	8	6	41	0	3	—			220	8	3
Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	64	1	4	575	11	0	511	9	8	—		
Total Local Revenue	28,375	16	2	23,705	7	0	783	11	9	5,454	0	11
Parliamentary Grant—												
For Botanic Station and Agricultural School	2,050	0	0	2,580	0	0	530	0	0	—		
In aid of Deficit	—			326	18	9	326	18	9	—		
Total General Revenue	30 425	16	2	26,612	5	9	1,640	10	6	5,454	0	11

Expenditure.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1900 and 1901–2.

Heads of Expenditure.	1900.			1901–2.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Charge on account of Public Debt	1,789	0	0	2,172	2	4	383	2	4	—		
Pensions	2,625	2	2	2,361	10	0	—			263	12	2
The Governor and Legislature	1,022	6	0	915	6	10	—			106	19	2
Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, &c.	2,012	17	2	2,091	7	11	78	10	9	—		
Audit Department	304	13	2	294	1	4	—			10	11	10
Education	2,085	17	2	1,812	10	7	—			273	6	7
Legal Departments	2,552	2	6	2,317	0	1	—			235	2	5
Police and Excise	2,842	16	9	3,225	7	0	—			81	4	6
Prisons	463	14	9									
Medical Department	1,778	12	6	1,921	19	4	143	6	10	—		
Hospitals and Dispensaries	3,772	7	1	2,639	19	4	—			1,132	7	9
Charitable	1,742	5	10	1,086	9	6	—			655	16	4
Post Office	1,361	3	5	1,348	19	10	—			12	3	7
Telephone Department	334	6	11	335	2	11		16	0	—		
Public Works Department	415	18	4	512	9	10	96	11	6	—		
Crown Lands and Survey Department	628	1	1	626	13	1	—			1	8	0
Miscellaneous	1,389	18	11	1,242	12	11	—			147	6	0
Public Works—Recurrent	1,193	0	2	1,144	5	6	—			48	14	8
Do. Do. —Extraordinary	766	16	4	101	11	1	—			665	5	3
Total Expenditure from Local Revenue	29,081	0	3	26,149	9	5	702	7	5	3,633	18	3
Botanic Station and Agricultural School	1,193	13	0	1,498	6	11	304	13	11	—		
Agricultural Instruction	119	14	1	—			—			119	14	1
Erection of Agricultural School	1,505	17	8	—			—			1,505	17	8
Special Hurricane Expenditure	4,220	7	1	1,924	3	10	—			2,296	5	3
Total Expenditure	36,120	12	1	29,572	0	2	1,007	1	4	7,555	13	3

(TABLE 3.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for five years 1897 *to* 1901–2.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total
		£	£		£	£
1897.	Local	24,845		Local	27,866	
	Imperial Grant	—		Imperial Grant	—	
			24,845			27,866
1898.	Local	26,901		Local	27,674	
	Imperial Grant	—		Imperial Grant	—	
			26,901			27,674
1899.	Local	29,218		Local	30,322	
	Imperial Grant	34,075		Imperial Grant	17,533	
			63,293			47,855
1900.	Local	28,376		Local	29,081	
	Imperial Grant	2,050		Imperial Grant	7,040	
			30,426			36,121
1901–2	Local	23,705		Local	26,149	
	Imperial Grant	2,907		Imperial Grant	3,423	
			26,612			29,572

The total local Revenue of the Colony for the first quarter of 1901 was £5,602, being £674 below the estimate and £1,614 less than the similar revenue of the first quarter of 1900, the main falling off being in Customs duties and licences and excise.

No Imperial contribution in aid was brought to account in either period.

The local Revenue for the financial year 1901-1902 was £23,705, being £1,852 below the estimate and £4,670 less than the receipts of the calendar year 1900, the deficiency being again under Customs and Excise.

The gross Revenue, including Imperial Parliamentary Grants for Botanic Station and Agricultural School and in aid of Deficit was £26,612.

A collection of £575, long outstanding arrears of purchase money of Crown lands, is to be noticed.

The local Expenditure in January to March, 1901, amounted to £6,037, being £917 less than estimated and £1,034 less than in the first quarter of 1900. The gross expenditure was £7,391, including £989 of the balance of the Imperial Grant for restoration of damage by the 1898 hurricane.

In 1901-1902 the local Expenditure was £26,149 and the gross expenditure £29,572, as against £26,961 and £31,593 estimated and £29,081 and £36,121 expended during the calendar year 1900.

(B.) Taxation.

No changes took place during the period under review.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The nominal excess of assets over liabilities at 31st March, 1901, was £2,625, which figure is, however, subject to an addition of £365 and a subtraction of £3,105 as appears from the footnotes to the attached return, making the true condition an excess of liabilities, £115.

At 31st March, 1902, the excess of liabilities similarly arrived at was £1,144.

The unexpended portion of the Hurricane Grant has during the present year been returned to the Imperial Treasury.

(Table 4.)

Period ended

Assets.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				166	4	1
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				248	16	10
Investments (Savings Bank Funds) ...				8,500	0	0
Loans from General Revenue:						
Georgetown Extension Loan	180	0	0			
" Water Works Loan ...	268	12	1			
Chateaubelair Latrine	55	17	2			
				504	9	3
Advances:						
Roads and Land Settlement* ...	3,101	11	3			
Kingstown Fund	300	7	10			
Town of Calliaqua	4	13	0			
Other Advances	449	9	4			
				3,856	1	5
Crown Agents Deposit Account ...				4,500	0	0
Total Assets ‡				£17,775	11	7

* £5,953 9*s.* 2*d.* of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid for these purposes is on
† The Public Debt is £14,270. of which £5,000 is provided for by an
The Colony is also responsible for the Hurricane Loan to planters
‡ Exclusive of £364 13*s.* 5*d.* advanced for Botanic Station, and
§ The Sum of £3,104 11*s.* 5*d.*, remains unexpended of the Imperial

(TABLE 4.)

31*st March* 1901.

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DEPOSITS:						
Savings Bank Account	12,987	2	1			
Post Office "	190	2	0			
Immigration Fund	78	6	9			
Police Reward Fund	56	13	2			
Mesopotamia Byway Fund	59	12	0			
Hurricane Relief Fund	160	8	8			
Town of Georgetown	34	9	9			
Town of Layou	1	17	2			
Town of Barrouallie	4	8	2			
Town of Chateaubelair...	1	3	3			
Hurricane Loan Special Fund	230	10	11			
Sundry Deposits...	196	1	2			
				14,000	15	1
INTERCOLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of Grenada	176	14	11			
" " St. Lucia	18	19	1			
				195	14	0
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES:						
Current Account	354	3	2			
Drafts maturing...	600	0	0			
				954	3	
Total Liabilities † ...				15,150	12	3
Excess of Assets §				2,624	19	4
				£17,775	11	7

deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Imperial Grant, held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
from The Imperial Treasury, which at 31st March 1900 was £16,077.
Agricultural School, to be refunded from Imperial Funds.
Grant of £25,000 in aid of damage done by the hurricane of 1898.

(TABLE 5.)

Financial year ended

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				13	3	9
INVESTMENT:						
Savings Bank Funds	9,500	0	0			
Alexander Fund	204	18	7			
				9,704	18	7
LOANS FROM GENERAL REVENUE:						
Georgetown Extension Loan	150	9	6			
" Water Supply Loan ...	268	12	1			
Chateaubelair Latrine	49	17	2			
				468	18	9
ADVANCES:						
Roads and Land Settlements*... ...	538	12	1			
Graham Bequest Fund...	30	0	0			
Kingstown Fund	281	7	10			
Town of Calliaqua	6	7	6			
Other Advances...	419	0	5			
				1,275	7	10
INTERCOLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of St. Lucia	1	6	3			
" " Grenada	261	9	10			
				262	16	1
Crown Agents Deposit Account				1,000	0	0
Total Assets				12,725	5	0
Excess of Liabilities ‡ ...				334	15	1
				£13,060	0	1

* £2,771 9*s.* 6*d.* of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid for these purposes is on
† The Public Debt is £13,010 of which £5,000 is provided for by an
The Colony is also responsible for the Hurricane Loan to planters from
‡ The sum of £370 19*s.* 5*d.* has been expended on Botanic Station and
‡ The sum of £1,180 7*s.* 7*d.* remains unexpended of the Imperial Grant

(TABLE 5.)

31*st March* 1902.

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DEPOSITS:						
Savings Bank Account...	9,807	17	11			
Police Reward Fund	49	19	0			
Hurricane Relief Fund...	28	14	2			
Mesopotamia Byway Fund	59	12	0			
Immigration Fund	78	6	9			
Town of Georgetown	59	10	1			
Town of Chateaubelair...	2	7	7			
Town of Barrouallie	2	2	5			
Town of Layou	8	4	9			
Special Hurricane Loan Fund... ...	209	4	7			
Sundry Deposits	394	16	8			
				10,700	15	11
Crown Agents Current Account Overdrawn				576	4	10
Colonial Bank Account Overdrawn ...				221	4	4
Bills Maturing				1 200	0	0
Post Office Account				361	15	0
Total Liabilities†				13,060	0	1

deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Imperial Grant, held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
the Imperial Treasury, which is £16,077.
Agricultural School in excess of receipts from Imperial Funds.
of £25,000 in aid of damage done by the hurricane of 1898.

(D.) Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1902, stood at £13,010. Of this sum £5,000 was provided by an Imperial Grant in the hands of the Crown Agents on deposit, which, during the current year has been duly used for the purpose intended. £5,850 of the debt is repayable from the funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown, and the actual amount, therefore, for which the Colonial Revenue is liable is only £2,160, which is being paid off at the rate of £560 per annum.

The Colony is further responsible to the Imperial Government for repayment of a sum of £16,026 loaned to planters to enable them to restore works and buildings destroyed by the hurricane. Repayment of this sum is provided for by Ordinance and is made to extend over 23 years.

(E.) Currency.

Gold, American and British, Colonial bank notes, with British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management and control of the affairs of the town of Kingstown are vested in a Board, half of whom are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by wardens, annually appointed by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total Revenue and Expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,985	1,848	2,082*	1,961	1,805
Georgetown	242	219	52	120	194
Chateaubelair	38	29	18	25	38
Calliaqua	37	4	19	13	33
Barrouallie	25	—‡	6	38	42
Layou...	26	11	2	15	18
Bequia	10	3	—†	6	8

* Includes amount transferred from Imperial Grant for damage caused by hurricane.

† No assessment in consequence of destruction caused by hurricane.

‡ Account books destroyed by hurricane.

Expenditure.

Town.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,085	1,985	2,197	1,902	1,759
Georgetown	138	275	48	133	175
Chateaubelair	47	26	21	26	35
Calliaqua	36	5	21	36	36
Barrouallie	25	—*	10	36	40
Layou	27	10	2	16	15
Bequia	11	3	—	3	12

* Account books destroyed by hurricane.

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns are as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	4,700	
„ town improvement ...	550	
		5,250
Georgetown water supply		600
		£5,850

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general Revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown Water Supply Loan is being repaid at the rate of £400 per annum, the Town Improvement Loan at the rate of £150 per annum, and the Georgetown Loan by annual instalments of £50.

The time for repayment of the Kingstown Improvement Loan had to be extended during 1901 in consequence of the insufficiency of the town's revenue to meet the calls upon it.

In addition to the above, the town of Georgetown was indebted to general revenue for advances made in previous years for certain specific purposes in the sum of £419, which money, in view of the damage to property and the blow to its prospects as a trading centre wrought by the disastrous eruption of 1902, it is somewhat doubtful if the town will ever be able to repay.

The town of Chateaubelair was similarly indebted in the sum of £50, which with care and insistence will in due course be made good.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statements give the value of the chief articles of import and export in 1900 and 1901 and the totals for the last five years:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value. 1900.	Value. 1901.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Biscuits	1,426	1,186
Butter	1,706	1,431
Fish, salted, &c.	5,230	5,077
Flour, wheaten	11,212	8,287
Flour, other kinds...	1,101	687
Pork, salted	2,624	2,296
Rice	2,598	2,092
Salt	497	638
Sugar, Muscovado	980	227
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	993	822
Class II.—		
Manure	697	695
Petroleum oil	1,563	898
Timber and shingles	10,471	3,494
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	20,232	19,312
Metal, manufactured	7,229	3,919
Boots and shoes	1,399	953
Cement	732	562
Soap...	1,551	1,303

Exports.

Articles.	1900.	1901.
	£	£
Sugar, Muscovado	6,910	9,180
Rum	800	597
Molasses	560	803
Arrowroot	74,748	28,636
Cassava starch	2,280	943
Cocoa	1,411	1,659
Fruit and vegetables, ground provisions, &c.	1,097	1,159
Whale oil	611	1,231
Ground nuts	465	365
Live stock and poultry	3,013	3,276
Cotton and cotton seed	381	377
Firewood	339	357
Pease, dried	309	434

TOTALS FOR FIVE YEARS, 1897–1901.

Imports.

Classes.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	32,684	40,931	50,765	39,900	31,828
II. Raw materials... ...	9,044	14,399	15,391	15,398	7,980
III. Manufactured articles	29,095	32,979	37,471	40,893	35,111
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	70,823	88,309	103,627	96,191	74,919

Exports.

Classes.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	63,705	40,008	28,418	91,154	47,243
II. Raw materials... ...	1,632	1,054	3,133	1,452	2,651
III. Manufactured articles	3,598	3,604	2,024	5,163	2,093
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	68,935	44,666	33,575	97,769	51,987

* No returns.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years, 1897-1901, are shown below:—

Imports.

—	1897.	1898.	1899	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	28,358	27,291	29,241	35,538	31,733
British Colonies	34,908	44,812	52,046	35,882	26,756
Foreign Countries	7,558	16,205	22,340	24,771	16,430
Totals	70,824	88,308	103,627	96,191	74,919

Exports.

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	20,432	14,176	19,383	71,584	28,306
British Colonies	21,945	14,260	10,812	14,584	12,983
Foreign Countries	26,557	16,230	3,380	11,601	10,698
Totals	68,934	44,666	33,575	97,769	51,987

The decrease in the value of imports as compared with the previous year is chiefly on foodstuffs and lumber, and the total assimilates to the totals of the years immediately preceding the hurricane year, 1898.

The value of exports is largely below the official figure for 1900, which figure, however, is, as explained in the last annual report, misleading, and is for purposes of comparison reducible by about 33 per cent. The quantity of arrowroot exported in 1901 was very slightly less than in 1900, but the price was so low throughout the year as to make the industry practically unremunerative.

A combination was formed among the growers dating from 1st December to counteract this state of things by limiting the export and fixing a minimum price, which is considered to have tended to improve things slightly. The eruption of the Soufrière in May last, however, entirely altered the conditions for the time being, and sent prices up from 70 to 100 per cent.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures and Fisheries.

A whale fishery is carried on in the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Bequia and Canouan, and is a very material benefit to the inhabitants of those islands whose condition compares favourably with that of the labourers of St. Vincent itself. The value of whale oil exported was £1,231, double that of the previous year.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Station.

Agriculture.

The condition of the arrowroot industry is referred to above.

The production of sugar and rum is inappreciable.

Cocoa cultivation was making way slowly but has received a severe set back from the disaster of 1902.

The Land Settlement or Peasant Proprietary Scheme continued to make progress along the lines laid down, and the survey and allotment of an important estate near Kingstown was completed, the different plots being eagerly sought after.

There has not so far been much attention paid by the peasantry to systematic cultivation of economic plants, "ground provisions" absorbing their efforts in the majority of cases.

An Agricultural Instructor has, however, been recently appointed and will, as the scheme contemplates, be a constant visitor to the acquired estates, giving advice and instruction as to the plants most suitable and the proper methods of planting and caring for them.

Botanical Station.

The expenditure on this is defrayed from an Imperial Grant, disbursed under the supervision of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture at Barbados. From this station

there were sold during 1901 some 18,000 plants, mainly of cocoa and lime, while nearly 9,000 economic plants were distributed free to land settlement allotment holders.

The garden and nurseries are well laid out and tended, and are the admiration of all visitors to the Island.

Bee culture was also embarked upon at the Station, and several good strains imported which have thriven and multiplied, giving an excellent quality of honey. Small landholders might do well with bees if they would take up the business systematically, and every effort has been made and facility given by the Curator to induce them to do so.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The year was chiefly remarkable for a determined effort to recover some portion of the very long outstanding arrears of purchase money of Crown lands, which resulted in a collection of over £500, which shows that these lands, although far up in the mountains and accessible for the most part with difficulty, have a distinct value to their owners.

The price of Crown land is £1 an acre cash, and £2 if paid in instalments.

Ten new applications for purchase of land were received during the year, and some portion of land was rented out at a moderate figure, payment of rent in advance being insisted on.

(E.) Shipping.

A table is annexed of the steamers and sailing vessels, inwards and outwards, during 1900 and 1901, as also a comparative statement of total shipping for the last five years.

These figures do not include men-of-war, of which one (British) visited the Island during the year.

Sailing Vessels.

—	1900.				1901.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	323	6,881	322	6,902	298	6,358	276	5,658
United States ...	5	1,333	5	1,333	2	230	1	115
Venezuelan ...	14	695	15	791	11	743	11	655
Dutch	9	860	8	763	4	258	4	258
French	—	—	2	29	5	70	5	70
Danish	—	—	—	—	1	292	1	292
Totals ...	351	9,769	352	9,818	321	7,951	298	7,048

Steamers.

—	1900.				1901.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	96	132,123	96	132,123	125	166,535	125	166,535
German	3	2,871	3	2,871	7	6,699	7	6,699
Venezuelan ...	1	83	1	83	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	100	135,077	100	135,077	132	173,234	132	173,234

Total shipping for last five years.

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons.
Inwards	123,937	127,499	122,853	144,846	181,185
Outwards	124,940	127,326	122,735	144,895	180,282
Totals	248,877	254,825	245,588	289,741	361,467

III. LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the Public Health Ordinance, an enactment on modern lines, and the Birds and Fish Protection Ordinance, may be noticed.

There is a crying need for the consolidation and simplification of the laws of the Colony and their presentment in a volume of handy form and size, with index.

IV. EDUCATION.

(A.) Primary Education.

The results of primary education in 1900 and 1901 compare as follows:—

—	1900.	1901.
Number of Schools	31	31
Number on Roll	6,000	5,804
Average Attendance ...	2,706	2,516
	£	£
Government Grant-in-Aid...	1,667	1,519*

* Expenditure during financial year 1901–02.

An examination of the schools by the Inspector of Schools of Grenada was held in the last quarter of the year, and his report indicates much room for improvement. A new and simpler code of regulations than the existing one is needed, and was in preparation, but owing to the general "bouleversement" occasioned by the eruption it has been impossible to proceed with it. Until, however, the Department can be brought directly under the management of a qualified education officer, which the financial condition of the Colony does not at present permit, any appreciable improvement and progress can scarcely be looked for.

(B.) Secondary Education.

The Kingstown Grammar School for Boys and Girls is the only secondary educational establishment in the Colony. The curriculum of the school embraces the subjects required for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the annual examination is conducted by the Syndicate. The Government Grant to the school amounted to £140.

(C.) Industrial, Technical and Agricultural Schools.

An Agricultural School was established under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture with Imperial money in 1900.

There was an average of 24 pupils during 1901.

Various improvements were carried out to the school buildings and premises, and, under the efficient supervision of the officers of the Department, the institution is carrying out satisfactorily the duties entrusted to it.

The total cost of the school upkeep during the year was £623.

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

The number of patients treated at the Colonial Hospital in Kingstown during the year was 473, of whom 403 were discharged cured or relieved; 38 died and 32 remained in hospital.

Great economy was exercised in the management, and a saving of nearly £600 on the estimated expenditure effected; but, in forwarding his report on the institutions, the present medical officer, Dr. C. W. Branch, has pointed out that such a reduced scale of expenditure is, in his opinion, inadequate for the wants of a population of the size of that of St. Vincent, among whom, moreover, certain diseases are, he has found, extraordinarily prevalent.

The small District Hospital at Georgetown was kept up, but very few patients were treated there, and this institution is practically of little use to the community.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old military barrack at Fort Charlotte is set aside for temporary detention of lunatics prior to their removal to the asylum at Grenada.

Six lunatics were sent to Grenada during the year, making a total number under care there of 30, at a cost to the Colony of £547.

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the Leper asylum at the opening of the year was 18; two fresh cases were admitted and the daily average was 19.

The asylum is not all that could be desired, and its accommodation is limited, but it is all that the Colony can at present provide and is fairly kept and economically managed.

(C.) Poor Houses.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte on a considerable elevation commanding the town of Kingstown. There were 119 inmates at the end of 1900, and 46 were admitted in 1901, of whom 30 were discharged and 26 died, leaving 109 at the close of the year, viz., 68 males and 41 females.

Considering the origin of the human wreckage here congregated, the nature and variety of the diseases with which these unfortunates are afflicted, and the comparatively small expenditure for upkeep, it is wonderful that this institution

presents the clean and decent appearance it invariably does on inspection, and credit is due to the medical officer and to the overseer in charge for this condition of things.

The expenditure in 1901-1902 was £1,041 on the institution, and, in addition to this, £1,086 was spent in outdoor relief, interments, &c.

(D.) Reformatories.

Nil.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the work of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1897	1,047	4,515	4,383	8,771
1898	1,091	4,263	3,739	9,283
1899	1,036	5,375	5,123	9,716
1900	900	7,790*	7,122*	10,594
1901	907	6,108†‡	6,015	10,687

* Includes £2,926 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
† Includes £1,200 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
‡ Includes Interest.

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The Colonial Police Force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major, of European birth and military training, and 53 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. They are, in addition to their civil duties, drilled and trained to the use of arms, and are armed with Snider rifles. Besides ordinary police work, they render assistance to the Government in many details of the administration, being charged with the supervision of the excise duty on rum, and with co-operating in collection of customs duties, district post office work, registration of births, &c., poor relief, and the management of the small district telephone exchanges. In Kingstown they are also responsible for extinguishing fires, receiving from the Town Board additional pay for this service.

(B.) Prisons.

Two hundred and nine persons were committed to prison in the year—122 men, 86 women and one juvenile. The daily average was 21·11 against 31 in the previous year.

One prisoner sentenced to a term of imprisonment of over 12 months was sent, in accordance with the arrangements now in force, to serve his term in Grenada.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1901 was 1,256 against 1,268 in 1900.

Of the offences reported in 1901, 357 were for offences against the person, 123 were for prædial larceny, 104 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 672 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Court in 1901 was 719, against 795 in 1900.

These convictions are classed as follows: 196 for offences against the person, 6 for malicious injuries to property, 74 for prædial larceny, 45 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 185 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., 213 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows: 3 for offences against the person, 4 for offences against property.

The acquittals were as follows: in the Inferior Court, 182, in the Supreme Court, 1.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 Census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. An estimate of the Registrar-General puts the population on 7th April, 1901, at 47,548, reckoning the excess of births over deaths during the decade and deducting the excess of departures over arrivals on the figures given in the Official Gazette.

It is generally considered, however, that the figure of the estimate does not tally with the facts, and the population is really not very much, if at all, in excess of the 1891 total.

(B.) Public Health.

The public health of the Colony was fair, save for a slight epidemic of dysentery. The general health conditions among the labouring population, however, owing to the poverty of the country and the great prevalence of ulcers and other syphilitic affections, leave much to be desired.

(C.) Sanitation.

There is nothing special under this head to call attention to.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year was 125·69 inches, recorded at the Botanic Station just above the town of Kingstown. The average for the last twelve years is 113·26 inches. The minimum reading of the thermometer was 65° (in December) and the maximum 88° (in August and October).

The direction and force of the wind were normal, the prevailing wind being as usual the north-east trade.

On 20th August a very violent storm struck the town and harbour of Kingstown and occasioned considerable damage, driving ashore all the vessels in the port, save one, and doing injury to property on the sea-front.

The Government jetty was almost destroyed by a schooner that drove, and was smashed, against it.

VIII.—POSTAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The Postal Service is performed by a fortnightly service of steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company from and to Barbados under contract with His Majesty's Government. There are also lines of steamers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under similar contract, fortnightly, and other steamers also from and to the United States and direct from and to London call at the Port of Kingstown though at somewhat irregular intervals.

There is an Inland Postal system by which the Windward and Leeward districts of the Colony are daily, and the Islets of the Grenadines weekly, served.

There is a slight decrease in the number of letters by inland post handled during 1901 as compared with the previous year, but the numbers of foreign letters and newspapers, books and parcels have increased appreciably.

The revenue was £1,221, which is about the average annual collection under normal conditions.

The revenue of the telephone department was £426, and the expenditure £335. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair on the Leeward side and to Georgetown on the Windward side of the Island about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Nil.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The death of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria in January was sincerely mourned throughout the Colony. Solemn memorial services were held amid manifestations of genuine sorrow by the coloured population, by whom her name ever was, and her memory ever will be, blessed and honoured. By an Ordinance of the Legislature the 24th of May was created an annual public holiday under the title of "Victoria Day."

Mr. Edward Drayton, Colonial Secretary of Grenada, returned to that Colony in April after administering the Government of St. Vincent for over a year, and Mr. E. J. Cameron arrived from the Turks and Caicos Islands on 14th May and assumed the duties of Administrator.

Chief Justice Walker left on leave in August, and was subsequently given an appointment in Trinidad, his office being filled here by the Attorney-General, Mr. O. Hazell.

Changes in the judicial and magisterial systems were under consideration during the year, with a view to economy.

The two principal events of the year were the short but disastrous local gale of 20th August and the actual effectuation of an agreement among the arrowroot producers for self-protection, a matter which has been so often spoken of and previously attempted without success.

The condition of the Colony generally was still a decadent one, and among the business community 1901 was one of the worst years ever known.

I regret that, in consequence of the press of work and the disarrangement occasioned by the disastrous eruption of last year, it has been impossible to complete the Blue Book and this Report at an earlier date.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 403.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1902-3.

(For Report for 1901 *see* No. 385.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1903.

[Cd. 1768-8.] *Price* 2*d*.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901
380	Basutoland	1901–1902
381	Southern Nigeria	1901
382	Trinidad and Tobago	1901–1902
383	Bermuda	1902
384	St. Lucia	1901
385	St. Vincent	"
386	Falkland Islands	1902
387	Gibraltar...	"
388	Weihaiwei	"
389	Sierra Leone	"
390	British Honduras	"
391	Gambia	"
392	St. Helena	"
393	Hong Kong	"
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
395	Seychelles	"
396	Ceylon	"
397	Gold Coast	"
398	Barbados...	1902–1903
399	Fiji	1902
400	Lagos	"
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos-Keeling Islands	1903

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica...	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica...	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica...	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 403.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 385.)

ADMINISTRATOR CAMERON to ACTING-GOVERNOR SIR G. MELVILLE.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
21st August, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to Your Excellency herewith my report on the Blue Book of St. Vincent for the year 1902-3.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1902-3.

I. FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of Revenue and Expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads, for the years 1901-1902 and 1902-1903, as well as the total Revenue and Expenditure for each of the last five years 1898-1902-3:—

875 Wt 21109 10/1903 D & S 5 15871

(TABLE 1.)

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1902–1903 *and* 1901–1902.

Heads of Revenue.	Year 1902–1903.	Year 1901–1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	13,589 5 10	11,176 7 4	2,412 18 6	—
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues...	861 2 4	774 8 2	86 14 2	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue	6,485 16 5	7,468 8 7	—	982 12 2
4. Fees of Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements-in-aid.	730 12 10	693 3 8	37 9 2	—
5. Post Office	2,102 4 11	1,102 1 2	1,000 3 9	—
6. Telephones	419 2 10	425 19 9	—	6 16 11
7. Rent of Government Property	34 17 4	93 1 1	—	58 3 9
8. Interest	1,371 17 0	1,355 6 0	16 11 0	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	91 2 4	41 0 3	50 2 1	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	244 10 9	575 11 0	—	331 0 3
Total Local Revenue	25,930 12 7	23,705 7 0	3,603 18 8	1,378 13 1
Parliamentary Grant—				
For Botanical Station and Agricultural School	1,561 12 11	2,580 0 0	—	1,018 7 1
In aid of deficit	1,800 0 0	326 18 9	1,473 1 3	—
Total General Revenue	29,292 5 6	26,612 5 9	5,076 19 11	2,397 0 2

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1902–1903 *and* 1901–1902.

Heads of Expenditure.	1902–1903.			1901–1902.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	2,089	17	4	2,172	2	4	—			82	5	0
2. Pensions	2,170	6	6	2,361	10	0	—			191	3	6
3. The Governor and Legislature	919	3	1	915	6	10	3	16	3	—		
4. Colonial Secretary, Treasury, and Customs	2,083	15	4	2,091	7	11	—			7	12	7
5. Audit Department...	290	6	3	294	1	4	—			3	15	1
6. Legal Departments	1,859	5	3	2,317	0	1	—			457	14	10
7. Police, Excise, and Prisons	3,162	15	4	3,225	5	7	—			62	11	3
8. Medical Department	1,840	6	8	1,921	19	4	—			81	12	8
9. Hospitals and Dispensaries	3,105	4	4	2,639	19	4	465	5	0	—		
10. Poor Relief	1,020	5	8	1,086	9	6	—			66	3	10
11. Education	1,561	7	4	1,812	10	7	—			251	3	3
12. Post Office	1,014	15	1	1,348	19	10	—			334	4	9
13. Telephone Department	329	19	8	335	2	11	—			5	3	3
14. Miscellaneous	1,357	11	3	1,242	12	11	114	18	4	—		
15. Crown Lands and Survey Department	602	6	9	626	13	1	—			24	6	4
16. Public Works Department	457	3	4	512	9	10	—			55	6	6
17. Do. do. Recurrent	1,439	10	3	1,144	5	6	295	4	9	—		
18. Do. do. Extraordinary	212	14	11	101	11	1	111	3	10	—		
19. Agricultural Department	241	12	2	—			241	12	2	—		
Total Expenditure from Local Revenue	25,758	6	6	26,149	9	5	1,232	0	4	1,623	3	3
Expenditure from Parliamentary Grants—												
19. Agricultural Department	1,450	16	11	1,498	6	11	—			47	10	0
20. Special Hurricane Expenditure	* 1,180	7	7	1,924	3	10	—			743	16	3
Total Expenditure	28,389	11	0	29,572	0	2	1,232	0	4	2,414	9	6

* £1,180 7*s.* 7*d.* represents balance of Imperial Grant unexpended and repaid to Imperial Treasury.

(TABLE 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1898 *to* 1902–3.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1898.	Local	26,901		Local	27,674	
	Imperial Grant	—		Imperial Grant	—	
			26,901			27,674
1899.	Local	29,218		Local	30,322	
	Imperial Grant	34,075		Imperial Grant	17,533	
			63,293			47,855
1900.	Local	28,376		Local	29,081	
	Imperial Grant	2,050		Imperial Grant	7,040	
			30,426			36,121
1901-2.	Local	23,705		Local	26,149	
	Imperial Grant	2,907		Imperial Grant	3,423	
			26,612			29,572
1902–3.	Local	25,931		Local	25,758	
	Imperial Grant	3,361		Imperial Grant	2,632	
			29,292			28,390

The total local Revenue of the Colony for the year 1902-3 was £25,931, being £1,833 above the Estimate, and £2,226 more than the receipts of the previous year.

The gross excess of receipts over Estimate was £3,275, attributable mainly to increases of £2,239 and £803 respectively under the heads of Customs and Post Office, the former owing to the heavy importations of supplies, lumber, &c., that followed on the disastrous eruption of the Soufrière, and the latter to the large sales of postage stamps consequent on the withdrawal of the Victorian issue.

The gross deficiency on estimated receipts was £1,442, £722 under Internal Revenue, being chiefly land tax remitted in consequence of the eruption, £255 under Crown lands, owing to the stoppage of enforcement of payment of arrears through the same cause, and £411 interest, &c., which corresponds approximately with a sum appearing as an estimated receipt in the Estimates for Refunds of Hurricane Loan, but which should not properly have found a place there.

There results therefore the net increase of £1,833 as first quoted.

The gross Revenue, including Imperial Parliamentary Grants for Botanic Station and Agricultural School, and a sum of £1,800 in aid of estimated deficit, was £29,292.

The local expenditure of the Colony for the same period was £25,758, and the gross expenditure £28,390, as against £26,977 and £28,402 estimated. There is included in the gross expenditure a sum of £1,180 paid back to the Imperial Treasury, being the unexpended balance of a sum of £25,000 granted by the Imperial Government to repair damages caused by the 1898 hurricane.

The corresponding figures of local and gross expenditure in 1901-2 were £26,149 and £29,572.

It should be noted for comparative purposes that the Crown Agents' transactions for the Colony during February and March last, namely, receipts, local, £4, and Imperial Grant, £357, and expenditure, local, £338, are not incorporated in the Account, owing to the provisions of the new financial instructions as locally interpreted.

(B.) Taxation.

No changes took place during the period under review.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

An examination of the statement annexed shows an excess of Assets of £568, to which, however, has to be added £117, balance of money expended locally, to 31st March, on the Agricultural Department in excess of the receipts from the grant made for that service by the Imperial Government, making in all £685. The footnote to the statement dealing with a sum of £110 16*s*. requires explanation, that figure referring only to the balance of transactions between 1st April, 1902, and 31st March, 1903, which is not the actual balance of transactions *ab initio*.

At 31st March, 1902, the account showed an excess of Liabilities of £335.

The £26,957, "Drafts and Remittances," in the present statement is made up of £25,000 of the Soufrière Eruption Fund remitted for investment, and remittances on account of the Hurricane Loan Special Fund.

(TABLE 3.)

Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DEPOSITS:						
Savings Bank Account...	12,255	3	4			
Police Reward Fund	64	11	4			
Town of Georgetown	7	18	11			
Town of Calliaqua	7	9	9			
Town of Layou	8	19	10			
Town of Bequia...	0	10	5			
Special Hurricane Loan Fund... ...	1,392	5	9			
Roads and Land Settlement* ...	1,076	7	7			
Soufrière Eruption Fund	41,065	15	11			
Alexander Indemnity Fund	619	9	4			
Sundry Deposits	100	18	6			
				56,599	10	8
INTERCOLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of St. Lucia	322	16	10			
" " Grenada	976	19	7			
				1,299	16	5
Post Office Account				665	17	5
Total Liabilities†				58,565	4	6
Excess of Assets ‡				567	19	5
				59,133	3	11

* £2,004 2*s.* 7*d.* of the Imperial Grant-in aid for these purposes is on
† The Public Debt is £6,770. The Colony is also responsible for the
‡ The sum of £110 16*s.* 0*d.* has been received within the financial excess of Expenditure within that period.

Treasury, St. Vincent,
23rd June, 1903.

Examined and found correct,
J. F. H. OTWAY,
Audit Clerk.

25th June, 1903.

(TABLE 3.)

Colony of Saint Vincent at 31st March, 1903.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				832	4	6
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				11,117	2	2
INVESTMENTS:						
Savings Bank Funds	9,500	0	0			
Soufrière Eruption Fund	8,023	5	5			
Alexander Fund	613	12	5			
				18,136	17	10
LOANS FROM GENERAL REVENUE:						
Georgetown Extension Loan	150	9	6			
" Water Supply Loan ...	268	12	1			
Chateaubelair Latrine	35	17	2			
				454	18	9
ADVANCES:						
Kingstown Fund	306	12	0			
Town of Barrouallie	20	8	5			
Town of Chateaubelair	7	2	7			
J. B. Kernahan, for settlement of claims by Crown Land Owners, consequent on Eruption of Soufrière.	1,200	0	0			
Other Advances	100	5	8			
				1,634	8	8
Drafts and Remittances				26,957	12	0
Total Assets				£59,133	3	11

deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which is £16,077.
year 1902–3 on account of Botanic Station and Agricultural School, in

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Treasurer.

(D.) Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1902, stood at £6,770, as against £13,010 at the end of the previous year.

A loan of £5,000 raised in 1897 to provide for deficiency of Colonial revenue was paid off during the year with monies in the hands of the Crown Agents, granted some time back by the Imperial Government for this purpose.

£5,250 of the present debt, though guaranteed by the Colony, is repayable from the funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown, and the actual amount, therefore, for which the Colonial revenue is liable is only £1,520, of which £320 will be paid off in 1903-4.

It is some small comfort amidst the current depression to reflect on this freedom from any appreciable incubus of debt.

The Colony is further responsible for a sum of £16,026 loaned to planters to enable them to restore works and buildings destroyed by the hurricane. Repayment of this sum is provided for by Ordinance, and is made to extend over 23 years. The first repayments of principal became due during the year, and were punctually met by the borrowers.

(E.) Currency.

Gold, American and British, Colonial bank notes, with British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management and control of the affairs of the town of Kingstown are vested in a Board, half of whom are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by wardens, annually appointed by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total Revenue and Expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,848	2,082°	1,961	1,805	1,495†
Georgetown	219	52	120	194	179
Chateaubelair	29	18	25	38	31
Calliaqua	4	19	13	33	40
Barrouallie	—‡	6	38	42	33
Layou...	11	2	15	18	22
Bequia	3	—§	6	8	6

* Includes amount transferred from Imperial Grant for damage caused by hurricane.

† Exclusive of £201 1902 revenue not passed to account till 3rd January, 1903.

‡ Account books destroyed by hurricane.

§ No assessment in consequence of destruction caused by hurricane.

Expenditure.

Town.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,985	2,197	1,902	1,759	1,637
Georgetown	275	48	133	175	204
Chateaubelair	26	21	26	35	33
Calliaqua	5	21	36	36	27
Barrouallie	—*	10	36	40	60
Layou	10	2	16	15	17
Bequia	3	—	3	12	5

° Account books destroyed by hurricane.

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns are as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	4,200	
,, town improvement ...	500	
	——	4,700
Georgetown water supply		550
		£5,250

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown Water Supply Loan is being repaid at the rate of £400 per annum, the Town Improvement Loan at the rate of £50 per annum, and the Georgetown Loan by annual instalments of £50.

In addition to the above, the town of Georgetown was indebted to general revenue for advances made in previous years for certain specific purposes in the sum of £419, which money, in view of the damage to property and the blow to its prospects as a trading centre wrought by the eruption of which it bore the full brunt, it is impossible for the town to repay.

The town of Chateaubelair was similarly indebted in the sum of £36, as against £50 at the end of 1901-2.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statements give the value of the chief articles of Import and Export in 1901 and 1902, and the totals for the last five years:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1901.	1902.
Class I.—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	370	405
Biscuits	1,186	1,712
Butter	1,431	1,590
Coffee	419	359
Fish, salted, &c.	5,077	5,005
Flour, wheaten	8,287	9,252
Flour, other kinds...	687	698
Oilmeal and cake	498	425
Pork, salted	2,296	2,170
Rice	2,092	6,681
Salt	638	385
Sugar, muscovado	227	45
Sugar, refined	431	427
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	822	902
Class II.—		
Manure	695	44
Petroleum oil	898	1,033
Timber and shingles	3,494	7,242
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	19,312	14,792
Metal, manufactured	3,919	4,654
Boots and shoes	953	846
Cement	562	525
Rope, cordage, and canvas	323	872
Soap...	1,303	1,411

Exports.

Articles.	1901.	1902.
	£	£
Sugar, muscovado	9,180	6,034
Rum	597	1,150
Molasses	608	149
Syrup	287	369
Arrowroot	28,636	21,817
Cassava starch	943	485
Cocoa	1,659	1,558
Fruit and vegetables, ground provisions, &c.	1,159	1,328
Whale oil	1,231	1,108
Ground nuts	365	259
Live stock and poultry	3,276	4,403
Cotton and cotton seed	377	561
Firewood	357	238
Pease, dried	434	636
Turtle shell	227	309

Totals for Five Years 1898–1902.

Imports.

Classes.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	40,931	50,765	39,900	31,828	37,861
II. Raw materials... ...	14,399	15,391	15,398	7,980	11,292
III. Manufactured articles	32,979	37,471	40,893	35,111	29,970
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	88,309	103,627	96,191	74,919	79,123

Exports.

Classes.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	40,008	28,418	91,154	47,243	38,781
II. Raw materials... ...	1,054	3,133	1,452	2,651	3,201
III. Manufactured articles	3,604	2,024	5,163	2,093	2,112
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	44,666	33,575	97,769	51,987	44,094

* No returns.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1898-1902 are shown below:—

Imports.

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	27,291	29,241	35,538	31,733	24,579
British Colonies	44,812	52,046	35,882	26,756	25,107
Foreign Countries	16,205	22,340	24,771	16,430	29,437
Totals	88,308	103,627	96,191	74,919	79,123

Exports.

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	14,176	19,383	71,584	28,306	22,333
British Colonies	14,260	10,812	14,584	12,983	15,146
Foreign Countries	16,230	3,380	11,601	10,698	6,615
Totals	44,666	33,575	97,769	51,987	44,094

The slight net increase in the value of Imports in the calendar year 1902, as compared with 1901, is attributable to the large importations of foodstuffs, lumber, &c., from the United States after the eruption, the increase from that country being £13,000, against which there is a decrease of £8,000 from Great Britain and British Colonies.

The value of Exports of local origin was only £41,000, against £50,000 in 1901, the difference being in sugar and arrowroot.

Cotton shows an increase of over 100 per cent. in quantity exported, owing to greater system and care in planting and gathering the crop in the Grenadines.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

A whale fishery is carried on in the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Bequia and Canouan, and is a very material benefit to the inhabitants of those islands whose condition compares favourably with that of the labourers of St. Vincent itself. The value of whale oil exported was £1,108, as against £1,231 in 1901.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanic Station.

Agriculture.

By the volcanic eruption of May, 1902, a large area of land, practically one-third of the island, comprising within its area some of the most fertile estates, was entirely devastated. The immediate result was to send up the price of ordinary quality arrowroot, the present St. Vincent staple, from less than 2*d*. to over 4*d*. per pound in the London market, and it has not since then gone below the 2*d*. figure which was the irreducible minimum at which it was the aim of the combination of growers, referred to in the last year's report, to keep it.

The production of sugar and rum in St. Vincent at the present day is inappreciable, and the conditions, as regards what remains of this industry, were not much altered by the catastrophe.

Cocoa cultivation received a severe set back, great destruction and damage being done to all trees within the devastated area.

Fortunately none of the Land Settlement or Peasant Proprietary Scheme Estates were within the fatal zone, but in the Linley Valley Estates, on the Leeward side, some hurt was done to cultivation by the volcanic dust, which also affected provisions and other products at Park Hill and New Adelphi on the Windward coast. Generally speaking, however, the acquired estates escaped any serious injury.

An Agricultural Instructor, the necessity for whose appointment had been previously urged, was at length appointed in June, but unfortunately it was necessary to utilise the services of the officer at once in Eruption Relief work, and to the end of the year this work absorbed the larger part of the Instructor's time and energies, as also again in March, 1903.

In my last report I wrote: "There has not so far been much attention paid by the peasantry to systematic cultivation of economic plants, 'ground provisions' absorbing their efforts in the majority of cases."

The situation in regard to this important feature of the scheme, as has recently been forcibly pointed out by the Commissioner of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, Sir D. Morris, K.C.M.G., requires careful looking into. This it would have received earlier but for the unhappy disturbance in last year of all normal conditions, and the immense press of work that followed, but this is now at length over, and it must be hoped that there will be no recurrence.

Two further properties for land settlement purposes were acquired during the period under review, and have since been laid out and allotted, a considerable part of the land having, however, been utilised for the settlement of eruption refugees.

For a like purpose, two other estates, Campden Park and Rutland Vale, were purchased with monies from the Eruption Fund, and the greater part of the time of the Land Commissioner and his staff has had to be devoted to dealing with these estates and the housing of refugees upon them and elsewhere.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The price of Crown land is £1 an acre cash, and £2 if paid in instalments. The land is disposed of to applicants under regulations; the existing set of regulations is, however, quite obsolete, and new ones to suit modern conditions are needed.

A large number of Crown land holdings of five acres and upwards were within the devastated area, and compensation has been paid in all such cases from the Eruption Fund.

Fifteen new grants were issued for lands fully paid up for.

The eruption necessarily prevented the continuance of systematised action to deal with the arrears, but a certain amount of the outstanding money was nevertheless got in.

(E.) Shipping.

A table is annexed of the steamers and sailing vessels, inwards and outwards, during 1901 and 1902, as also a comparative statement of total shipping for the last five years.

These figures do not include men-of-war, of which fourteen British, one Italian, and two American visited the Island during the year:—

Sailing Vessels.

—	1901.				1902.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	298	6,358	276	5,658	391	7,786	394	7,998
United States ...	2	230	1	115	1	183	1	183
Venezuelan ...	11	743	11	655	9	433	9	433
Dutch	4	258	4	258	4	418	2	343
French	5	70	5	70	1	56	1	56
Danish	1	292	1	292	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	321	7,951	298	7,048	406	8,876	407	9,013

Steamers.

—	1901.				1902			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	125	166,535	125	166,535	126	177,928	126	177,928
German	7	6,699	7	6,699	4	3,407	4	3,407
Venezuelan ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	132	173,234	132	173,234	130	181,335	130	181,335

Total Shipping for last Five Years.

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	127,499	122,853	144,846	181,185	190,211
Outwards	127,326	122,735	144,895	180,282	190,348
Totals	254,825	245,588	289,741	361,467	380,559

III. LEGISLATION.

Twenty Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the more important were the Pensions Ordinance, which follows the lines of the Model Ordinance suggested by the Colonial Office, and the Medical Officers' Ordinance, which defines with clearness the position and duties of these officers.

Attention has more than once been drawn by me to the great necessity that exists for the consolidation and simplification of the laws of the Colony.

IV. EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1901 and 1902-3 compare as follows:—

—	1901.	1902-3.
Number of Schools	31	32
Number on Roll	5,804	6,693
Average Attendance ...	2,516	3,242
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid ...	1,519*	1,344

* This figure is for financial year 1901–2.

No examination of the schools was held during 1902-3, it having been impossible to provide for it, and, owing to the work entailed by the eruptions, the completion and bringing into effect of the new Code of Regulations, which had been in preparation, had to be postponed.

Six schools were broken up by the eruption, of which three were totally destroyed, in two of the cases the entire teaching staff perishing.

Despite drawbacks, however, there has been better work done in the schools during the year than for some time back, as the report on the recent examination, just received by me, demonstrates.

£100 was expended in the provision of school materials, the need for which was dire.

(B.) Secondary Education.

The Kingstown Grammar School for boys and girls is the only secondary educational establishment in the Colony. The curriculum of the school embraces the subjects required for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the annual examination is conducted by the Syndicate. The Government Grant to the school amounted to £110.

(C.) Industrial, Technical, and Agricultural Schools.

An Agricultural School was established under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture with Imperial money in 1900.

There was an average of 25 pupils during 1902-3.

Various improvements were carried out to the school buildings and premises, and, under the efficient supervision of the officers of the Department, the institution is carrying out satisfactorily the duties entrusted to it.

The total cost of the school upkeep during the year was £603.

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

The number of patients treated at the Colonial Hospital during the 15 months January, 1902, to March, 1903, was 992, of whom 849 were discharged cured or relieved; 88 died, and 55 remained in hospital. The figures for the 12 months of 1902-3 are:—

Remaining at 31st March, 1902	37
Admissions	864
	901
Discharged cured or relieved...	740
Discharged not improved	33
Died	73
Remaining	55
	901

The admission figure for 1901 was 473.

The above does not include the cases of eruption burns and injuries, which were admitted and treated in a separate field hospital by the Army Medical Corps in the Hospital Compound.

The figure of cases treated in 1902-3 is far higher than has ever been known before.

The enormous increase is due in great part to the precipitation of several thousand refugees upon the town and to an epidemic of dysentery, but it is also the consequence of the earnest and most praiseworthy manner in which the present Medical Officer in Charge, Dr. C. W. Branch, who assumed duty on 1st April, 1902, has tackled the deplorable conditions of disease and suffering among the labouring classes with which he found himself confronted.

For his crusade against syphilis and anchylostomiasis, his recognition of anthrax, which has caused effective precautions against the dissemination of the disease to be taken by stock-keepers, and his general skill and care in the alleviation of suffering, the Colony and its people owe this officer a considerable debt of gratitude.

In spite of the immense amount of work done the expenditure was kept well within the limit of the estimate, the net saving on the different sub-heads being £72.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old military barrack at Fort Charlotte is set aside for temporary detention of lunatics prior to their removal to the asylum at Grenada.

Four lunatics were sent to Grenada during the year 1902-3, making a total number under care there of 33, at a cost to the Colony of £585.

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum at the commencement of 1902 was 16; two fresh cases were admitted during the financial year 1902-3.

The asylum is not all that could be desired, and its accommodation is limited, but it is all that the Colony can at present provide, and is fairly kept and economically managed.

(C.) Poor Houses.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, on a considerable elevation, commanding the town of Kingstown. There were 109 inmates at the end of 1901. The admissions and releases by death and discharge in the first quarter of 1902 were respectively 14 and 13.

In the 12 months of 1902-3 the figures were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions ...	36	42	78
Discharged ...	14	24	38
Died	19	15	34
	33	39	72

leaving 116 on 1st April, 1903.

The clean and decent condition of the institution, referred to in the last report as remarkable in view of the diseased wreckage which it harbours, was maintained.

The total expenditure in 1902-3 was £1,287 on the institution, including leper asylum and lunatics kept locally, as against £1,041 in 1901-2. The excess is accounted for by an expenditure of £224 in much-needed repairs to floors and walls, and for a complete new set of iron beds and bedding, replacing the ancient and undesirable wooden-steads, as also a better grade of clothing.

(D.) Reformatories.

Nil.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the work of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December
		£	£	£
1898	1,091	4,263	3,739	9,283
1899	1,036	5,375	5,123	9,716
1900	900	7,790*	7,122°	10,594
1901	907	6,108†‡	6,015	10,687
1902	992	8,781	6,501	11,975

* Includes £2,926 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
† Includes £1,200 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
‡ Includes Interest.

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The Colonial Police Force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major, of European birth and military training, and 53 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. They are, in addition to their civil duties, drilled and trained to the use of arms, and are armed with Martini-Enfield rifles. Besides ordinary police work, they render assistance to the Government in many details of the administration, being charged with the supervision of the Excise duty on rum, and with co-operating in collection of Customs duties, district Post Office work, registration of births, &c., poor relief, and the management of the small district telephone exchanges. In Kingstown they are also responsible for extinguishing fires, receiving from the Town Board additional pay for this service.

(B.) Prisons.

222 persons were committed to prison in the year—142 men, 79 women, and 1 juvenile. The daily average was 14·3, against 21·11 in the previous year.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1902 was 954, against 1,256 in 1901.

Of the offences reported in 1902, 247 were for offences against the person, 87 were for prædial larceny, 133 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 487 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Court in 1902 was 529, against 719 in 1901.

These convictions are classed as follows:—118 for offences against the person, 10 for malicious injuries to property, 52 for prædial larceny, 55 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 68 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., 2 for offences against Masters and Servants Acts, &c., 224 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—5 for offences against the person, 11 for offences against property.

The acquittals were as follows:—In the Inferior Court, 172; in the Supreme Court, 5.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 Census was 41,054. No Census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st December, 1902, was 47,488. This figure, however, as explained in last year's report, is generally considered to be inaccurate and reducible by about 15 per cent.

The births registered in 1902 were 1,551, 788 male and 763 female, as against 1,751 in 1901. Of these 882, or 57 per cent., were illegitimate.

Still-births were 119, 42 legitimate and 77 illegitimate.

Marriages (226, as against 150 in 1901) were in excess of the average, owing to religious influence brought to bear on the refugees while sheltering in the towns.

The total registered deaths were 2,311, of which 1,327 were registered as due to the eruption. The infant mortality was 23 per cent of the 984 normal death-rate.

(B.) Public Health.

From the returns of the medical officers, it would appear either that there was more sickness than usual during the year, or that the people availed themselves of the medical aid provided to a greater extent than previously. While the latter

is to some degree the case, yet under the conditions following the eruption there was undoubtedly a good deal of illness among the refugees. A serious epidemic of dysentery prevailed among all classes for some months throughout the island.

Notwithstanding, if the deaths which occurred in the eruption of May 7th be subtracted from the total (2,260—1,327=933), the mortality for the Island of St. Vincent (excluding the Grenadine Dependencies) is only just above the average for the nine preceding years, *i.e.*, 933 as against 927.

It may, I think, be fairly deduced from this, that the steps taken for the relief and care of the eruption refugees were attended with a fair measure of success.

The live-births during the year were much below the average in St. Vincent proper—1,404, as against 1,837. But the still-births were the same as the average.

In the St. Vincent Grenadines the deaths were below the average.

With the exception of the dysentery there was no grave epidemic in the Colony during the year.

(C.) Sanitation.

There is nothing special under this head to call attention to.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year 1902 was 108·37 inches, as against 125·69 in 1901, and 4 inches below the average for the last 12 years.

Rain fell on 276 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in one day was 5·16, in May.

November was the wettest month with 15·78 inches, and March the driest with only 2·02 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 79·7° F. Maximum for the year 88° F. in May, minimum 65° F. in February.

There was happily no storm as in 1901, and the hurricane season was singularly free from alarms.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The Postal Service is performed by a fortnightly service of steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, from and to Barbados, under contract with His Majesty's Government. There are also lines of steamers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Canadian Government, fortnightly, and other steamers also from and to the United States, and direct from and to London, call at the Port of Kingstown, though at somewhat irregular intervals.

There is an Inland Postal system by which the Windward and Leeward districts of the Colony are daily, and the Islets of the Grenadines weekly, served.

There was an appreciable decrease in the Inland Post business; the volcanic eruption and its disastrous effects on the towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown are no doubt largely accountable for this.

On the other hand the increase in foreign correspondence is large, especially for the quarter ended 30th June, such increase being directly attributable to the eruption and the enormous interest aroused by it in all parts of the world.

The Postal Revenue in 1902 was £2,145, being considerably larger than usual owing to the large sale of stamps consequent on the cessation of the Victorian issue.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £419, and the expenditure £330. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair on the Leeward side and to Georgetown on the Windward side of the Island, about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Nil.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

His Excellency The Governor of the Windward Islands was in residence in the Colony from 28th February, 1902, to 22nd July, 1902, and, with the exception of a few days' absence in St. Lucia and Grenada, during that time administered the Government, paying visits also subsequently on three occasions, and remaining 19 days in November.

The Chief Justiceship continued to be filled by Mr. O. Hazell, the Attorney-General, who was appointed to act in August, 1901, until 1st December, 1902, when Mr. P. M. Sheriff, Magistrate of the Southern District, Grenada, relieved him, Mr. Hazell proceeding some time afterwards to the latter Colony to take up there the post of Attorney-General.

The Attorney-Generalship remained unfilled.

Dr. O'Neale, Acting Colonial Surgeon, returned to Grenada in March, 1902, and was succeeded in April by Dr. C. W. Branch from St. Kitts, who is in charge of the hospital and other medical institutions.

The Colonial Surgeoncy, however, remains in abeyance.

Mr. E. D. Laborde, Chief of Police and Supervisor of Customs, left, on promotion to St. Lucia, in April, his place being taken by Mr. W. J. Calder, an Inspector of the Jamaica Constabulary.

All minor events are eclipsed by the appalling eruption of the Soufrière Volcano, which on 7th May awoke from its 90 years' slumber to again hurl death and devastation over nearly one-third of the hapless Island of St. Vincent.

The horror of that time and of the sights and sounds in the temporary hospitals to which the injured survivors were first taken is not to be forgotten by those whose lot it was to pass through it.

The universal sympathy aroused by the event and by the annihilation of the town of St. Pierre, in the closely adjacent Island of Martinique, by a similar volcanic outburst, and the frightful holocaust of human life, found practical expression in the subscription of a large fund for the relief of the distress and suffering that had been occasioned.

The generous and most prompt action of the United States Government in despatching a special vessel laden with supplies of food, clothing, and medical stores is one that will ever be remembered with feelings of gratitude.

In the initial stage the sufferers were attended by the local medical staff, who had the assistance of Miss Rachael Paterson (with local nurses under her), Nurse from the Colonial Hospital, selected and sent out to St. Vincent by the English Nursing

Association some time previously. To the patient attention given them by this lady, whose devotion and example at that early time under most trying circumstances merit the highest respect and praise, many are indebted for the fact of their ultimate recovery.

Further help from Barbados was soon on the spot, and the best skilled treatment was afforded to the injured. Drs. Hutson, Bowen, and Orford, and Major Will, of the Royal Army Medical Corps, and his Staff were unremitting in their attentions, and their services are warmly appreciated and remembered. The very large percentage of recoveries shows how valuable they were.

The money subscribed has enabled the refugees whose dwellings and living were destroyed to be sustained as long as was necessary by direct aid and provision of work, and to be ultimately re-settled in houses very far better, in the vast majority of cases, than those which they had ever been previously accustomed to, or, under normal circumstances, had any chance of obtaining, and under improved conditions of life, in that they have no rent to pay for the spot on which their house is placed, and are given " provision grounds " free.

The concentration, however, of so many people within the narrowed limits of the island considered safe is a feature that must necessarily occasion anxiety where there is no paying industry established to furnish them with anything like steady employment.

In July, two months subsequent to the eruption, two earthquakes were experienced of greater force than any inhabitant had recollection of, and naturally occasioned considerable alarm.

On September 3rd, October 15th, and March 22nd, occurred further eruptions of the Soufrière, each of first magnitude, covering the devastated area with a still heavier layer of dust and scoriæ, and their disturbing and unsettling effect can well be imagined.

That of 3rd September was especially alarming, occurring on a clear night and enveloping the whole heavens in an inky canopy, continuously starred, and riven from end to end with great splashes and rivers of electricity, the display being one that baffles description.

Captain Young, C.M.G., Chief Secretary of Cyprus, was specially deputed by the Secretary of State to visit the Colony at the end of 1902 to undertake the distribution of money to be paid as compensation for actual losses sustained in cattle, goods, furniture, and to advise generally as to relief measures.

He spent six weeks here, visiting different parts of the Island, and left on 31st December.

Various treatises have been written on the scientific side of the eruptions. The book of Messrs. Flett and Anderson, who

were specially deputed by the Royal Society to visit the scene and draw up a report, is the standard English work of reference, while the writings of Professor Jaggar, of Harvard University, of Professor Curtis, and Dr. E. O. Hovey, of the American Museum of New York, who also paid visits to St. Vincent, are full of interest.

The condition of an island which in a period of four years is subjected to two such cataclysms as the hurricane of 1898 and the volcanic eruption of 1902, coming on the top of a succession of years of gradual but marked decadence, cannot very well afford much scope for encouraging report, and I fear St. Vincent must of necessity for some appreciable time continue to be a cause of considerable anxiety to those who are responsible for its government, both on the spot and at home.

At the present time there is an effort being made under the auspices of the Imperial Agricultural Department to establish a cotton industry, which if successful may for some time, at least, somewhat improve things, but otherwise there is little silver lining in the clouds that honest vision can detect.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Administrator.

21st August, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1903.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 404.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1902.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 376.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1903.

[Cd. 1768-9.] *Price* 2½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
386	Falkland Islands	1902
387	Gibraltar	"
388	Weihaiwei	"
389	Sierra Leone	"
390	British Honduras	"
391	Gambia	"
392	St. Helena	"
393	Hong Kong	"
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
395	Seychelles	"
396	Ceylon	"
397	Gold Coast	"
398	Barbados	1902–1903
390	Fiji	1902
400	Lagos	"
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos-Keeling Islands	1903
403	St. Vincent	1902–1903

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ..	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada...	Report on Land Settlement in Carriacou.

No. 404.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 376)

ACTING-GOVERNOR SIR G. MELVILLE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

St. Lucia,
15th October, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit Administrator Drayton's Report on the Blue Book of Grenada for 1902, the usual copies of which, he informs me, have been sent direct to the Colonial Office.

I have, &c.,
GEO. MELVILLE,
Acting-Governor.

---

875 Wt 21109 11/1903 D & S 5 1605

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1902.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The General Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of Grenada for the financial year ended 31st March, 1903, reached £72,803 and £68,669, respectively, being in each case the highest figure yet recorded. Of the revenue, £1,015 was from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of agriculture in the West Indies, so that from purely local sources the revenue amounted to £71,788, the largest yet received.

2. The figures for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Revenue	Expenditure.
	£	£
1898	62,875	57,612
1899	68,757	59,359
1900	70,363	62,718
1901-2	70,075	65,490
1902-3	72,803	68,669

Details of the revenue in the last two financial years are shown and compared in table A, annexed hereto, and it will be seen that satisfactory increases appear under nearly every head, except Customs, which shows a falling off of £1,275, due, according to the trade returns, chiefly to a smaller quantity of textiles and manufactured articles of metal being imported in 1902. The increase under Post Office is attributable to large sales of a new issue of stamps, the first under the new reign, as well as to more business having been done.

3. The details of the Expenditure for the same years are contained in table B. The decrease under "Public Debt Charges" is caused by the purchase by Government in 1902 of the outstanding balance of 4½ per cent. debentures issued in 1886; the decreases under "Colonial Secretary" and "Treasury" are nominal, being caused by transfers of certain items to other heads. Of the increases, that under "Legal Departments" is chiefly caused by heavier expenses in connection with the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court and for Inquests, and also by the purchase in 1902 of an embossing

die for cancellation of revenue stamps at the Registrar's office; under "Medical Department," the increase is due to the prolonged quarantine measures adopted against Barbados on account of the prevalence of small-pox there, and to coincident outlay on vaccination; that under "Miscellaneous Services" is attributable to special expenditure in connection with the local celebration of the King's Coronation, and in relief of the sufferers from the volcanic eruptions in St. Vincent and Martinique; and that under "Agricultural Department," to the appointment of an Agricultural Instructor. The increases shown under the new heads of "Post Office," "Land and House Tax Collection," and "Water Supplies" are the result of changes in the classification of the expenditure.

ASSETS AND

4. The financial year 1902-3 opened with a surplus of Colonial similar balance of £22,199.

The Assets at the latter date were as follows:—

ASSETS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in Treasury Chest...		655 4 5
Cash in Colonial Bank—		
„ Current Account		1,973 15 1
„ Deposit „		2,000 0 0
Colony's Reserve Fund—		
Invested by Crown Agents	6,974 11 11	
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	1,124 6 11	
Remittances in transit to Crown Agents for Investment.	5,000 0 0	
		13,098 18 10
Savings Bank—		
Invested by Crown Agents	6,000 0 0	
Invested in British Guiana Government Bonds.	500 0 0	
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	2,500 0 0	
Remittances in transit to Crown Agents for investment.	2,000 0 0	
		11,000 0 0
Crown Agents for the Colonies—		
On Current Account	1,910 1 7	
Remittances in transit, Current Account.	5,000 0 0	
		6,910 1 7
Imprest Balances		231 10 0
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony—		
Loans to Town Boards from General Revenue.	476 3 9	
Government of St. Vincent	554 0 8	
„ „ St. Lucia	630 17 3	
Distillery Apparatus Advance ...	0 4 11	
Other Advances	46 3 1	
		1,707 9 8
Carriacou Land Settlement Funds ...		258 18 8
Arrears of Revenue—		
Sinking Funds on Loans to Town Boards.	66 15 8	
Interest on Loans to Town Boards...	167 8 6	
		234 4 2
Total		38,070 2 5

LIABILITIES.

Assets of £17,965, and closed at 31st March, 1903, with a

The Liabilities were:—

LIABILITIES.						
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits—						
Savings Bank	12,207	14	11			
Post Office	644	19	11			
Supreme Court	879	12	8			
St. George's Town Fund	165	3	7			
Grenville " "	128	13	7			
Hillsborough " "	27	16	11			
Victoria " "	123	15	0			
Sauteurs " "	88	9	5			
Gouyave " "	171	19	1			
Governor's Office "	9	15	1			
Gouyave Water Supply Loan ...	711	2	11			
Female Prison Loan	218	5	3			
Other Small Deposits	473	0	5			
				15,850	8	9
Drafts and Remittances				20	16	8
Total				15,871	5	5

5. It will be observed that a Reserve Fund is being formed, and that it amounted at the above date to £13,099; to that amount may properly be added the item under "Assets" of £259 for Carriacou Land Settlement Fund, which is really a portion of the Colony's balance invested in land, as will be explained under the head of "Agricultural Industries." It is intended gradually to increase the Reserve fund until it reaches £25,000, and thus to provide a safe margin for about five years' expenditure in excess of revenue in the event of a period of financial depression occurring in the future as it did in 1895-98.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt is £123,670, in 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, and a Sinking Fund is provided for its extinction in the year 1942, by setting aside annually one per cent. of the nominal value of the Stock; at 31st March, 1903, this fund amounted to £14,520, which is invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies as trustees therefor.

In addition to setting aside this sinking fund, it should be noted that in the last ten years debentures amounting to £8,675 have been redeemed from current revenues.

During the financial year under review, that portion of the St. George's Waterworks' debt, £1,000 in debentures, in respect of which the Colonial revenue was pledged as collateral security, was repaid by the Town Board in full.

Finances of Town Boards.

7. The government of the towns of the Colony is entrusted to Town Boards, half elected by the ratepayers and half nominated by the Governor; table C exhibits their revenue and expenditure in the last five years.

8. With the exception of the town of Gouyave, which had a small excess of liabilities, the accounts of all the towns closed for the year with a surplus of assets.

9. The debts of the towns are as follows, the Government being their creditor in each case:—

	£
St. George's...	6,277
Grenville	1,130
Sauteurs	1,100
Victoria	1,384
Gouyave	3,301
	£13,192

Repayment is provided for either by contributions yearly to sinking funds, or by annual instalments, and, on the whole, payments are now fairly well made.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

10. The trade returns give the value of the imports of 1902 as £239,108, and of the exports as £310,602. The figures and averages for the five previous years were:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1897...	164,536	154,439
1898...	210,783	257,274
1899...	226,828	267,738
1900...	232,790	311,681
1901...	246,567	303,934
Average ...	216,301	259,013
1902...	239,108	310,602

The trade of 1902, was, therefore, as regards imports, somewhat less than in 1901, but in excess of the average; and, as regards exports, in excess both of 1901 and of the average for the five years preceding 1901.

11. For a review of the trade of the Colony and of its general features in 1902, the statistics of the five years ended 31st December, 1902, have, for convenient comparison, been arranged in five tables, which are annexed and marked D to H.

12. Table D exhibits the imports and exports for the quinquennial period under the usual four classes, and a steady increase in Class I., live animals, food, and drinks, and in Class II., raw materials, imported, is noticeable; while the imports of manufactured articles do not show this tendency, and in 1902, although up to average, they were about £6,600 less than in 1901. Coin and bullion, both imports and exports, fluctuate, and are not of abnormal amounts. Under exports, as usual, Class I. covers 90 per cent. of the total, cocoa and spices being the Colony's staple products; and 62 per cent. of Class II. is cotton and cotton seed from the Colony's dependency, Carriacou.

13. In table E the direction of the trade is traced, and its amount shown (1) with the United Kingdom; (2) with British Colonies; and (3) with Foreign Countries. Here it will be seen that the imports from Foreign Countries are on the

increase, the actual percentages of the totals being as follows in the last three years:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.
United Kingdom	45 per cent.	46 per cent.	44 per cent.
British Colonies	25 "	24 "	21 "
Foreign Countries	30 "	30 "	35 "

The Mother Country continues, however, to receive the bulk of the exports, and nearly 86 per cent. of the total was sent there in 1902.

14. Of the trade with British Colonies, that with Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Dominion of Canada is alone worthy of special notice; the value of the imports from these Colonies in the last three years is shown below:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£
Barbados	28,598	25,773	20,205
Trinidad and Tobago	18,862	20,290	19,706
Canada	7,946	11,263	9,140

The imports from the first two Colonies consist chiefly of American foodstuffs, purchased there by the smaller shopkeepers; those from Canada, of foodstuffs and lumber. The satisfactory increase shown in 1901 in regard to Canada was slightly interrupted in 1902, the f lling off being in lumber for building purposes, only £2,895 in value of this material being imported, as against £4,897 in 1901, preference being apparently given in 1902 to lumber from the United States. Foodstuffs continue, however, to show a steady increase, and 722 barrels of wheaten flour were imported from Canada, as compared with 380 in 1901.

15. The trade with Barbados shows a tendency to diminish, and, as facilities for direct intercourse with Canada and the United States increase, may be expected to do so; in the year under review it was, however, seriously affected by quarantine difficulties.

16. The exports to British Colonies are seen to be small as a general rule, but in the year under review they rose to £10,528, in consequence of the exports to the sister colonies of St. Lucia and St. Vincent reaching the abnormal figures of £3,266 and £2,473, respectively. This is apparently due to shipments of lumber and foodstuffs made to these islands, perhaps in consequence of the difficulty of getting things from Barbados during the prevalence of small-pox there.

17. In Table F. the foreign trade of the Colony is analysed and the leading position occupied by the United States of

America is at once seen, that country claiming about 97 per cent. of the import and 77 per cent. of the export trade of Grenada with foreign countries. Good steam communication, rapid transit, and cheap freights are producing their inevitable result, and, as American manufactures are well suited to West Indian requirements, may be expected to continue to do so, unless conditions change.

18. As is noted annually, the figures for the exports to France are not reliable, a quantity of cocoa being shipped to Havre, "optional" for London, and the local trade returns do not take into account the actual final destination.

19. Table G compares the chief imports in 1901 and 1902, and the only important difference shown is the falling off under Class III. in textiles and manufactured articles of metal; 1901 was, however, an exceptional year in this respect, as the following figures demonstrate:—

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£
Textiles imported	46,484	47,733	52,057	48,980
Metal Manufactures imported	15,290	16,337	19,365	14,923

20. The important items of local produce exported are shown in table H for the last five years, which indicates that the year under review was a satisfactory one for the colonial staples. Fruit and poultry seem to have had a healthy increase, but it is believed that this is due to better rendition of the returns, which are defective. Coffee, which showed up better in 1901, has again shrunk to insignificance; most of that produced is consumed locally. Sugar, of local manufacture, is, as usual, absent from the table, but rum shows a sudden spurt, due to an unusual demand from the neighbouring Dutch islands and Venezuela. Wool also advanced into significance. The whole export of this article goes to the Mother country, and this is the case with all but a few hundredweight of the raw cotton and cotton seed. The subjoined table, showing the direction taken by the Colony's principal staples in 1902 may be interesting:—

—	Cocoa.	Spices.	Cotton and Seed.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	238,924	22,043	4,056
United States of America ...	22,959	3,252	—
France	6,277	—	—
British West Indies	51	214	1
French " "	—	1	12
Danish " "	—	12	—

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

21. Rum, ice, and muscovado sugar for local consumption are the only manufactures, but, except in the case of rum, on which an excise duty is levied, no returns are available from which quantities can be arrived at. The rum made and duty paid thereon in the last six years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity made.	Excise Duty paid.
	Gallons.	£
1897	57,406	11,448
1898	32,662	12,478
1899	48,477	10,605
1900	47,942	11,327
1901	53,204	11,669
1902	45,054	11,853

The table shows a curious fluctuation of quantities, and also demonstrates that the duty received in any year depends upon the quantity manufactured not in that year, but in the preceding; this is due to the rum being warehoused and duty paid as required. 512 gallons were exported in 1902, which is unusual.

22. Mr. John Steele, C.B., sent out by the Imperial Government to enquire into the excise systems in the West Indies, paid a visit to the Colony in May-June, and inspected some of the principal distilleries.

23. There are no mines; and fish, which abound on the coast, are only caught for daily consumption in the island. Once in a way a whale is captured by the fishermen of Grand Ance Bay, and much might, with energy and application, be made of the fishery, as whales are plentiful on the coasts from February to April annually. A fine oyster grows on the mangroves at Grand Carenage, a land-locked harbour in Carriacou, and the season for cutting them is regulated by law. The season for turtles, which abound, is also regulated; there is a small export annually of turtle and shell, in addition to what is consumed locally.

Agricultural Industries.

24. The crop of cocoa is counted locally in bags and is recorded for the year ending 30th September; a bag weighs about 180 lbs. The average crop for the five years ended 30th September, 1901, was 53,379, while that for 1902 was 61,285

bags, a marked and satisfactory increase which may be taken as indicating the effect of improved methods as well as of extended cultivation. A great advance has been made in this direction of late years by the larger proprietors, and it is hoped that the efforts made to induce similar action among the peasant proprietors are beginning to bear fruit. The Agricultural Instructor, appointed in 1901, largely with that object in view, did excellent work in this direction in 1902, and the Imperial Department of Agriculture has also established experimental plots, as object lessons, in important districts.

25. Nutmegs and spices are exported from the colony in packages of varying description, so that it is difficult to compare them annually as is done in the case of cocoa, and a comparison must, therefore, be sought in the figures recorded in the trade returns of exports. These show that in the five years ended 31st December, 1901, the average quantity of spices exported was 4,624 cwt., while in 1902 it amounted to 6,839 cwt., of which 5,999 cwt. were nutmegs. In 1897 the total export was 2,505 cwt., so that there is marked increase apparent. Prices were not, however, as favourable as in the preceding year.

26. Cotton and cotton seed are at present exclusively the product of Carriacou, the principal dependency of Grenada. The average export for the five years ended 31st December, 1901, was 2,095 cwt. of raw cotton, and 4,537 cwt. of cotton seed, and the average annual value was £3,605: in 1902 the actual export was 2,212 cwt. of raw cotton, and 4,536 cwt. of cotton seed, valued at £4,069. From reliable returns recently published in a local newspaper, the "Chronicle," it appears that in 1803 the output of raw cotton from Carriacou amounted to 4,709 cwt., and there is good reason to hope that with the stimulus imparted by the present demand for cotton in the home market, and by the change of agricultural conditions now taking place in the island this quantity will soon be reached again, and probably exceeded.

27. The climate and weather conditions of Carriacou being pre-eminently suitable for this product it is of happy augury that the revived demand in England for cotton from her colonies should coincide in point of time with the opening up to the peasant proprietor by Government action of the lands of Carriacou, too long dormant in the hands of absentee proprietors. In October, 1902, the work of surveying the first estate selected by the Government to be purchased and broken up into small lots for sale was commenced, and at the date of this report 160 peasants have been settled on it, as proprietors, and the survey of a second estate is proceeding. In connexion with the scheme attention is being paid to other important details, such as a system of forest conservation and of re-afforestation, improved water supply, and better

methods of cultivation and of reaping the crops, and the future of the dependency may now be contemplated in a hopeful spirit.

Botanic Station.

28. The following extracts are taken from the remarks of the Commissioner of the Imperial Department of Agriculture on the annual report of the Curator of the Station:—

* * * * * * *

"It is observed in this Report that the expenditure during the period referred to, including Special Services, was £1,292 8*s*. 3*d*., and the receipts, derived from the sale of plants, fruit and other products, amounted to £54 3*s*. 3*d*. or £2 0*s*. 8*d*. more than those for the twelve months ending December 31, 1901."

* * * * * * *

"Among the new works undertaken during the period under review, are mentioned the partial construction of a rubble main drain and an embankment wall along a portion of the cocoa section. Some of the smaller buildings and garden seats were repaired and painted."

* * * * * * *

"It is stated that economic and ornamental plants to the total number of 9,432, exclusive of 96 packages of seed, were distributed from the Station nurseries. These figures as compared with 8,794 economic plants distributed in 1901, show an increase of 638 (inclusive of ornamental plants) during the fifteen months under review."

* * * * * * *

"With the exception of the fruit trees, the economic plants already established at the Station appear to make satisfactory progress. The Curator alludes to the continued attacks of 'black blight' on fruit trees in the orchard section, and states that it is difficult to keep the pest out of the Station owing to the presence of so many badly affected mango trees in close proximity on private lands."

* * * * * * *

"The general tenor of the report is favourable and indicates that the Curator is steadily endeavouring to improve the Station and to carry out the duties entrusted to him."

* * * * * * *

29. With respect to the experimental plots in the rural districts, the Commissioner remarks:—

"On the cocoa experiment plots in the country districts, the most satisfactory results would seem to have been obtained at Nianganfoix and Bellevue. On the former, from October 1, 1901, to September 30, 1902, 3,989 ibs. of wet cocoa were obtained, while at Bellevue 2,087 lbs. are recorded. Both these plots are exactly one acre in size."

SHIPPING.

30. The following is a return of the total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years, and it shows in respect of 1902 a considerable increase:—

Year.	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1898	216,192	218,006
1899	232,437	231,611
1900	222,899	216,110
1901	267,972	275,770
1902	287,000	290,035
Average	245,300	246,306

31. In table I in the Appendix a classification of the shipping in the last two years into sailing and steam vessels, with their nationalities, is made: it shows that of the total tonnage entered and cleared in 1902 British vessels formed 97 per cent.

LEGISLATION.

32. Thirteen Ordinances passed into law during the year, but two of these relate to the same subject, the second repealing the first: of the eleven remaining the most important are:—

The Public Health Ordinance, repealing previous legislation on the subject, and providing that the General Board of Health for the Colony shall be the Governor and other members of the Executive Council, with Local Health Authorities, appointed by the Governor, to see after details in the districts.

An Ordinance amending the law relating to partition of real property, simplifying and cheapening the procedure in regard to estates of small value.

An Ordinance legalising and placing upon a proper basis the payment of public officers' travelling expenses.

An Ordinance incorporating the Governing Bodies of two of the schools of secondary education.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

33. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from Colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the Inspector, who is a Government Officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of one shilling per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils, which are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but having only a casting vote.

34. Table J in the Appendix is a comparison of the figures obtained from the returns of the last two years, and it will be seen that the schools were increased in number by two, one being an infant school in connection with a Roman Catholic School, and the other an Anglican School. A slight increase in the numbers on the roll and a marked increase in average attendance will also be noted, while school fees showed a desirable improvement. Under this last item may be observed a curious difference in results between the schools of the colony. In 1902, the fees collected at the Government Schools amounted to 2*s.* 9*d.* per head of the average attendance, and the Anglican Schools realised the same amount, the Wesleyans coming next, with 2*s.* 6*d.* per head; while the Roman Catholic and Church of Scotland Schools only collected 1*s.* 1*d.* per head.

35. The following figures, excerpted from the annual report of the Inspector of Schools, are interesting as showing the

progress made by primary education in the colony since 1882, when an organised system was first introduced:—

Year.	Population (Approximate).	On Roll.	Percentages of population attending school.
1883...	43,483	3,087	7·9
1886...	46,723	3,141	6·7
1889...	49,963	4,783	9·6
1892...	54,881	6,247	11·3
1895...	58,124	7,025	12·0
1898...	62,622	8,386	13·3
1901...	63,438 (Actual).	9,837	15·5

Secondary.

36. A comparative statement of the returns relating to the schools of secondary education in the colony in 1901 and 1902 is appended in Table K, and it cannot be said that it exhibits satisfactory results. On the 7th of July, 1902, a Committee was appointed by the Governor to enquire into the feasibility of establishing in this colony a College on the lines of the Royal College of Mauritius, and the Committee's report is being considered in the present year: there can be no doubt that a complete change in the existing state of affairs is requisite to meet local wants.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Colony Hospital.

37. The number of patients treated during the year was 905, of whom 537 were discharged as cured, 236 relieved or not improved, 58 died, and 74 remained in hospital at the end of the year: the daily average was 86, and the daily cost per head about 1*s.* 2*d.* The amount received from paying patients, 74 in number, was £107. The general health of the institution was good, but improvement in the water closet system is necessary, and is receiving attention in the present year.

Yaws Hospital.

38. The number of cases treated was 163, being 13 more than in 1901; the daily average cost per patient was about 6¼*d.*; 106 cases were discharged cured, four relieved, and two died

from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Nephritis, respectively. 61 cases were under treatment at the end of the year. As usual, the majority of the cases came from the parishes adjacent to the hospital. Provision is being made this year for the admission of twelve more patients to the hospital.

St. Andrew's District Hospital.

39. There were 96 cases treated, and of these 64 were discharged cured, 18 relieved, 7 died, and 7 were in hospital at the end of the year. Four of the seven deaths were due to dysentery, which was prevalent in the district throughout the year. The daily average was 10, and the gross cost of the institution was £507, but as the District Dispensary expenditure is included in these figures, the receipts from paid prescriptions, £126, and the value of 1,857 free prescriptions should be set off against them.

Carriacou District Hospital.

40. 145 patients were treated, 109 discharged cured, 8 relieved, 9 not improved, and 1 died, the daily average being 15. Of the cases treated 30 were from the St. Vincent Grenadines, and 60 per cent. of the total were cases of ulcers. The gross cost was £461, against which should be set the dispensary receipts, £95, and the value of free prescriptions, 1,088 in number. New and larger buildings on a healthier site are much needed.

Lunatic Asylum.

41. 128 patients were in the asylum on 1st January, 1902, and 23 were admitted during the year, of whom 10 were from St. Lucia, and 2 from St. Vincent, making a total of 151 under treatment, and a daily average of 127. 11 patients were discharged cured, and 14 died. The daily cost of a patient was 7¾*d*. The buildings can no longer accommodate the lunatics of the three colonies of the Windward Islands Government, and it is to be hoped that the new asylum for St. Lucia, which is understood to be contemplated, may not be long delayed, as it is impossible to classify cases and deal with them effectually in over-crowded buildings.

Poor Asylum.

42. This might more appropriately be called an asylum for incurables. It contained 43 inmates at the opening of the year, and during the year 25 were admitted, 9 left voluntarily, 1 was discharged, and 18 died. The daily average was 42, and the daily cost per inmate, 5½*d*. The buildings have many

defects, and require a considerable expenditure to convert them into a proper asylum.

Savings Bank.

43. The transactions of the five years 1898-1902 were as follows:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1898	1,053	7,803	6,722	8,451
1899	1,215	9,474	7,000	10,925
1900	1,387	9,379	9,136	11,168
1901	1,355	8,603	8,561	11,211
1902	1,847	9,184	9,378	11,017

44. The year under review exhibits a satisfactory increase of depositors, and of the amount handled during its course, but practically the same sum remained in the bank at its close as in 1901.

A feature of the position that is worthy of notice is that the small depositor is apparently becoming the rule instead of being, as years ago, in the back-ground. In 1898 the average balance of a depositor was £8.25; in 1902 it was £6.18.

45. The district banks continue to make gratifying progress, their balances at the end of 1902 amounting to £5,085, with 830 depositors, as compared with 1,017 depositors at St. George's, with a balance of £6,332: in 10 years the numbers and deposits in the districts have increased fivefold. Of the funds of the bank, £6,500 is invested in Colonial securities, and £2,000 is in the hands of the Crown Agents for similar investment, while £2,500 is retained locally, on deposit with the Colonial Bank, for emergencies.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

46. The strength of the police force was increased by nine during the year, so that at 31st December it consisted of a European Chief and Sergeant Major and of 72 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. The increase was necessary on account of increased population, two new district stations becoming necessary: arrangements were also made at important centres for separate non-commissioned officers to be specially entrusted with excise and sanitary duties.

47. The force is, in addition to ordinary police duties, charged with the supervision of distilleries, and the headquarters detachment is responsible for the extinction of fires in the principal town. It is maintained on a semi-military footing and armed with Martini rifles. The discipline is reported by the Chief to have been good in 1902, and at the annual course of musketry the average points per man out of a possible 80 were 46.20: the range is 200 yards maximum.

Prisons.

48. The committals for the year were 188 in number, 132 men, 51 women, and 5 juveniles. Of these, 158 were convicted prisoners, 26 for safe custody, and 4 debtors; they were all from local courts, no prisoners being introduced during the year from either St. Lucia or St. Vincent, but 5 from the former and 3 from the latter colony remained in prison here at the end of the year: the daily average was 52. The cost of the prisons was £1,244, and the value of the work done, which is mostly of a remunerative nature, is estimated at £1,336, so that they continue, as for many years past, to be practically self-supporting. The medical officers report the sanitary conditions to have been good, but at the prison for males dysentery gave some trouble, 16 cases coming under treatment; there were two deaths there from diarrhœa.

The erection of the much needed new Female Prison adjoining the Male Prison on Richmond Hill was commenced.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

49. The principal feature of the returns relating to crime in 1902 requiring explanation is the marked increase in the number of cases dealt with by the Magistrates. This is not due to any increase of crime, but to activity of the police in bringing up offenders against the Vaccination Act, it being deemed necessary, in view of the prevalence of small-pox in Barbados, to secure that the law in that direction was more rigidly enforced. Prædial larceny remained at about the same figure as in 1901. A table is subjoined, showing the averages under each head for the three years, 1898-1900, and the actual figures for 1901 and 1902.

—	Average 1898–1900.	1901.	1902.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Convictions	1,047	922	1,312
Acquittals	326	268	326
Discharged...	576	489	562
Committed for trial in Supreme Court...	41	32	48
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrate.	1,990	1,711	2,248
Supreme Court :—			
Convictions	21	16	26
Acquittals	14	7	6
Not prosecuted	6	3	7
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	41	26	39
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	308	301	378
Prædial larceny	60	70	66
Other offences against property... ...	139	76	114
Other offences	561	491	780
Total	1,068	938	1,338

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

50. Allowing for the natural increase since the census of 7th April, 1901, when it was returned at 63,438, the population of the colony at 31st December, 1902, was 65,627. The average natural increase in the 10 years 1892-1901 was 1,279, and in 1902 the actual increase was 1,339. The birth rate for

the year per thousand of the mean estimated population was 40·79, the death rate 20·38, and the marriage rate, 5·02.

Public Health.

51. The general health of the colony was, as usual, good during the year. No disease assumed an epidemic form, and, with the exception of dysentery and malarial fever in certain districts, the ordinary endemic diseases were not abnormally aggressive. The chief causes of death in the last four years are shown below:—

Cause of Death.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Diarrhœa	135	95	109	83
Dysentery	47	45	297	130
Fevers	71	80	75	115
Enteritis	33	63	71	76
Phthisis	49	77	66	67
Bronchitis	25	27	28	15
Pneumonia	18	34	17	28
Influenza	1	48	3	3

It will be seen from these figures that diseases of the digestive system are responsible for the largest share of the Colony's death rate, and it may be added that the percentage of infant mortality (mostly caused by these diseases) is about one-third of the total number of deaths.

CLIMATE.

52. The principal meteorological statistics for 1902 are as follows:—

Rainfall, centre of island	163·70 inches.
" south "	70·19 "
Relative humidity (mean)	73·7°
Mean temperature (maximum)	83·4°
" " (minimum)	74·1°
" pressure	29·973 inches.
Days of rain	226
Average force of wind (24 hours) ...	121 miles.
Maximum temperature (18th May) ...	90·8°
Minimum " (4th February)	69°

The year was unusually dry, but as the rainfall was fairly distributed over the several months there was no actual drought: the rainy season began on 24th May.

53. At the Meteorological Observatory on Richmond Hill, near to the chief town, there has now been a continuous record kept for 12 years, and the following analysis of the rainfall returns in that period may be of interest. It should be borne in mind that, being situated in the south of the island, the rainfall is less there than in the mountainous centre.

Month.	Maximum.	Year.	Minimum.	Year.	Average for 12 years.
January... ...	9·10	1899	2·15	1891	4·53
February ...	7·16	1899	0·81	1892	2·99
March	6·82	1892	0·88	1891	2·92
April	5·93	1893	0·71	1901	2·98
May	10·79	1892	0·49	1899	5·14
June	18·80	1892	4·30	1894	8·67
July	15·10	1892	3·53	1894	9·67
August	19·11	1898	6·08	1895	9·65
September ...	12·16	1894	4·79	1900	8·88
October	10·55	1894	4·00	1893	6·45
November ...	20·90	1896	2·54	1891	9·01
December ...	18·17	1901	3·57	1891	8·13

Maximum for one year 105·89 inches in 1892.
Minimum for one year 56·69 inches in 1891.
Average for twelve years 79·07 inches.

SANITATION.

54. A change was made in the sanitary administration of the Colony during the year. The Governor and other members of the Executive Council became *ex officio* the General Board of Health, with power to make byelaws on all important details relating to health; and Local Health Authorities, consisting of the Chief of the Police, the District Medical Officers, and prominent unofficials in each district, were created, and given the power to carry out such byelaws and the general provisions of the Health Laws. Non-commissioned officers of the police were detailed as District Inspectors, and their reports were required to be laid by the Chief before fixed monthly meetings of the Local Health Authorities. It is perhaps too soon to pronounce upon the success of the change, but it may be mentioned here that during an outbreak in the current year of an eruptive disease which has

become epidemic in some neighbouring colonies, the new system worked easily and effectually, and the Health Authorities did excellent service. For a small Colony, where unofficial co-operation in public duties is necessarily limited, such an arrangement is based upon sound practical principles, and if difficulties in details are carefully attended to, it should work well.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

55. The business of the Post Office continues to increase annually, and the following statement of the figures for the years, 1896, 1901, and 1902 show the extent of that increase as compared with the preceding year and with the position six years ago:—

— —	1896.	1901.	1902.
Letters and post cards	199,022	334,661	440,934
Newspapers, books, &c.	80,066	99,496	147,628
Parcels	2,676	3,952	6,147
	£	£	£
Money orders (other than local) issued	8,841	14,032	12,160

The administration of the Post Office was improved during the year under review consequent upon changes in the *personnel* and upon its separation from the Treasury in November, 1901. A mail coach service between St. George's and Grenville viâ St. David's was commenced on 1st October.

Telephone Department.

56. The revenue from the telephone service in 1902 amounted to £1,342, and the expenditure on its maintenance and on loan charges to £1,330, besides which £545 was spent on reconstruction work, which was commenced in July, 1901, and is being steadily prosecuted to the extent permitted by the funds and staff available. The working of the system was improved, and much valuable work done in 1902. Local climatic and other conditions necessitate constant activity and

attention to maintenance if good results are to be secured, but it is believed that on the whole satisfaction is given to the numerous renters, and that the service is as popular as it is indispensable to the Colony.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

57. There is no military force in the Colony. Provision exists under the law for the enrolment of a Volunteer Corps, and further legislation has recently been adopted enabling the formation of a Volunteer Reserve, which can be eventually incorporated in a regular corps of Volunteers, if formed: no steps have as yet been taken beyond the introduction of the necessary arms and ammunition, the former, Martini-Enfield rifles, having been considerately supplied by the Imperial Government. The police force is maintained on a semi-military footing.

GENERAL REMARKS.

58. Their Majesties' Coronation on the 9th August was loyally celebrated in the Colony by a people grateful that their Sovereign had been spared to them from a dangerous illness. Arrangements had been made for the celebration, upon a larger scale than usual locally, on the date originally fixed for the ceremony, and, the telegraph line being interrupted, it was not until the morning of the 26th of June that the sad intelligence of the King's danger reached Grenada, in time, however, to stop the proceedings. The genuine sorrow and distress felt by the people was only too evident, and showed up in marked contrast to the decorations surrounding them.

59. The volcanic eruptions at St. Vincent and Martinique also deeply stirred the people of the Colony, and practical proof of sympathy was given by liberal contributions of money, clothing, and food, for the relief of our distressed neighbours. The first eruption of the Soufrière on 7th May was distinctly heard in Grenada, but none of the others of that volcano: on the other hand nearly all of those of Mont Pelée were distinctly heard (200 miles distant), especially that on the night of the 30th August. Dust fell frequently and heavily, and on three occasions, 7th and 20th May and 9th June, the water in the St. George's Carenage was sympathetically affected by the volcanic disturbance.

60. Mr. C. H. Major, the Attorney-General, left the Colony on 5th September on his promotion to be Chief Justice of Fiji, and the vacancy was not permanently filled until the current year.

61. A large bridge at La Force crossing in St. Andrew's was completed during the year, and a bridge at Union, St. Mark's, and a causeway at Black Bay, St. John's, were constructed. The old and dilapidated north wing of the Government House was replaced by a substantial stone structure, giving more accommodation, and much improving the Governor's residence.

62. The record of the year 1902 is one of continued progress, and in this connection a table, which has been prepared and appears in the Appendix, marked L, in which the principal financial statistics of the Colony for the last 10 years are exhibited, may prove interesting.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Administrator.

Grenada,

7th October, 1903.

APPENDICES TO BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1902.

TABLE A.

Head of Revenue.	1901-02.	1902-03.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	36,739	35,464	—	1,275
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	27,022	27,686	664	—
Fees of Office, &c.	1,425	1,628	203	—
Post Office	1,035	2,168	1,133	—
Telephones	1,229	1,340	111	—
Water Supplies	—	1,531	1,531	—
Rent of Government Property...	429	412	—	17
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	1,080	1,044	—	36
Miscellaneous Receipts	67	116	49	—
Land Sales	248	398	150	—
Imperial Grant in aid of Agricultural Department.	800	1,015	215	—
Total	70,075	72,803	4,056	1,328

TABLE B.

Head of Expenditure.	1901-1902.	1902-1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	6,730	6,216	—	514
Pensions	1,553	1,674	121	—
The Governor and Legislature...	1,962	2,020	58	—
Colonial Secretary	1,958	1,540	—	418
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank.	5,165	3,790	—	1,375
Post Office	—	2,948	2,948	—
Land and House Tax Collection	—	432	432	—
Audit Department	510	539	29	—
Legal Department	4,837	5,112	275	—
Carried forward	22,715	24,271	3,863	2,307

Table B.—cont.

Head of Expenditure.	1901–1902.	1902–1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward... ...	22,715	24,271	5,676	2,307
Police and Excise Department...	4,831	4,966	135	—
Prisons	1,004	1,058	54	—
Medical Department	7,639	7,888	249	—
Education...	6,411	6,374	—	37
Ditto Special Expenditure ...	—	93	93	—
Ecclesiastical	496	444	—	52
Charitable	460	482	22	—
Telephone Department	1,314	1,325	11	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	371	550	179	—
Water Supplies	—	535	535	—
Miscellaneous Services	5,382	5,690	308	—
Public Works Department ...	891	950	59	—
Public Works Recurrent ...	8,818	8,986	168	—
Public Works Extraordinary ...	4,367	4,035	—	332
Total	64,698	67,647	5,676	2,728
Agricultural Department ...	792	1,022	230	—
Total	65,490	68,669	5,906	2,728

TABLE C.

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901–2.	1902–3.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	2,158	2,576	2,459	2,848	3,189	2,033	2,879	2,707	3,114	2,861
Grenville	946	910	940	909	944	953	896	992	860	889
Sauteurs	480	427	540	601	738	556	411	465	507	650
Victoria	281	273	300	331	307	291	272	288	244	344
Gouyave	529	592	601	579*	680	477	631	551	655*	548
Hillsborough... ...	128	133	133	109	124	147	123	126	173	97

* For the year 1901.

TABLE D.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	89,028	104,440	108,353	106,696	110,627	252,263	261,144	303,148	295,990	298,974
II. Raw materials	16,467	18,715	21,402	22,842	23,887	4,754	4,066	6,484	5,989	6,591
III. Manufactured articles	102,028	100,548	102,342	110,882	104,241	185	1,603	1,649	1,955	2,027
IV. Coin and bullion	3,260	3,125	693	6,147	353	72	925	400	—	3,010
Totals	210,783	226,828	232,790	246,567	239,108	257,274	267,738	311,681	303,934	310,602

TABLE E.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	98,626	101,922	105,592	113,953	105,425	243,574	220,479	259,079	226,715	265,936
British Colonies	55,254	64,603	57,628	58,949	50,835	3,307	5,636	5,399	4,535	10,528
Foreign Countries	56,903	60,304	69,570	73,665	82,843	10,393	41,623	47,203	72,685	34,137
Totals	210,783	226,829	232,790	246,567	239,103	257,274	267,738	311,681	303,935	310,601

TABLE F.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	56,073	57,638	66,572	71,228	80,317	8,829	13,945	31,875	38,894	26,451
France and French Colonies	350	1,330	1,623	650	549	1,335	25,427	14,249	32,909	6,356
Holland and Dutch Colonies	234	627	798	1,256	1,248	—	186	313	402	437
Denmark and Danish Colonies	207	514	34	35	41	—	1	—	—	18
Venezuela	38	6	372	9	416	229	2,064	762	481	876
Germany	—	151	163	347	226	—	—	—	—	—
Other Countries	—	38	8	138	51	—	—	4	—	—
Totals	56,902	60,304	69,570	73,663	82,848	10,393	41,623	47,203	72,686	34,138

TABLE G.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1901.	1902.
	£	£
CLASS I.—		
Live animals	1,510	2,781
Bread of all kinds	2,183	2,447
Butter	1,629	1,624
Cheese	900	1,005
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel)	13,581	13,217
Flour (wheaten)	28,750	28,664
Lard	1,651	1,821
Malt liquor	2,070	2,035
Meal (corn)	680	635
Meat (salted or preserved)	9,673	9,496
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,380	2,447
Oats	2,838	3,954
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	2,546	4,004
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,429	3,608
Rice	4,516	4,796
Spirits	5,693	5,568
Sugar (refined)	4,607	3,743
Do. (muscovado)	4,689	4,442
Wines	1,977	1,339
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	3,167	3,113
CLASS II.—		
Coal	420	1,652
Leather	1,853	765
Manures	1,399	1,631
Petroleum oil...	3,315	3,426
Timber and shingles	15,238	16,045
CLASS III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	6,142	6,540
Textiles	52,057	48,980
Rope and cordage	1,842	1,373
Metal manufactures	19,365	14,923
Books	809	865
Soap	3,840	3,640
Stationery	982	1,066
Cement	1,772	987
Earthen and glass ware	3,628	2,802
Furniture	1,558	2,298
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	4,665	4,957
Other	1,375	1,972

TABLE H.

Produce Exported.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	227,655	234,611	269,931	265,979	268,211
Spices	22,107	21,761	30,153	26,714	25,522
Cotton and cotton seed ...	3,134	2,641	4,622	4,905	4,069
Live stock	1,211	1,088	1,133	1,147	1,082
Firewood	476	513	560	428	249
Fruit	427	672	404	326	713
Poultry	166	497	283	262	665
Turtle and turtle shell ...	406	337	267	351	152
Kola nuts	43	96	203	331	231
Coffee	59	13	5	126	25
Rum	4	—	—	9	70
Logwood	54	25	39	48	30
Wool	17	23	27	23	113

TABLE I.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1901.			1902.			1901.			1902.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	254,982	8,952	263,934	269,248	11,494	280,742	263,233	8,999	272,232	272,179	11,510	283,689
Foreign	1,914	2,124	4,038	3,998	2,260	6,258	1,914	1,624	3,538	3,998	2,348	6,346
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	—	1,195	1,195	600	784	1,384	—	830	830	600	774	1,374
Holland	—	444	444	—	990	990	—	444	444	—	992	992
Venezuela	—	454	454	—	179	179	—	319	319	—	275	275
Norway	—	—	—	—	307	307	—	—	—	—	307	307
Germany	1,914	—	1,914	3,398	—	3,398	1,914	—	1 914	3,398	—	3,398
France	—	31	31	—	—	—	—	31	31	—	—	—

TABLE J.

Primary Schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools	9	1,127	1,017	2,144	1,120	152	1,151	—	1,303
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Anglican	8	945	849	1,794	1,008	140	950	144	1,234
Roman Catholic...	19	2,252	2,551	4,803	2,415	132	2,345	34	2,511
Wesleyan	4	493	401	894	483	60	480	40	579
Church of Scotland	2	137	99	236	126	7	138	—	145
Miscellaneous receipts and disbursements	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	27
Totals for 1902	42	4,954	4,917	9,871	5,152	491	5,091	218	5,799
" " 1901	40	5,002	4,835	9,837	4,881	374	5,113	—	5,487
Increase in 1902	2	—	82	34	271	117	—	218	312
Decrease in 1902	—	48	—	—	—	—	22	—	—

TABLE K.

Secondary Schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
					£	£	£	£
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—								
Grenada Grammar School ...	39	—	39	33	157	395	3	574
Victoria Girls' High School ...	—	32	32	28	146	55	—	211
St. Joseph's Convent School ...	9	73	82	58	181	100	95	376
Totals for 1902	48	105	153	119	484	550	98	1,161
" " 1901	48	123	171	129	482	579	135	1,216
Increase in 1902	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Decrease in 1902... ...	—	18	18	10	—	29	37	55

TABLE L.

Principal Financial Statistics of the Colony of Grenada for the last ten years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus Assets.	Savings Bank Balance.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1893 ...	59,210	58,039	2,273	7,994	166,678	316,063
1894 ...	63,022	59,594	7,546	7,602	196,998	189,614
1895 ...	58,468	63,675	587	6,408	175,712	172,020
1896 ...	56,275	60,523	—°	6,391	154,405	183,882
1897 ...	56,973	58,549	—†	7,370	164,356	154,439
1898 ...	62,875	57,612	985	8,451	210,783	257,274
1899 ...	68,757	59,359	12,239	10,925	226,829	267,738
1900 ...	70,363	62,718	16,423	11,168	232,790	311,681
1901–2 ...	70,075§	65,490§	17,965§	11,211‡	246,567‡	303,934‡
1902–3 ...	72,803§	68,669§	22,199§	11,417‡	239,108‡	310,602‡

° Deficit of £1,183.
† " £4,040.
‡ For the calendar year.
§ " year ending 31st March.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1903.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 411.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1902.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 384.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1903.

[Cd. 1768-16.] *Price* 2½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
389	Sierra Leone	1902
390	British Honduras	"
391	Gambia	"
392	St. Helena...	"
393	Hong Kong	"
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
395	Seychelles	"
396	Ceylon	"
397	Gold Coast	"
398	Barbados	1902–1903
399	Fiji	1902
400	Lagos	"
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos Keeling Islands	1903
403	St. Vincent	1902–1903
404	Grenada	1903
405	Southern Nigeria	1902
406	Straits Settlements	"
407	Trinidad and Tobago	1902–1903
408	Basutoland	1902–1903
409	Northern Nigeria	1902
410	Malta	1902–1903

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.

No. 411.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 384.)

ACTING-GOVERNOR SIR G. MELVILLE to MR. LYTTELTON.

St. Lucia,

5th November, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1902, with a Report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

GEO. MELVILLE,

Acting-Governor.

---

875 Wt 21109 12/1903 D & S 5 16179 A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1902.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The total actual Revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1903, was £72,193 0*s.* 4*d.*, made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
General Revenue	66,563	3	1
Part proceeds of Sales of Reclamation Lands	1,143	17	3
Imperial Department of Agriculture, Grant-in-Aid	1,486	0	0
Imperial Grant-in-Aid, Sugar Industry	3,000	0	0
Total	£72,193	0	4

This shows a net increase of £4,827 14*s.* 1*d.* as compared with the total actual Revenue for the previous financial year, and a surplus of £1,077 9*s.* 1*d.* over the estimated total Revenue which was £71,115 11*s.* 3*d.*

The increase of £4,827 14*s.* 1*d.* is due to the fact that £3,000 was received as an Imperial Grant-in-Aid for the sugar industry and that £1,143 17*s.* 3*d.* was transferred during the year from the account of "Proceeds of Sales of Reclamation Lands" to the credit of General Revenue to meet the actual expenditure incurred on reclamation work, so that the real increase of General Revenue is reduced to £684 6*s.* 10*d.*, and on reference to the following comparative statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the period ended 31st March, 1903, it will be seen that there was an actual decrease of Revenue from local sources amounting to £3,034 7*s.* 10*d.*

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the Period ended 31st March, 1903.

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate for 1902–3.	Actual Revenue to 31st March, 1903.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d
1. Customs	34,000 0 0	30,850 5 2	32,122 11 4	—	1,272 6 2
2. Port, Harbour, &c. Dues	6,500 0 0	5,364 6 8	5,070 0 3	294 6 5	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	17,800 0 0	22,013 5 8	17,915 14 6	4,097 11 2	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in Aid	4,453 8 0	4,772 14 11	4,335 10 10	437 4 1	—
5. Post Office	1,195 0 0	1,511 9 9	1,294 7 7	217 2 2	—
6. Telephone	567 12 0	528 11 3	561 10 0	—	32 18 9
7. Miscellaneous	175 0 0	300 0 11	804 7 0	—	504 6 1
8. Interest	1,865 2 7	1,016 8 9	2,040 15 7	—	1,024 6 10
9. Repayment of Loans	380 10 0	206 0 0	406 10 0	—	200 10 0
	66,936 12 7	66,563 3 1	64,551 7 1	5,046 3 10	3,034 7 10
10. Part proceeds of Sales of Reclamation Lands	1,517 0 0	1,143 17 3	188 1 6	955 15 9	—
11. To be drawn from accumulated Funds to balance Expenditure	1,314 18 8	—	—	—	—
	69,768 11 3	67,707 0 4	64,739 8 7	6,001 19 7	3,034 7 10
12. Imperial Department of Agriculture—Grant-in-Aid	1,347 0 0	1,486 0 0	2,625 17 8	—	1,139 17 8
13. Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Sugar Industry	—	3,000 0 0	—	3,000 0 0	—
Total	71,115 11 3	72,193 0 4	67,365 6 3	9,001 19 7	4,174 5 6

This decrease is mainly accounted for by a falling off in the Customs receipts, amounting to £1,272 6*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with last year, and by decreases of £1,024 6*s.* 10*d.* and £200 10*s.* 0*d.* under the heads of "Interest" and "Repayment of Loans" respectively.

The decrease in Customs receipts may be attributed to a falling off of trade, particularly in shipping, during the year under review, but this was, I am led to believe, general and not confined to St. Lucia.

The decreases under "Interest" and "Repayment of Loans" were nominal and are explained by the fact that receipts under these two heads which appeared in the Crown Agents' accounts for February, 1902, were not brought to account in the Treasury books until the month of April in the financial year 1902-3.

The rate of taxation was the same as for the previous year, but the receipts for the Road Tax amounted to £1,333 17*s.* 11*d.* as compared with the estimate, which was £1,300.

This tax, however, was under-estimated in the first instance and although there is a slight excess in the receipts over the estimate, the collection was actually deficient.

The amount of Road Tax actually collected was £1,518 16*s.* 0*d.*, of which £1,333 17*s.* 11*d.* represents the net amount carried to the credit of General Revenue after paying fees, &c., in connection with the collection of the tax.

According to the statistics there were 10,560 males in the Colony who were liable to pay this tax which should therefore have yielded £3,168 instead of £1,518 16*s.* 0*d.*, which proves that only about 50 per cent. was collected. This is a matter which is receiving the attention of the Executive, with a view to either changing the tax or devising some means whereby it may be properly collected, as under existing arrangements it seems impossible to do so.

Expenditure.

The total actual expenditure amounted to £69,408 0*s.* 1*d.*, of which sum £59,325 12*s.* 10*d.* was spent on general services during the year; the difference between these sums, amounting to £10,082 7*s.* 3*d.*, was expended as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Public Works, Extraordinary ...	5,531	7	0
Imperial Grant-in-Aid, Sugar Industry	3,000	0	0
Agriculture	1,551	0	3
Total	£10,082	7	3

Details of the expenditure are shown in the comparative statement of the expenditure of the Colony for the period ended 31st March, 1903, given below:—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the Period ended 31st March, 1903.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1902-3 and Supplementary Votes.			Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1903.			Expenditure for same period of preceding year.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	11,420	19	6	7,965	3	11	11,471	17	11	—			3,506	14	0
2. Pensions	1,493	8	6	1,087	9	6	1,069	7	9	18	1	9	—		
3. Governor and Legislature	2,959	19	1	2,794	15	1	2,854	13	8	—			59	18	7
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department.	3,127	14	0	2,935	18	7	3,032	0	11	—			96	2	4
5. Audit	555	16	0	526	19	1	488	0	5	38	18	8	—		
6. Port and Marine	969	16	0	836	16	6	836	19	5	—			0	2	11
7. Legal	4,635	4	0	4,240	17	1	4,233	11	6	7	5	7	—		
8. Police	4,581	9	0	4,556	10	1	3,973	10	1	583	0	0	—		
9. Prisons	1,385	6	0	1,287	1	10	1,303	4	7	—			16	2	9
10. Medical	6,892	8	8	6,467	11	0	5,853	17	9	613	13	3	—		
11. Sanitary	430	0	0	575	9	11	192	19	6	382	10	5	—		
12. Charitable	1,050	0	0	1,017	7	10	1,084	3	11	—			66	16	1
13. Immigration	125	0	0	124	8	0	125	0	0	—			0	12	0
14. Education	4,229	16	0	4,164	3	9	3,966	13	7	197	10	2	—		
15. Ecclesiastical	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	—			—		

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony—*cont.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1902–3 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1903.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
16. Miscellaneous...	5,775 4 8	5,447 19 2	7,199 19 4	—	1,752 0 2
17. Post Office	2,645 16 0	3,564 16 0	2,439 9 4	1,125 6 8.	—
18. Telephone	888 0 0	756 15 3	831 5 10	—	74 10 7
20. Public Works Department	1,090 1 0	1,086 9 4	1,037 7 2	49 2 2	—
21. Survey and Crown Lands Department ...	681 0 0	672 11 5	599 14 8	72 16 9	—
22. Public Works Recurrent	8,278 0 0	7,716 9 6	7,149 10 7	566 18 11	—
	64,714 18 5	59,325 12 10	61,243 7 11	3,655 4 4	5,572 19 5
23. Public Works Extraordinary	7,020 0 0	5,531 7 0	3,348 18 4	2,182 8 8	—
	71,734 18 5	64,856 19 10	64,592 6 3	5,837 13 0	5,572 19 5
24. Imperial Grant-in-aid of Sugar Industry ...	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	—	3,000 0 0	—
19. Agriculture	1,684 18 1	1,551 0 3	2,894 2 4	—	1,343 2 1
Total	76,419 16 6	69,408 0 1	67,486 8 7	8,837 13 0	6,916 1 6

The total estimated expenditure, exclusive of supplementary votes, was £71,115 11*s.* 3*d.* or £1,707 11*s.* 2*d.* more than the actual total expenditure as given above, and £1,077 9*s.* 1*d.* less than the actual Revenue which was £72,193 0*s.* 4*d.* The apparent saving of £1,707 11*s.* 2*d.* on the estimated amount is fictitious and is due to the Crown Agents' accounts for February and March, 1903, not being brought to account until after the close of the financial year ended 31st March, 1903, a matter to which reference is made under the head of Revenue.

The excesses under the different heads have been explained in the Treasurer's detailed statement and will be legalised under the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.

Assets and Liabilities.

The balance sheet of the Colony on the 31st March, 1903, shows a surplus of £22,262 8*s.* 6*d.*, made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Surplus on 31st March, 1903 ...	18,762	7	5
Net excess of Revenue over Expenditure on 31st March, 1903	2,785	0	3
Interest on Investment of Surplus Funds	715	0	10
Total	£22,262	8	6

Subjoined is a detailed Statement of Assets and Liabilities:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

LIABILITIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Savings Bank Deposit Account—			
First District ...	14,984 5 10		
Second District ...	731 11 2		
Third District ...	363 3 5		
		16,079 0 5	
Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund.		1,936 2 7	
Suspense Account—			
Sale of Work Yard Lots		3,172 9 7	
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...		779 3 4	
Towns and Villages Funds		625 16 6	
Imperial Post Office Fund		912 14 6	
Post Office Money Order Account ...		324 4 10	
Grenada Intercolonial Account ...		1,252 15 4	
Land Sales Fund		2,129 1 2	
Castries Town Fund		958 0 5	
Work Yard Account		259 4 9	
Hurricane Relief Fund		6 17 0	
Savings Bank Working Account ...		100 8 3	
Police Recreation Fund		125 0 4	
Prison Officers' Reward Fund		17 19 10	
Suspense Account—			
Estates of deceased St. Lucians at Panama.		2 7 6	
Immigration Fund		1,245 10 8	
Volcanic Eruption (British Refugees) Relief Fund.		77 0 0	
Suspense Account—			
Sale of Instruments of Police Band		2 17 10	
			30,006 14 10
Interest on Investment of Surplus Funds		715 0 10	
Surplus and Deficit Account		21,547 7 8	
			22,262 8 6
			52,269 3 4

Excess of Assets over Liabilities of the Colony of St. Lucia, exclusive of sums due to Debenture and Stock Holders, at 31st March, 1903 ... ... £22,262 8 6

of the Colony on 31st March, 1903.

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash on hand		1,177	11	5			
Colonial Bank Current Account ...		2,993	12	1			
Colonial Bank Deposit Account—							
General Revenue ...	£3,000 0 0						
Savings Bank ...	2,000 0 0						
Police, &c., Reward Fund.	300 0 0						
		5,300	0	0			
Investments on account of Savings Bank.		13,416	14	11			
Investments on account of Police, &c. Reward Fund.		1,503	14	0			
Investments on account of Work Yard Lots.		2,358	2	4			
Investments on account of Public Buildings Insurance Fund.		779	3	4			
Investments on account of Surplus Funds (General Revenue).		17,215	0	10			
Loan to Castries Town Board for acquisition of Recreation Ground.		1,400	0	0			
					46,143	18	11
Advances:							
Sundry Services		252	4	9			
New Cemetery		715	14	5			
Hire of "Midge" Account		5	11	1			
Government of Jamaica		10	0	0			
St. Vincent Intercolonial Account...		322	16	10			
Shipping Master		0	9	0			
Drafts and Remittances Account ...		4,818	8	4			
					6,125	4	5
					52,269	3	4

NOTE.—Amount expended on Agriculture in excess of Grant from Imperial Government... ... ... £252 12 2

MARK KERR, *Treasurer.*

Treasury, Castries, 18th June, 1903.

Reserve Fund.

This fund, which was established in September, 1900, for the purpose of meeting in the future any emergencies which may arise through financial depression and the limit of which is fixed at £25,000, amounted on 31st March, 1903, to £17,215 0*s.* 10*d.*, which is invested by the Crown Agents as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Advances against Scrip of the unissued Lagos Loan... ...	5,180	3	11
Advances against Scrip of the unissued Sierra Leone Loan...	5,000	0	0
Government of Gold Coast 3 per cent. Stock	4,034	16	11
Government of Zanzibar 3 per cent. Guaranteed Loan ...	3,000	0	0
Total	£17,215	0	10

It is to be hoped that the limit of £25,000 may be reached during the next financial year, as until this is done many works of utility, such as opening up new roads, repairing existing roads and bridges, harbour and other improvements, cannot be undertaken owing to want of funds, all available money, over and above what is required for the bare necessities of the Colony, having to be sent home to the credit of "Reserve Fund" until the £25,000 limit is reached.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the close of the financial year was £170,879 11*s.* 0*d.* or £2,900 less than it was at the end of 1901. Of the total debt, the Immigration Fund is responsible for £11,400, and the Castries Town Board for £17,000.

The loans paying the heaviest interest are the Central Factory Loan incurred in 1875, and the Immigration Loan of 1878, on both of which the interest is 6 per cent. per annum. These two loans will be repaid in 1908 and 1912, respectively.

The amount due to Debenture holders amounts to £85,400, and the balance of the debt £85,479 11*s* 0*d.* is due to holders of Inscribed Stock paying interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

The Debentures redeemed during the year amounted to £2,900.

The General Revenue of the Colony is liable for the repayment of all loans.

The Inscribed Stock Sinking Fund stood on the 31st March, 1903, at £6,686 13*s.* 8*d.* and that of Debentures at £1,709 7*s.* 0*d.*

The latter was lying on deposit bearing interest at bank rate in the London and Westminster Bank and the former was invested in Colonial securities.

Savings Bank.

The balance standing to the credit of Savings Bank depositors on 31st March, 1903, amounted to £16,079 0*s.* 5*d.* as compared with £14,231, the amount standing to their credit on 31st March, 1902.

This balance is divided as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1st District	14,984	5	10
2nd District...	731	11	2
3rd District	363	3	5
Total	£16,079	0	5

The balance of £16,079 0*s.* 5*d.* is represented by 1,590 individual accounts as compared with 1,467 at the 31st December, 1901, and during 1902 the number of transactions of deposits and withdrawals was 8,186, as against 8,510 for the previous year.

The investments amounted to £15,416 14*s.* 11*d.* or £2,000 more than those for last year which were £13,416 14*s.* 11*d.*

The Savings Bank Accounts are kept by the calendar and not the financial year, and in the report on the transactions of the Institution for the year ended 31st December, 1902, it is shown that during 1902 the total amount deposited was £20,365 12*s.* 6*d.* by 1,590 depositors as compared with £20,891 5*s.* 3*d.* in 1901 by 1,467 depositors. The withdrawals in 1902, amounted to £17,696 8*s.* 6*d.*, as compared with £22,022 7*s.* 5*d.* in 1901, and the amount remaining on deposit on the 31st December, 1902, was £15,956 13*s.* 3*d.*, as compared with £13,287 14*s.* 3*d.* on 31st December, 1901, which tends to show that persons avail themselves of the advantages offered by the bank for investing their money at the rate of interest given, namely, three per cent.

TRADE.

Imports.

The total value of the imports for the year 1902, was £326,324 as compared with £382,652 in the previous year. The following is a comparative statement showing the value of the imports under the various classifications and the increases and decreases under each class:—

Comparative Statement showing Value of Imports under various Classifications, &c.

Articles.	1902.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Class I.—				
Live Animals, Food, Drink and Narcotics	87,812 9 8	84,849	2,963 9 8	—
Class II.—				
Raw Materials :—				
(*a*) Textiles...	—	—		
(*b*) Metal	49 0 1	10		
(*c*) Other	90,363 5 9			
	90,412 5 10	122,321	—	31,918 14 2
Class III.—				
Manufactured Articles :—				
(*a*) Textiles...	21,954 14 9			
(*b*) Metal	28,362 17 4			
(*c*) Other	97,053 12 7			
	147,371 4 8	126,206	—	19,780 15 4
Class IV.—				
Coin and Bullion	728 0 0	8,320	—	7,592 0 0
Total	326,324 0 2	382,652	2,963 9 8	59,291 9 6
Total Decrease £56,327 19*s.* 10*d.*				

It will be observed from this statement that there was a net decrease in the value of imports amounting to £56,327 19*s.* 10*d.* The fact that there was a smaller importation of coal is responsible for a decrease of £32,739 19*s.* 3*d.*, to which reference is made below.

There is also a large decrease in the value of coin and bullion imported, which is due to the fact that the Colonial Bank did not import these items to any considerable extent.

The total value of the coal imported during the year was £67,219 10*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with £99,959 10*s.* 1*d.* during the previous year which shows a decrease of £32,739 19*s.* 3*d.* The decrease in amount was 28,650½ tons.

Of the coal imported, £84,640 worth was re-exported and there was a drawback of duty on 16,415 tons of coal supplied to ships of war and steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

The chief articles of import as compared with those of last year are shown in the following comparative statement:—

Articles.	Value.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1902.	1901.		
	£	£	£	£
Cattle	7,029	7,853	—	824
Horses and Mules	376	534	—	158
Poultry	189	363	—	174
Sheep	1,688	1,705	—	17
Ale and Beer	3,077	3,661	—	584
Bacon and Hams	784	796	—	12
Beef and Pork	4,207	3,990	217	—
Biscuits (fancy)	405	620	—	215
Biscuits (common)	906	382	524	—
Butter	3,075	2,121	954	—
Oleomargarine	1,181	1,630	—	449
Cheese	925	1,078	—	153
Coffee	1,166	1,426	—	260
Confectionery	903	457	446	—
Cordials and Liqueurs	529	300	229	—
Corn and Maize	840	772	68	—
Cornmeal	475	375	100	—
Fish (salted & dried)	9,284	9,767	—	483
Flour of Wheat	21,574	16,454	5,120	—
Fruit and Vegetables	1,968	1,940	28	—
Hay and Straw	700	714	—	14
Ice	592	656	—	64
Lard and its Compounds ...	1,386	1,255	131	—
Medicine	1,761	1,784	—	23
Oats	1,774	1,564	210	—
Oil, Lard, Olive, &c.	872	1,167	—	295
Pease and Beans	1,376	1,674	—	298

Chief Articles of Import as compared with last year—cont.

Articles.	Value. 1902.	Value. 1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Preserves	2,835	3,455	—	620
Rice	2,896	2,720	176	—
Salt (course)	276	504	—	228
Brandy	292	351	—	59
Gin...	436	261	175	—
Whisky	2,012	1,912	100	—
Sugar (refined)	271	301	—	30
Tea...	427	517	—	90
Wines	3,528	4,098	—	570
Tobacco (manufactured) ...	1,488	1,652	—	164
Tobacco (unmanufactured) ...	1,158	1,327	—	169
Cigarettes	374	369	5	—
Coals	67,220	99,960	—	32,740
Leather (unmanufactured) ...	433	858	—	425
Manure	2,914	5,980	—	3,066
Oil (Cotton Seed)	3,814	3,362	452	—
Oil Engine, & Paint	495	678	—	183
Oil (Petroleum)	1,865	1,842	23	—
Tallow (Engine)	54	922	—	868
Wood (Pitch Pine)	6,164	2,667	3,497	—
Wood (White Pine)	6,632	5,505	1,127	—
Bags (empty)	1,406	821	585	—
Cottons and Woollens	18,726	25,140	—	6,414
Ropes and Cordage	505	449	56	—
Twine	380	396	—	16
Arms and Ammunition	16,888	334	16,554	—
Hardware	4,686	4,258	428	—
Iron (galvanized)...	1,951	1,131	820	—
Machinery...	3,099	5,794	—	2,695
Nails (iron)	391	369	22	—
Boots and Shoes	3,798	4,467	—	669
Bottles (empty)	514	518	—	4
Building Materials for Military...	33,595	12,257	21,338	—
Candles (sperm)	492	386	106	—
Candles (tallow)	251	301	—	50
Cement	2,025	1,289	736	—
Earthenware	924	1,036	—	112
Patent Fuel	110	1,396	—	1,286
Furniture	1,507	1,806	—	299
Glassware	1,221	1,143	78	—
Haberdashery	19,166	22,299	—	3,133
Hats and Bonnets	1,673	1,760	—	87
Harness and Saddlery	289	349	—	60
Lime (building)	339	465	—	126
Matches	753	576	177	—
Ordnance Stores for Military ...	28,528	65,102	—	36,574
Paints, Dyes and Varnish ...	1,241	1,144	97	—
Perfumery...	874	602	272	—
Soap (common)	2,646	2,671	—	25
Stationery...	789	949	—	160
Specie	728	8,320	—	7,592

The value of imports from the United Kingdom was £181,865 17*s.* 11*d.*, from British Colonies £29,737 1*s.* 10*d.*, and from foreign countries £114,721 0*s.* 5*d.*

The value of the imports from foreign countries is, however, misleading, large quantities of whisky and other commodities being imported from Glasgow *viâ* America. The merchants effect a saving in freight by this means, the through freight *viâ* America being considerably less than what is charged by the British steamship lines coming here from British ports. In the Customs returns, however, such imports are classified according to their place of origin, namely, the United Kingdom.

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports during 1902 was £157,751, as compared with £188,066 during 1901, and from the following comparative statement it will be seen that there was a net decrease in the value of exports amounting to £30,315:—

Exports.

Articles.	Value.						Increase.	Decrease.
	1902.			1901.				
	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Live Animals, Food, Drinks and Narcotics.	59,989	3,063	63,052	68,780	450	69,230	—	6,178
„ II.—Raw Materials—								
(*a*) Textiles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*b*) Metal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*c*) Other	2,102	86,766	88,868	1,819	111,208	113,027	—	24,159
„ III.—Manufactured Articles—								
(*a*) Textiles ...	—	75	75	—	119	119	—	44
(*b*) Metal	—	1,180	1,180	—	4,842	4,842	—	3,662
(*c*) Other	72	1,080	1,152	85	403	488	664	—
„ IV —Coin and Bullion ...	—	3,424	3,424	—	360	360	3,064	—
Total... ... £	62,163	95,588	157,751	70,684	117,382	188,066	3,728	34,043

Net Decrease, £30,315.

The bulk of this decrease, £24,159, occurs under Class II (*c*), and is to be attributed to a falling off in the export of bunker coal, for during 1902 the quantity exported amounted to 72,154 tons only, of a total value of £34,295, as compared with 85,517 tons in 1901, valued at £110,196. This is due to the fact that there was less coaling trade done in the place generally and to some of the passenger steamers which used to coal at this port going to Barbados to coal.

The following statements, marked "A" and "B," give the quantities of local and foreign produce exported respectively, and it will be observed on reference to Statement "A" that there was a net decrease in the value of the exports amounting to £8,997, which is mainly due to the falling off in the amount of Usine Sugar exported:—

A.—Local Produce.

Articles.	1901.		1902.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Cocoa	657,000	18,185	1,493,352	31,733
			Pkgs. No.	
Mangoes	—	778	918 58,600	337
	Packages.		Packages.	
Ground Provisions	1,007	360	219	167
	Barls. Bags.		Barrels.	
Ginger	50½ 32½	207	16	49
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Rum	22,838	1,337	24,467	1,019
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Sugar—Muscovado	945,800	3,167	1,329,480	2,967
" Usine	9,934,000	44,348	8,253,484	23,029
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Molasses	7,780	81	5,640	94
	Cwt.		Lbs. No.Cks.	
Hides...	258	290	9,975 538 91	595
	Cords.		Cords.	
Woods—Fuelwood	1,702	866	1,350	640
	Tons.		Tons.	
" Logwood	75	187	40	120
	Bundles.		Bdls. No.	
Pimento Sticks	249	189	245 15,996	446
			Feet. No.	
Other varieties of Sticks and Timber	—	203	80 275	7
	Bundles.		Bundles.	
Brooms	109	68	160	66

B.—Foreign Produce.

Articles.	1901.		1902.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Packages.	£	Packages.	£
Wines	96	122	78	161
	Tons. Bags.		Tons. Bags.	
Coal...	226 541	320	372 439	345
	Tons.		Tons.	
„ bunker	85,517	110,196	72,154	84,295
			Packages.	
Copper and Lead	—	84	31	104
			Lbs.	
Cocoa	—	—	11,506	242
	Tons.		Pieces.	
Iron	2	4	34	1
			Cases. Pieces.	
Machinery	—	418	9 89	57
Ord. Stores	—	4,306	—	120
Barrels, empty	6,201	145	7,323	181
	Packages.		Packages.	
Specie...	5	360	21	3,424

Statements marked "C" and "D" are also subjoined, showing the total value of imports and exports for the last five years and the principal places to which the produce of the Colony was exported during the year under review.

C.—The Value of the Total Imports and Exports for the Last Five Years Amounts to :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1898	271,995	166,508
1899	282,963	170,668
1900	403,598	229,436
1901	382,652	188,067
1902	326,324	157,753

D.—The following are the Places to which the Colonial Produce and Produce of Other Countries were Exported during the Past Year :—

Countries.	Colonial Produce.	Produce of Other Places.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	13,932	3,744	17,676
British Colonies	2,464	3,059	5,523
Foreign Countries	45,767	4,490	50,257
Bunker Coal	—	84,295	84,295

It is, however, worthy of note that although there was a general decrease in the exports from the Colony, yet the export of St. Lucia cocoa maintained its average, taking the last five years into account, as is shown by the following figures:—

Year.	Bags.
1898	4,768
1899	4,412
1900	6,490
1901	3,285
1902	7,467

The large increase in 1902, as compared with 1901, is accounted for by a portion of the 1901 crop not having been exported until 1902.

200 lbs. may be taken as the average weight of a bag of cocoa.

SHIPPING.

The following returns, marked "E" and "F," give the number, tonnage and nationality of vessels which entered at the port of Castries, the only port of entry in the Colony, during the year 1902; and the subjoined statement shows the total tonnage of the vessels entered and cleared for the last five years:—

E.—NUMBER, TONNAGE, and NATIONALITY of STEAM and SAILING VESSELS ENTERED at the PORT of CASTRIES during the PAST YEAR—1902.

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	430	682,878	338	11,001	768	693,879
Norwegian ...	10	17,571	—	—	10	17,571
German	11	10,365	—	—	11	10,365
French	48	18,845	54	1,197	102	20,042
American	15	49,565	1	349	16	49,914
Spanish	2	6,017	—	—	2	6,017
Belgian	7	16,304	—	—	7	16,304
Italian	9	13,624	1	695	10	14,319
Dutch	2	2,873	14	1,399	16	4,272
Colombian ...	1	574	—	—	1	574
Danish	3	5,502	—	—	3	5,502
Russian	—	—	1	229	1	229
Total ...	538	824,118	409	14,870	947	838,988

F.—Total Shipping, Inwards and Outwards for the Last Five Years.

Years.	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1898	779,806	776,971
1899	637,538	641,815
1900	921,426	920,170
1901	932,825	931,895
1902	838,988	841,095

During the year 1902, the number of steamers (ships of war and yachts excluded) calling at Castries was 538, taking 57,618 tons of coal and paying £575 5*s.* 0*d.* as pilotage fees and £2,358 2*s.* 4*d.* for wharf accommodation, &c., as compared with 585 steamers entering in 1901, taking 74,663 tons of coal and paying £746 for pilotage fees and £3,111 for wharf accommodation, &c. This shows a falling off in the shipping trade which may be accounted for in part by general depression of that trade and the enforcement of quarantine restrictions due to the prevalence of small-pox in several of the neighbouring colonies.

Agricultural Department

Botanic Station.

No additions were required to the existing buildings during the year and only slight repairs were necessary. In most instances they were effected by the garden labourers.

Altogether, 26,637 plants were distributed during the year as compared with 15,894 during 1901. This is the highest distribution of plants on record. This increase is due to the large number of lime plants supplied to two estates, over 15,000 being supplied to one of them.

Agricultural School and Experiment Plots.

The Agricultural Instructor connected with the department travelled about the Island advising planters with respect to the work being done on their estates, the curing and preparation of produce for market, and on agricultural subjects generally. Practical instruction in agriculture was also carried out at the school and it is reported that the pupils at the school are making satisfactory progress.

Crown Lands and Surveys.

The work done by this important department during the year is given briefly as follows:—

There were 104 applications for grants of Crown Lands for a total area of 746 acres, and 53 lots of land were submitted for alienation of an aggregate area of 479 acres.

The revenue of the department was £1,513 5*s.* 2*d.*, made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey Fees	425	16	11
Deposits on account...	219	16	8
Instalments	569	14	10
Sundries	297	16	9
Total	£1,513	5	2

The expenditure for the same period amounted to £1,393 9*s.* 10*d.*, as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey Fees	495	5	9
Roads	651	4	5
Survey of Union estate	35	0	8
Refunds	50	4	0
Miscellaneous	161	15	0
Total	£1,393	9	10

which gives a credit balance of £119 15*s.* 4*d.* on the year's working. The sum of £647 16*s.* 4*d.* was voted from General Revenue for upkeep of office, &c.

The amount to credit of Land Sales Fund on the 31st December, 1902, amounted to £2,023 0*s.* 11*d.*

No new work was undertaken during the year under the head of Forest Reservation, but the usual precautions were taken to prevent unauthorised cutting of trees and clearing of lands in the Government reserves.

The customary routine work of keeping open and inspecting boundaries was carried out and the boundary lines of three estates were defined.

A sum of £651 4*s.* 5*d.* was expended from the Land Sales Fund for the opening and upkeep of various roads in the Island.

There was no work calling for special comment done by the department during the year, but the applications for grants of plots of land were not so numerous as in former years, as many persons who are wishful to apply for grants of land cannot do so as they have not the available means for payment of survey fees and deposit on account of purchase money, the minimum cost of which is £3 10*s.* 0*d.*

EDUCATION.

The number of assisted primary schools in 1902 was 42, as compared with 44 in 1901; one of these schools was closed in September, 1901, thus reducing the number during the last quarter of that year to 43; the further reduction to 42 in 1902 is due to the Wesleyan juvenile and infant schools in Castries being amalgamated.

The number of names on the rolls of these schools was 6,665, as compared with 6,833 in 1901, and the average attendance was 3,714, as compared with 3,577, thus showing decreases of 168 and 157 respectively.

The decrease of 168 in the number of names on the rolls is probably due to the more rigid observance of Article 36 of the code, as formerly names of children were kept on the rolls long after they had ceased to attend the school. Article 36 provides that the names of children shall be removed from the rolls after they have ceased to attend for a certain period.

The Grants-in-Aid amounted in 1902 to £3,362 17*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with £3,167 8*s.* 5*d.* in 1901, or an increase of £195 9*s.* 0*d.*

"English" under the new syllabus has been fairly well taken up, and now systematic efforts are made to teach the children from their earliest appearance at school to make use of English words and English expressions instead of the French creole patois they hear in their homes, and by this means English is being more universally spoken in the Island than was the case in past years.

Secondary Education.

Secondary education continues to be provided for by the St. Mary's college for boys and the St. Joseph's convent school for girls. The former receives a yearly grant-in-aid from the Government of £200, and the latter £50. Scholarships to the number of ten, at £6 each, are also provided for boys from the elementary schools.

At the Cambridge Local examinations six boys were presented, two of whom passed the junior examination and four (one with Honours) the preliminary. All the girls (twelve) presented for the College of Preceptors examinations were likewise successful, three passing in the second class with Honours, and nine in the third class, four of these with Honours.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

There are nine Friendly Societies in existence in the Colony, with a total membership of 879 persons. The total receipts of these societies amounted during the year to £2,008, inclusive of a balance of £817 standing to their credit on 31st December, 1901.

The disbursements during 1902 amounted to £1,286, made up as follows:—

	£
Paid in charities	509
Paid for funeral claims	122
Paid working expenses	320
Purchase of property	290
Paid to retiring members	45
Total	£1,286

In 1901, the societies had a membership of 767 persons, with an income of £982 and an expenditure of £808. From the foregoing figures it will be seen that these societies are popular and in a sound financial condition, and therefore a boon to the Colony.

POST OFFICE.

The returns of the work done in this department are very satisfactory and show an all-round increase in postal business.

The revenue collected during the year was £3,087 4*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure under all heads amounted to £2,507 4*s.* 6*d.*, showing a net surplus of £580 0*s.* 1*d.* If, however, the cost of the daily steamer service coastwise (£1,000) and steamer service to Dennery (£121 3*s.* 4*d.*) were deducted from the total expenditure of £2,507 4*s.* 6*d.*, the net surplus of the revenue over expenditure would amount to £1,701 4*s.* 7*d.*

The figures given above show a decided improvement in the financial position of the department for the year 1902 as compared with 1901, when the net revenue was £1,689 4*s.* 1½*d.*, and the net expenditure, inclusive of the subsidy of £1,230 9*s.* 4*d.* for coasting steamers, was £2,361 9*s.* 6*d.*

TELEPHONES.

The number of subscribers to the telephone system during the year remained the same as last year, namely, 107.

Necessary repairs were done to the lines throughout the year, and the line was extended from the Castries Exchange to Gros Islet, a distance of 7½ miles. To make this extension, three miles of poles and wire between Castries and the Choc Estate were rented from the military authorities and the additional 4½ miles were newly erected by the Colonial Government.

The working of the department was as satisfactory as could be expected under existing circumstances and until funds are at the disposal of the Government to spend a considerable additional sum annually for improvements.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the end of 1902 was estimated at 50,934 persons, and the average population to the square mile is 218.

The most thickly populated place is Castries, comprising an area of 35·02 square miles with a population of 19,704 persons, the average being 563 to the square mile.

The registers show that there were 1,815 births during the year and 1,235 deaths, thus showing an increase in the population of 580 souls.

Excluding still-births, which are returned as numbering 139, the birth-rate of the Colony was 3·33 per cent. as compared with 3·59 per cent. in 1901.

The legitimate births numbered 837, and the illegitimate 978.

The total number of deaths is returned at 1,235, or 44 less than in the previous year. There was one death from snake-bite recorded and this occurred in the 1st District.

The net death-rate was 2·18 per cent. of the total population as compared with 2·22 per cent. in 1901. In 1900, it was 1·93 per cent.

There was no illness of an epidemic form during the year.

METEOROLOGY.

The following meteorological notes are taken from the Botanic Station records in 1902. This station is situated in Longitude 60° 59′ 49″ W., and Latitude 14° 0′ 56″ N. and is 10 feet above mean sea-level.

The mean monthly temperature was 78·3° F. The maximum temperature 97° F., was reached on June 2nd. The minimum for the year was 61° F., in January.

The mean barometric pressure was 29·993 inches.

The total rainfall for the year was 91·43 inches. Rain fell on 241 days during the year. The maximum fall was 4·42 inches on May 24th. November was the wettest month with 12·71 inches, and February the driest with 1·46 inches.

CASTRIES TOWN BOARD.

The revenue of the Castries Town Board for the financial year 1902-3, was £6,151 7*s.* 4*d.* and the expenditure £5,316 1*s.* 0*d.*

The principal items of revenue are:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Water Dues from Shipping ...	1,815	8	0
Market Dues	1,453	1	8
Water Rate	445	9	4
House Taxes...	1,718	17	6

The principal charges against it are:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Maintenance of Water Works ...	944	6	11
Expenses of Fire Brigade	517	6	5
Interest and Sinking Fund on Loans	615	5	0
Pay of Staff	280	0	0
Streets	266	9	0
Market	504	12	3

The Board had a balance in hand of £122 14*s.* 1*d.* on the 1st April, 1902, and there has been carried forward to the financial year 1903-4, a balance of £958 0*s.* 5*d.*

HOSPITALS.

The number of persons treated in the hospitals of the Colony during the year was 2,651, as compared with 3,050 during the previous year. The total number is made up as follows:—

Remaining in hospital at end of 1901 ...	133
Admitted during 1902	2,518
Total	2,651

There were 197 deaths in the hospitals during the year.

Dispensaries.

There were 34,870 attendances at the various dispensaries in the Colony, numbering eight altogether, as compared with 34,344 in 1901, giving an increased number of attendances amounting to 526.

Victoria Hospital.

This hospital is the principal one in the Colony and is situated at the principal town, Castries.

At the beginning of the year 68 patients were in hospital and during the year there were 1,913 admissions, making a total of 1,981 patients treated during the year. These figures show a decrease of 205 as compared with last year.

The number of patients treated may be summarized as under:—

East Indian Coolies	806
Natives of the Island	390
Police Constables	71
Warders, Royal Goal...	3
Seamen	44
Natives of other places	667
Total	1,981

Poor Asylum.

The number of patients remaining in this institution at the beginning of the year was 61 and there were 100 admissions during the year, making a total of 161 persons who received food, lodging and medical attendance during the year. In 1901, the number of persons receiving this relief was 148.

75 per cent. of the inmates were natives of St. Lucia.

The sanitary condition of the Colony, both rural and urban, is considered as satisfactory. There was no case of yellow fever reported during the year or of bilious remittent fever, which much resembles yellow fever; and although small-pox and eruptive fever existed in the neighbouring Islands no case occurred in St. Lucia. The total number of vaccinations during the year was 1,178. This does not include vaccinations done by Royal Army Medical Corps Officers among the troops stationed in the Island.

LEGISLATION.

There were thirteen Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1902, all of which have received the Royal Assent.

Under Ordinance No. 4, authority is given to the Governor-in-Council to borrow from the St. Lucia Savings Bank a sum not exceeding £2,000, for the Soufrière Town Fund for the purpose of meeting the cost of introducing a water supply to the town of Soufrière. This loan has been made and the water-works completed.

None of the other Ordinances call for special comment.

One Royal and twelve Local Proclamations were issued during the year, and eight Orders-in-Council.

There were eight Rules and Regulations made under existing local laws.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Works and Buildings.

Public Works Recurrent.

The "Maintenance and Repairs" of public buildings (offices, &c.) and the several institutions were carried out at a cost of £736 6*s.* 5*d.*, the largest items being in respect of Victoria hospital, Vieux Fort hospital, Government House, Choiseul police station and Royal gaol.

Jetties were repaired at a cost of £206 14*s.* 1*d.*, being general repairs to the jetties at Vieux Fort, Laborie, Choiseul and Soufrière.

Castries wharves were maintained at a total cost of £675 11*s.* 10*d.* Borings in the harbour were continued, at a cost of £130 0*s.* 1*d.*

Dredging operations were continued at a cost of £1,211 7*s.* 6*d.*, including the refitting of the steam tug "Midge," engineer's

salary, and general repairs to dredger, hopper barge, and pontoons.

Buildings were erected at Rat Island for quarantine purposes, at a cost of £1,230 4*s.* 3*d.*, but these were not completed until the close of the financial year, when the total cost was £1,260 2*s.* 3*d.*

The Yaws hospital and Poor Asylum at Soufrière were erected, at a cost of £1,986 7*s.* 1*d.*, but the inmates were not transferred until the beginning of 1903.

Wharf railings were erected at a cost of £192 3*s.* 7*d.*

Works were carried out at the Public Works work-yard for private parties, as well as for public services, the credit balance at the 31st December being £258 0*s.* 9*d.*

Roads.

The gross expenditure to 31st December, 1902, on the roads of the Colony is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Upkeep of roads and bridges				4,339	15	0
Road Improvements				386	16	6
Land Sales Fund:—						
Goldsworthy Road	258	11	8			
Soufrière-Micoud Road ...	56	19	1			
Ravine Soufre Road	14	13	2			
Roseau—Cul de Sac Valley Road	188	8	3			
Desruisseaux Road	71	0	9			
Errard Road extension ...	1	10	0			
				591	2	11
Extraordinary Vote:—						
Construction of new road to sulphur springs				106	16	0
Total				£5,424	10	5

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

Comment is made in the report on the Royal Gaol, Castries, the only gaol in the Island, as to the inadequacy of the accommodation. This is no new complaint and is referred to in the report on the Blue Book for 1901, but, looking to the present financial condition of the Colony and the many urgent works which have to be undertaken when funds are available, there is small prospect of being able to increase the present gaol accommodation.

The number of admissions during the year was 1,043 (711 males, 323 females and nine juveniles), as against 1,021 (710 males, 295 females and 16 juveniles) in 1901. The admissions in 1901 were the highest on record up to that date, but those for 1902 exceed them by 22.

Of the total number of prisoners admitted, 1,043, 164 were received for safe-custody, want of sureties, or for trial, and 879 for final imprisonment.

Attention is drawn by the Inspector of Prisons to the fact that on comparing the native population, 41,777 souls, with that of the alien population, 8,106, the former furnished 37·22 per cent. of the prisoners and the latter 62·73 per cent. This tends to show that St. Lucia is a dumping ground for undesirable persons from the neighbouring Islands, as there are no legislative measures in force in this Island, such as exist in almost all the neighbouring Islands, to check the introduction of undesirable aliens.

No deaths occurred in the St. Lucia prison, but two St. Lucia long-sentenced prisoners died in the Grenada prison, where they had been transported under existing arrangements.

Corporal punishment was inflicted in two cases only.

The sanitary condition of the prison was satisfactory, the daily average of sick being 1·75.

Criminal Statistics.

There was an increase in the number of persons tried before the Royal Court, the number being nearly double that of the previous year and three in excess of that of 1900.

The most prevailing crimes during the year were house-breaking, cattle stealing and wounding. Of the house-breaking cases, numbering 10, one only was committed by a native of St. Lucia, while five of the seven cases of cattle stealing and three of the six cases of wounding were committed by St. Lucians.

From the returns furnished by the magistrates it appears that 104 persons all told were brought before them in the several districts charged with praedial larceny: 48 convictions were obtained, 30 were discharged for want of prosecution and 26 were dismissed on the merits. In other words, less than 50

per cent. of the persons accused were convicted, while nearly 30 per cent. of the accused were discharged for want of prosecution.

The following table shows the proportion which the number of convictions bears to the number of persons apprehended by the police and charged before the magistrates during the last four years:—

Year.	Number of Cases.	Number of Convictions.	Percentage.
1899	2,270	1,257	55·3
1900	2,280	1,245	54·6
1901	2,843	1,616	56·8
1902	3,202	1,944	60·7

These figures speak for themselves and show that there has been a steady increase both in the number of cases and the number of convictions, which is no doubt attributable as regards the number of cases to the number of undesirable characters who have to leave the neighbouring Islands for the good of those Islands and take refuge in St. Lucia, much to the detriment of the place.

The question of bringing a measure before the Legislative Council to restrict promiscuous immigration to this Island is receiving the attention of the Government.

GENERAL REMARKS.

When one looks at the import and export returns for the year under review and sees that there was a falling off in the former amounting to £56,328 and the latter to £30,315, the year 1902 cannot by any means be called a prosperous one, even though in the body of this report the decreases are explained as far as possible.

The hopes, therefore, expressed in the reports on the Blue Book for the two previous years have been far from realized.

My residence in this Colony, short though it is, has convinced me that there are three things on which it has to rely, anyhow for some years to come, for its prosperity, and I put them below in order of importance:—

(1) Coal and shipping trade.

(2) Works undertaken by the War Department in connection with the transfer of the head-quarters of the troops stationed in the West Indies from Barbados to St. Lucia.

(3) Extension of cultivation of cocoa and introduction of cotton growing.

2. There can be no question as to the harbour at Castries being the most suitable one in the British West India Islands for ships to coal at. Much money has been expended to attain this end, and in 1902, there was excellent accommodation for any class of ship or ships to take coal and water. The wharf accommodation is 1,180 feet in length with a depth of water of 27 feet, and in order to emphasize what I state I will quote one instance only,—when two of the largest United States ships of war, the "Kearsage" and the "Alabama," came alongside the Northern wharf on the 28th December, 1902, and took in 1,691 tons of coal in 16 hours. While this coaling was going on there were also merchant steamers in the harbour being attended to. This points to the fact that St. Lucia is pre-eminently the place for the head-quarters of the steamship company which has the contract for running His Majesty's mails to this part of the Dominion beyond the Seas. Although the accommodation now is good, it can be vastly improved by expenditure of more money, but, unfortunately, that is not forthcoming at present.

3. Turning to the works undertaken by the Military Department and their relation to the prosperity of the Colony, it must be observed that these works attract numerous artizans from the neighbouring Islands, who earn good wages and spend a large proportion of their earnings in the Island, and, as all food-stuffs, &c., have to pay a fairly high rate of duty the larger the consumption is the greater the Customs Revenue will be, which fact being self-evident, no further comment is required.

4. As regards cultivation of cocoa, it is encouraging to be able to report that during the year, estates were taken up by resident proprietors who invested a certain amount of ready money in their property and are looking after their interests themselves, and as there is ample scope for investment of money, with a certainty of a very good return, in plantations here, it is sincerely to be hoped that outside capitalists will turn their attention in this direction.

5. As regards the pressing necessities of the place, they are, briefly, the want of more roads and bridges, the repair of existing ones, and further harbour improvements. Under circumstances which existed in 1902, and which it is sad to relate exist at the present date, all produce is brought to Castries for export (the factories at Cul de Sac, Roseau, and Vieux Fort, excepted), and this is brought to a certain extent by head loads from the Windward parts of the Island, a primitive method of transport which I have seen in the West African Colonies but not elsewhere; the produce from the Leeward side of the Island is brought up by coasting steamer, for which the Government pays a subsidy of £1,000 per annum, and by droghers. There is no doubt whatever that to make the place prosperous, and this could easily be done, good roads

and bridges must be provided and existing roads and bridges repaired, and when repaired kept in good order; their present condition is deplorable.

6. General depression of trade is no doubt answerable for the falling-off of trade in the Island during 1902,—and so is the existence of small-pox in the neighbouring Islands; but what is required here at the present time is money to, in the first place, pay for urgent repairs to existing roads and bridges to open up the country, and by that means induce capitalists to invest their money here; then after roads, &c., have been provided, to further improve the harbour.

None of these works can, however, be undertaken owing to want of funds, as every available farthing has to be put by for the very desirable purpose of providing a Reserve Fund of £25,000 to meet any contingencies which may arise in the future, and until this £25,000 is amassed works of pressing necessity in the Island have to stand aside.

MARK KERR,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 436.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 404.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1904.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C.,
and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

1904.

[Cd. 2238-13.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries	7
Agricultural Industries	8
Shipping	11
Legislation	12
Education	12
Government Institutions	13
Judicial Statistics	15
Criminal Statistics	15
Vital Statistics	16
Postal and Telephone Services	18
Military Forces and Expenditure	18
General Remarks	19

No. 436.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 404.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. LYTTELTON.

Grenada,
6th October, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1903, prepared by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

---

875 Wt 22378 11/1904 D & S 3 19536

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1903.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of Grenada for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1899	68,757	59,359
1900	70,363	62,718
1901-2	70,075	65,490
1902-3	72,802	68,669
1903-4	70,260	70,101

2. In Tables A and B in the Appendix will be found the usual comparative statements of the details of the revenue and expenditure of the last two years. It will be seen from these that the revenue of the last year was less than that of 1902-3 by £2,542, and that the decrease was not due to any marked falling off in the yield of the ordinary sources of revenue, but to decreased receipts (£853) from sale of stamps in the Post Office, (the previous year's receipts having been abnormal in consequence of a new issue of stamps), to a shortage of £951 under Water Supplies, caused by a transfer in the preceding year of balances of former Water funds, and to the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of the Agricultural Department being £462 less than in 1902-3.

3. The expenditure for 1903-4 will be seen to be £1,432 more than in the preceding year, the principal cause of the increase being the heavy outlay incurred in the effort to keep out small-pox, which was epidemic in neighbouring colonies, and in dealing with cases which occurred in the Colony, where, fortunately, it was promptly suppressed. On the services connected with this £802 was spent. Increased expenditure on roads also swelled the total, it being found absolutely necessary to increase the grants for upkeep of the main roads. On the other hand the expenditure on extraordinary public works was £2,222 less than in the year before, and considerable decreases likewise appear under Post Office and Miscellaneous Services, with the result that the expenditure was kept within the revenue of the year.

Assets and Liabilities.

4. The total of the colonial assets at 31st March, 1904, was £39,637, and the liabilities were £16,988, showing a balance in favour of the Colony amounting to £22,649, as compared with the similar balance of £22,199 with which the financial year opened. Details of the assets and liabilities are contained in Table C in the Appendix, and among the assets will be noticed £12,269 for the Colony's Reserve Fund and £4,904 for Carriacou Land Settlement Fund, which is practically an investment of a part of the reserve fund in land.

Public Debt.

5. The public debt is £123,670, in four per cent. inscribed stock, and a sinking fund is provided for its final extinction in 1942 by contributions from general revenue at the rate of one per cent. per annum of the nominal value of the stock. The fund is held by the Crown Agents as trustees and invested by them; at 31st March, 1904, it amounted to £14,391.

Town Boards' Finances.

6. The revenue and expenditure of the Town Boards for the last five years are given in Table D in the Appendix, and their accounts for the last financial year all closed with a surplus of assets. The Boards are indebted to the Government in the following accounts:—

St. George's	£6,187
Grenville	1,110
Sauteurs	1,100
Victoria	1,384
Gouyave	3,250
Total	£13,031

These debts are provided for either by sinking funds paid over to the Government or by annual instalments, and the law gives the Government the power to surcharge to town funds any unpaid loan charges and to levy special rates for their payment.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

7. The trade of the Colony according to the returns furnished by the Customs Department was in the last five years as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1899...	226,828	267,738
1900...	232,790	311,681
1901...	246,567	303,934
1902...	239,108	310,602
1903...	235,440	283,565

The import trade of 1903 was, therefore, only slightly less than in 1902, but the value of the exports fell off by £27,000.

8. Five tables, marked E to I, are included in the Appendix to illustrate the trade of the Colony in the quinquennial period shown above. Table E shows the figures arranged according to the usual statistical classes, F gives the direction of the trade, G the volume of the trade with foreign countries, H compares the values of the principal articles imported in 1902 and 1903, and I is a comparative statement of the values of the chief exports of colonial produce in the last five years.

9. Taking the figures of the four years 1900-3 in Table F, the proportions in which the Colony derived its imports from the three sources shown were as follows:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	45	46	44	48
British Colonies	25	24	21	18
Foreign Countries	30	30	35	34

There was, therefore, in the year under review an improvement as regards imports from the mother country, while those from British Colonies continued to decrease, and those from foreign countries were not quite so high as in 1902. The table shows that the United Kingdom receives the largest share of the exports.

10. It is satisfactory to notice the increase in the import trade with Canada, the figures for the last four years being as shown below:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1900	7,946
1901	11,263
1902	9,140
1903	15,686

The principal items in 1903 were:—

Timber and shingles	£10,593
Wheaten flour	1,246
Butter	882
Salt fish	815
Oats	684
Ropes and cordage	483
Peas	171
Oilmeal	167

The export trade is, unfortunately, insignificant.

11. The bulk of the Colony's foreign trade was with the United States of America, which sent to Grenada 96 per cent. of her imports from, and received 75 per cent. of her exports to, foreign countries in 1903. The value of our exports to the United States of America was the highest yet recorded, £51,971. The rapid increase of the cocoa trade with the great republic is of satisfactory import to Grenada; in 1903 the value was £40,291, as compared with £22,959 in 1902, and £4,752 in 1896. The export thither of nutmegs and other spices shows a corresponding tendency to increase, the value in 1903 being £8,296, as against £3,252 in 1902, and £1,276 in 1896. In the increased consumption of cocoa and spices by the United States lies one of the surest guarantees of a future of prosperity for Grenada.

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

12. Muscovado sugar, rum, and ice are manufactured locally, but there is rarely any export of the first two, the entire output being usually consumed in the Colony. In 1903 the export of a certain quantity of ice began, 245 tons being sent to St. Lucia. An excise duty being levied on rum, there are returns available of the quantity made, and the figures for the

last six years are subjoined, but there are no data from which to compile an estimate in regard to the other two articles.

Year.	Quantity made.	Excise Duty paid.
	Gallons.	£
1898	32,662	12,478
1899	48,477	10,605
1900	47,942	11,327
1901	53,204	11,669
1902	45,054	11,853
1903	43,314	12,723

13. There are no mines, and fish is only caught on the coasts for daily consumption. Whales and turtle abound in their seasons, and Carriacou is noted for a fine oyster which grows on the mangroves in a large land-locked harbour there.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

14. The crop of cocoa continues to show a satisfactory increase, as the figures below demonstrate:—

—	Bags.
Average for 5 years ended 30th September, 1901	53,379
Crop for the year " " 1902	61,285
" " " " 1903	63,019

A bag averages about 180 lbs. Prices in the London market were not so good as usual until the month of August, when they advanced, and remained satisfactory till the end of the year. A feature of the year's transactions was the attention paid by purchasers to the finer grades of cocoa, which indicates that the greater care necessarily bestowed on preparation in such cases meets with appreciation. Grenada cocoa has in the past suffered much in consequence of the absence of such care in the case of cocoa grown by small proprietors, and it is hoped that the lesson is being gradually borne in upon them that in this, as in all other business details, success in these days of competition can only be secured by painstaking labour.

15. That the days are gone when cocoa paid without special effort on the part of the planter is evident to anyone comparing the statistics of production last year with those of the eighties. Fortunately, the world's consumption is not lagging behind, and an estimate which has been published shows that

242,000,000 pounds were consumed in 1903 as compared with 194,000,000 pounds in 1899, an increase of about 25 per cent. In the United States of America the consumption in the same period is shown to have increased from 35,250,000 pounds to 56,500,000, which is encouraging to the cocoa-growing islands in the West Indies.

16. The nutmeg and spice crop shows the same tendency as cocoa to increase in quantity. The average annual export in the five years ended 31st December, 1901, was 4,624 cwts., the export in 1902 was 6,839 cwts., and 1903, 7,959 cwts. Nutmegs, of course, form the bulk of this, the figures being 5,999 cwts. in 1902 and 6,944 cwts. in 1903.

17. Steady increase is also shown in the cultivation of cotton, which is the staple product of the island of Carriacou. The average annual output for the five years 1897-1901 was, raw cotton, 2,095 cwts., cotton seed, 4,537 cwts.

—	Raw Cotton.	Cotton Seed.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
In 1902 it was	2,212	4,536
In 1903 „	2,688	6,757

Under the conditions now existing in Carriacou, this product should continue to increase in quantity; not only is encouragement offered to cultivators by the demand from the mother country for cotton grown within the Empire, but the land of the island is in process of sub-division and sale by Government and the settlement of a body of peasant proprietors upon it is steadily proceeding.

Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme.

18. It may be of interest at this point briefly to recount the action taken and progress made with the scheme for the settlement of peasant proprietors in Carriacou in regard to which definite action began last year. Two estates have so far been purchased and have been surveyed and cut up into allotments. In this manner 244 saleable agricultural lots, covering an area of 714 acres, have been obtained, their assessed sale value being £5,909. 51 building lots for extension of the town were also obtained, valued at £172, making a total sale value of £6,081.

19. At 31st August, 1904, all but 25 of the agricultural lots and 19 of the town lots had been sold, and there had been received from the allottees in cash on account of the purchase money £1,660
The value of those unsold is 892
The balance, payable in 12 annual instalments, bearing interest at five per cent., and secured on the land itself, is 3,529

£6,081

The remaining lots, there is every reason to believe, will be taken up by the end of the current year.

20. The expenditure at the same date amounted to £6,378, of which £5,493 is represented by the purchase money of the properties and the cost of survey and sub-division. The balance, £885, was spent in repair of houses, repair and erection of cotton ginneries, clearing and fencing of pasture lands, construction of roads, and pay of officers. As against the total expenditure, £1,793 has been received, making the net outlay at the above date £4,565.

21. The actual value to the Colony of the investment made is not adequately represented by the figures given above. Apart from the benefit to be derived by the community from the settlement of a valuable class of proprietors on land hitherto unprofitable, important property, which has been reserved for public uses, has accrued to the Government from the acquisition of the estates. This property and its approximate value, as improved by the expenditure referred to above, may be thus described:—

Quarters for public officers	£500
Reservoir at Harvey Vale	250
Cotton ginneries	550
Pastures	484
Recreation ground, adjacent to town ...	60
Experimental plot for agricultural purposes	50
Building sites	82
Other reserves, such as forest, cemeteries, &c. (nominal values)	350
	£2,326

22. It may, therefore, be claimed that, so far at all events, the scheme has been a complete success, and with it a new era has opened for Carriacou. On the 1st of October, 1904, an

Ordinance came into operation which constitutes Carriacou and the adjacent islets (the largest of which, Petit Martinique, has a thriving community of about 900 souls), a district of the Colony and vests its local administration in a Resident Commissioner. The first holder of this office, Mr. Whitfield Smith, besides possessing considerable practical experience in the West Indies, has the advantage of special training in the Imperial Department of Agriculture, of which he was for some years the Travelling Superintendent, and is devoting himself with zeal and energy to the development of his important trust.

SHIPPING.

23. The total tonnage of the shipping entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony in the last five years is as follows:—

Year.	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
1899	232,437	231,611
1900	222,899	216,110
1901	267,972	275,770
1902	287,000	290,035
1903	280,862	288,328
Average	258,234	260,371

24. A detailed comparison is made in Table J in the Appendix between steamers and sailing vessels and their several nationalities in the years 1902 and 1903. British vessels, it will be seen, maintain their predominance, forming, in 1902, 97, and, in 1903, 96 per cent. of the total tonnage inwards and outwards. The appearance of German steam tonnage in the table is explained by the arrival of tourist steamers from the United States of America in the winter months; and in 1903 there were two French steamers at St. George's, a mishap having occurred on the south coast of the island to the mail steamer "St. Germain" on the 10th April, which compelled her to put in to St. George's for repairs, where the s.s. "Salvador" came to her assistance on the 13th of April.

LEGISLATION.

25. The legislation of the year was not of much importance. Nine Ordinances were passed, the principal of which were (1) a consolidation, with amendments, of the law relating to medical officers, (2) an Ordinance providing for the formation of Volunteer Reserve Corps, and (3) an Ordinance creating the office of Sub-Inspector of Police and Excise. Provision was also made for the control of wireless telegraphy, and for giving effect locally to His Majesty's "Foreign Marriages Order in Council, 1903."

EDUCATION.

Primary.

26. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the Inspector, who is a Government Officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of one shilling per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils; these are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but having only a casting vote.

27. In the comparison between the figures for the last two years, made in Table K in the Appendix, it is noteworthy that an increase is shown for the year under review under every head but those for "school fees" and "voluntary contributions." Under the former head it will be seen that while the Anglicans, with eight schools, collected £138, and the Government schools, nine in number, £123, the Roman Catholics, with 21 schools, collected no more than £105. Such diversity of practice in a small Colony cannot be productive of good results: if school fees are correct in principle the law should be evenly enforced in all classes of schools.

Secondary.

28. The figures returned in respect of the schools of secondary education for the last two years are compared in Table L in the Appendix. About one-half of the total expenditure is pro-

vided by grants from general revenue; in the case of the Grammar school for boys more than one-half. The Convent school appears to be in a flourishing condition, but the same cannot be recorded of the others. The results gained do not compensate the taxpayers for the amounts granted, and a change is necessary in the interests of all concerned.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

29. The principal statistics of interest in connection with the hospitals and asylums in the year 1903 are given below:—

Institution.	Number at 1st January.	Admitted during the year.	Daily Average.	Cured.	Relieved or not improved.	Died.	Remaining at 31st December.	Cost of Institution.
								£
Colony Hospital	74	857	78	468	332	70	61	1,976
Yaws "	51	138	55	132	—	1	56	604
St. Andrew's "	7	97	10	56	31	5	12	484
Carriacou "	18	118	13	104	22	6	8	460
Lunatic Asylum	126	22	122	12	—	15	121	1,753
Pauper "	41	25	38	—	11	22	33	395

30. The condition of the Colony Hospital was satisfactory throughout the year, and improvements in the water supply and sewerage system were effected. The surgical operations performed were 93 in number, or 26 more than in 1902. The amount received from paying cases was £141, an increase of £34 on the preceding year. At the Yaws Hospital the number of cases treated continued to increase, the figures being as follows:—

Year.	Patients.
1901	150
1902	163
1903	189

As in previous years, the majority of the patients came from the parishes adjacent to the hospital. In 1903 arrangements were made for the reception in future of the full number of patients that the buildings can hold.

31. The St. Andrew's Hospital was closed for a month during the year for painting. The cash receipts at the dispensary amounted to £137, and 3,864 free prescriptions were also compounded.

32. Of the admissions to the lunatic asylum, 5 were from St. Lucia and 3 from St. Vincent, and at the end of the year 56 of the 121 patients were Grenadians, 38 were from St. Lucia, and 27 from St. Vincent. It is hoped that it may be possible before long to construct an asylum in St. Lucia so as to relieve the pressure in the Grenada Asylum, which is only capable of properly accommodating the lunatics from Grenada and St. Vincent.

Savings Bank.

33. From the subjoined statement of the work of the bank in the last five years it will be seen that although the balance at the close of 1903 was maintained at the average amount, the transactions of the year were smaller than in any year of the period.

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance to credit of Depositors at 31st December
		£	£	£
1899	1,215	9,474	7,000	10,925
1900	1,387	9,379	9,136	11,168
1901	1,355	8,603	8,561	11,211
1902	1,847	9,184	9,378	11,417
1903	1,544	7,480	7,674	11,658

Of the balance of £11,658 at credit of depositors on 31st December, 1903, £8,500 was invested in Colonial securities, and £2,500 was on deposit with the Colonial Bank at 3 per cent. interest.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

34. The police force consists of a European Chief and Sub-Inspector and 72 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. It is maintained on a semi-military footing and armed with Martini-Henry rifles. In addition to the discharge of ordinary police work, certain of the non-commissioned officers are told off for excise duty, and the headquarters' detachment is also entrusted with fire brigade duties in St. George's.

Prisons.

35. 250 persons—169 male and 79 female adults and 2 juveniles—were committed to prison in 1903, being 62 more in number than in 1902, and the daily average was 57·6 as against 52 in 1902. The cost of the prisons was £1,274, and the value of the remunerative work done was £1,281. In the month of July a virulent outbreak of dysentery occurred in the male prison. 16 prisoners were attacked in a very short period, and the symptoms were so violent and the occurrence so extraordinary that a Medical Board was at once appointed to investigate the matter thoroughly. The Board reported that they found the sanitary arrangements and conditions perfect and were quite unable to account for the outbreak. A separate ward was set apart at the Colony Hospital without delay and nine of the cases transferred to it; two of these patients succumbed to the disease.

36. In May, 1903, a system of gratuities to convicts on their release, based upon the English system, was brought into operation. The superintendent reports that it has proved an "excellent incentive to industry, and . . . . . is noticeably appreciated by the prisoners."

37. The new female prison, adjoining that for males on Richmond Hill, was completed during the year, and opened as a prison on the 1st January, 1904, thus removing the dilapidated structure which has for about two centuries been known as the "Common Gaol" of the Colony.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

38. In Table M, in the Appendix, the statistics relating to crime in 1903 are compared with those of 1902, and with the averages for the three years preceding 1902. A general increase in numbers in the year under review is apparent. In regard to the cases brought before magistrates, this is due

simply to increased activity of the police in prosecuting for breaches of the Vaccination and Licence Laws; the increase in the Supreme Court cases is traceable to a ruling of that Court, that certain cases of petty larceny, formerly dealt with by the magistrates, must, as the law stood, come before the higher Court. This ruling has necessitated an amendment of the law, which has been effected in the current year.

39. The table shows a diminution in the number of cases of prædial larceny, but it is not sufficiently well marked to be taken as an indication of a permanent reduction.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

40. The natural increase since the Census of 1901 is shown at 31st December, 1903, as being 3,324; the population at that date is, therefore, estimated to be 66,762, of which 31,675 were males, and 35,087 females. Calculated on the mean estimated population in the year under review, the birth-rate per thousand was 42·7, and the death-rate 25·71.

41. On 1st January, 1903, the Marriage Ordinances of 1900 and 1901 came into operation, effecting a much-needed improvement of the marriage law of the Colony, and securing a system of registration, centralised in the office of the Registrar-General, and providing also for district records. 309 marriages were registered in the year, the average for the preceding decennial period being 398.

Public Health.

42. No disease but whooping-cough can be said to have been epidemic in 1903, but the death-roll was nevertheless the highest on record, 1,716 deaths being registered, as against an average of 1,283 for the previous decennial period. The chief causes of death in the last five years are shown below:—

Disease.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Diarrhœa	135	95	109	83	215
Dysentery	47	45	297	130	145
Fevers	71	80	75	115	110
Enteritis	33	63	71	76	128
Phthisis	49	77	66	67	59
Bronchitis	25	27	28	15	47
Pneumonia	18	34	17	28	32
Influenza	1	48	3	3	9
Whooping Cough	36	—	1	—	88
Cardiac Disease	43	46	21	51	46

43. The health of the Colony was disturbed during the year, though without any deaths resulting, by the introduction of a mild form of small-pox, which was epidemic in Trinidad. In Grenada itself, the disease was promptly grappled with and stamped out; the first case occurred on the 13th of April, and the last was discharged from isolation on the 24th of June, 20 cases, altogether, having been treated. In Carriacou and Petit Martinque, however, owing to regrettable laxity of the local authorities in that part of the Colony, the disease obtained a stronger footing, and numerous cases occurred, 73 of which were isolated; it finally disappeared by the end of July.

Climate.

44. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are as follows:—

Rainfall—		
North of Island		96·10 inches
Centre of Island		153·84 „
South of Island		78·93 „
Carriacou		53·22 „
Relative humidity (mean) ...		76·1 per cent.
Mean temperature	maximum	84·5 degrees
	minimum	74·4 „
Mean pressure		29·984 inches
Days of rain		232

The rainfall was of the average quantity, although the rainy season was somewhat late in its commencement. The first thunder-shower occurred on 18th May, but it was not until the 11th of June that the first heavy rains fell. On 30th of April the highest shade temperature for ten years was recorded at the Meteorological Station on Richmond Hill—92°·4.

Sanitation.

45. The sanitary administration of the Colony comprises a General Board of Health, consisting of the Governor and the other Members of the Executive Council, and Local Health Authorities, one for each district, consisting of the District Medical Officers, the Chief of Police, and other official and unofficial members. Non-commissioned officers of police are detailed as district inspectors, and their reports, in a prescribed form, are required to be laid by the chief before fixed monthly meetings of the authorities. During the outbreak of small-pox, which occurred in 1903, the health authorities did good service and demonstrated their necessity and usefulness.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

46. A comparison of the Post Office statistics of 1902 and 1903, shows that the business of the Department continued to increase, except in the matter of money orders, where a slight decrease is shown, due no doubt to the quarantine difficulties experienced by the people during the year in their transactions with neighbouring colonies.

— —	1902.	1903.
Letters and post cards	440,934	470,173
Newspapers, books, &c.	147,628	148,915
Parcels	6,147	8,431
	£	£
Money orders issued and paid	20,808	20,227

The bulk of the parcel post business is transacted with the mother country, which claimed 36 per cent. of the total in 1903.

47. The Post Office is in a flourishing condition, and improvements are being steadily effected by the present Colonial Postmaster. In 1903, two more district offices were created, and the interior arrangements of the principal office extended and simplified by structural alterations.

Telephone Department.

48. The revenue in the financial year amounted to £1,373, and the expenditure (including £226 for loan charges) to £1,339. £516 was also spent on re-construction, which was steadily prosecuted during the year with satisfactory results. At 31st December, there were 190 renters' lines connected to the exchanges, using 216 instruments, "switched" telephones being much in vogue in the island owing to special conditions.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

49. There is no military force in the Colony. There is legal provision for the enrolment of a volunteer corps, and a further law was passed in 1903, enabling volunteer reserve corps to be formed. It has not been found practicable to form any such corps as yet, but the Imperial Government has kindly supplied the necessary Martini-Enfield rifles and equipment, and a rifle-range is being got ready, with a view to early action.

The police force is drilled and trained in the use of arms, and the Martini-Enfield weapon will be adopted for their use as well as by the volunteers.

GENERAL REMARKS.

50. A fine bridge was completed at Belmont, St. Patrick's, in connection with the diversion of a section of the main road, the object being to replace, by one crossing of the River Antoine, a bridge and two causeways destroyed by the flood of September, 1895. A very satisfactory result has been secured, at a cost of £970, and both crossings of this dangerous river, dividing the parishes of St. Patrick and St. Andrew, are now spanned by fine bridges, making traffic secure and comfortable.

51. The hurricane in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands on the 11th of August, elicited the sympathies of the people of Grenada; a grant of £200 was made from public funds, and by popular subscriptions £314 more was raised and remitted in aid of the sufferers.

52. The office of Attorney-General, vacant since September, 1902, was filled in February, 1903, by the appointment of Mr. Ormond Hazell, Attorney-General of St. Vincent, but he resigned it at the end of the following month, and it was finally conferred on Mr. D. T. Tudor, who arrived from England on the 21st of July.

53. Mr. Norman Lockhart, Assistant Treasurer of St. Kitts-Nevis, succeeded on the 16th of September, as Colonial Treasurer, Mr. C. Falconer Anton, who retired on pension.

54. On the 1st of April a new public seal came into use under Royal Warrant. The device includes the recently adopted badge of the Colony, viz., the vessel of Columbus, in the foreground, approaching the island, shown in the backgound, with the motto, "Clarior e tenebris," on a scroll below.

55. This motto faithfully describes the fortunes of the Colony, which after much suffering entailed by the decadence of the sugar industry, has indeed emerged from her troubles more prosperous than ever before. The high tide of prosperity still continues, but, with a rapidly increasing population, and with the greater portion of the land of the island absorbed by permanent cultivation of products, which are bound to be subject in the future to some vicissitudes, it cannot be said that the sky is free from clouds.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
1st October, 1904.

TABLE A.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE for the Year ended 31st MARCH, 1903 and 1904.

Head of Revenue.	1902-03.	1903-04.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	35,464	35,166	—	298
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	27,686	27,791	105	—
Fees of Office, &c.	1,628	1,748	120	—
Post Office	2,168	1,315	—	853
Telephones	1,340	1,372	32	—
Water Supplies	1,531	580	—	951
Rent of Government Property...	412	428	16	—
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	1,044	937	—	107
Miscellaneous Receipts	116	162	46	—
Land Sales	398	208	—	190
Imperial Grant in aid of Agricultural Department.	1,015	553	—	462
Total	72,802	70,260	319	2,861

TABLE B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE for the years ended 31st MARCH, 1903 and 1904.

Head of Expenditure.	1902-1903.	1903-1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charges on Account of Public Debt.	6,216	6,201	—	15
Pensions	1,674	2,207	533	—
The Governor and Legislature...	2,020	2,230	210	—
Colonial Secretary	1,540	1,592	52	—
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank.	3,790	4,157	367	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	—	399	399	—
Post Office	2,948	2,232	—	716
Land and House Tax Collection	432	624	192	—
Audit Department	539	566	27	—
Legal Departments	5,112	5,071	—	41
Police and Excise Department...	4,966	4,997	31	—
Prisons	1,058	1,181	123	—
Medical Department (including Hospitals and Asylums).	7,888	8,962	1,074	—
Education...	6,374	6,999	625	—
Ditto Special Expenditure...	93	450	357	—
Ecclesiastical	444	444	—	—
Charitable	482	503	21	—
Telephone Department	1,325	1,338	13	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	550	515	—	35
Water Supplies	535	494	—	41
Miscellaneous Services	5,690	4,740	—	950
Public Works Department ...	950	1,052	102	—
Public Works Recurrent (including upkeep of Roads).	8,986	10,292	1,306	—
Public Works Extraordinary ...	4,035	1,813	—	2,222
Total	67,647	69,059	5,432	4,020
Agricultural Department ...	1,022	1,042	20	—
Total	68,669	70,101	5,452	4,020

TABLE

STATEMENT of the ASSETS and

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits as follows :—						
Savings Bank Account	12,743	8	6			
Post Office	707	14	5			
Supreme Court	808	19	6			
St. George's Town Fund	66	9	10			
Grenville " "	310	14	9			
Sauteurs " "	237	0	5			
Victoria " "	126	9	7			
Gouyave " "	227	13	8			
Hillsborough " "	31	5	11			
Gouyave Water Supply Loan ...	695	13	1			
Other Deposits	306	11	11			
				16,262	1	7
Crown Agents for the Colonies (Current Account).				630	3	0
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Botanic Station				53	16	6
Drafts and Remittances...				41	13	4
				16,987	14	5
Surplus Assets				22,649	6	4
Total				39,637	0	9

C.

LIABILITIES at 31st MARCH, 1904.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				343	6	6
„ Colonial Bank on Current Account.				2,898	13	11
Colony's Reserve Fund—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...				12,268	17	10
Savings Bank—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...	8,000	0	0			
„ in British Guiana Bonds	500	0	0			
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	2,500	0	0			
				11,000	0	0
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
Remittances in transit, on Current Account.				6,000	0	0
Imprest Balances				248	15	7
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony—						
Loans to Town Boards from General Revenue.	635	3	9			
Government of St. Vincent ...	11	5	11			
„ „ St. Lucia	673	6	1			
„ „ Sierra Leone ...	4	16	3			
„ „ Lagos	4	16	1			
„ „ Trinidad and Tobago.	28	2	6			
Governor in Chief's Office Fund ...	0	16	4			
Suspense Account	0	6	9			
Other Advances	688	12	1			
				1,768	5	9
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund ...				4,903	19	9
Arrears of Revenue—						
Interest on Loans to Town Boards	183	6	3			
Sinking Funds	21	15	2	205	1	5
Total				39,637	0	9

TABLE D.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the TOWN BOARDS for the last FIVE YEARS.

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1899.	1900.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.	1899.	1900.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	2,576	2,459	2,848	3,189	3,152	2,879	2,707	3,114	2,861	3,251
Grenville	910	940	909	944	1,053	896	992	860	889	871
Sauteurs	427	540	601	738	619	411	465	507	650	471
Victoria	273	300	331	307	309	272	288	244	344	307
Gouyave	592	601	579*	680	599	631	551	655*	548	544
Hillsborough... ...	133	133	109	124	85	123	126	173	97	82

* For the year 1901.

TABLE E.

Classified Return of Trade Statistics for the last Five Years.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	104,440	108,353	106,696	110,627	100,825	261,144	303,148	295,990	298,974	266,595
II. Raw materials	18,715	21,402	22,842	23,887	23,328	4,066	6,484	5,989	6 591	8,518
III. Manufactured articles	100,548	102,342	110,882	104,241	109,381	1,603	1,649	1,955	2,027	1,985
IV. Coin and bullion	3,125	693	6,147	353	1,906	925	400	—	3,010	6,467
Totals	226,828	232,790	246,567	239,108	235,440	267,738	311,681	303,934	310,602	283,565

TABLE F.

Direction of Trade in the last Five Years.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	101,922	105,592	113,953	105,425	112,138	220,479	259,079	226,715	265,936	201,799
British Colonies	64,603	57,628	58,949	50,835	43,860	5,636	5,399	4,535	10,528	12,244
Foreign Countries	60,304	69,570	73,665	82,843	79,442	41,623	47,203	72,685	34,137	69,522
Totals	226,829	232,790	246,567	239,103	235,440	267,738	311,681	303,935	310,601	283,565

TABLE G.

Trade with Foreign Countries in the last Five Years.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	57,638	66,572	71,228	80,317	76,763	13,945	31,875	38,894	26,451	51,971
France and French Colonies	1,330	1,623	650	549	478	25,427	14,249	32,909	6,356	16,819
Holland and Dutch Colonies	627	798	1,256	1,248	931	186	313	402	437	61
Denmark and Danish Colonies	514	34	35	41	43	1	—	—	18	—
Venezuela	6	372	9	416	296	2,064	762	481	876	671
Germany	151	163	347	226	757	—	—	—	—	—
Other Countries	38	8	138	51	174	—	4	—	—	—
Totals	60,304	69,570	73,663	82,848	79,442	41,623	47,203	72,686	34,138	69,522

TABLE H.

Comparative Statement of Chief Imports in the last Two Years.

Chief Articles Imported	Value.	
	1902.	1903.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Live animals	2,781	1,249
Bread of all kinds	2,447	2,303
Butter	1,624	1,772
Cheese	1,005	1,032
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel)	13,217	10,418
Flour (wheaten)	28,664	29,560
Lard	1,821	1,657
Malt liquor	2,035	1,962
Meal (corn)	635	634
Meat (salted or preserved)	9,496	8,060
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,447	2,560
Oats	3,954	3,167
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	4,004	3,718
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,608	3,799
Rice	4,796	4,981
Spirits	5,568	5,213
Sugar (refined)	3,743	2,880
Do. (muscovado)	4,442	2,653
Wines	1,339	1,241
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	3,113	3,039
Class II.—		
Coal	1,652	1,376
Leather	765	909
Manures	1,631	2,328
Petroleum oil...	3,426	3,250
Timber and shingles	16,045	14,901
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	6,540	7,267
Textiles	48,980	48,480
Rope and cordage	1,373	1,313
Metal manufactures	14,923	15,656
Books	865	1,241
Soap	3,640	3,829
Stationery	1,066	974
Cement	987	1,115
Earthen and glass ware	2,802	3,132
Furniture	2,298	2,560
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	4,957	4,796
Other	1,972	2,957

TABLE I.

Comparative Statement of Colonial Produce Exported in the last Five Years.

Produce Exported.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	234,611	269,931	265,979	268,211	230,957
Spices	21,761	30,153	26,714	25,522	31,583
Cotton and cotton seed ...	2,641	4,622	4,905	4,069	5,345
Live stock	1,088	1,133	1,147	1,082	1,186
Firewood	513	560	428	249	285
Fruit	672	404	326	713	249
Poultry	497	283	262	665	560
Turtle and turtle shell ...	337	267	351	152	235
Kola nuts	96	203	331	231	210
Coffee	13	5	126	25	238
Rum	—	—	9	70	—
Wool	23	27	23	113	22
Ice	—	—	—	—	399
Logwood	25	39	48	30	8

TABLE J.

Details of Shipping in the last Two Years.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1902.			1903.			1902.			1903.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	269,248	11,494	280,742	259,361	8,766	268,127	272,179	11,510	283,689	266,745	8,843	275,588
Foreign	3,998	2,260	6,258	11,873	1,162	12,735	3,998	2,348	6,346	11,573	1,167	12,740
Viz. :—												
U S. of America ...	600	784	1,384	—	283	283	600	774	1,374	—	283	283
Holland	—	990	990	—	698	698	—	992	992	—	702	702
Venezuela	—	179	179	—	182	182	—	275	275	—	182	182
Norway	—	307	307	—	—	—	—	307	307	—	—	—
Germany	3,398	—	3,398	9,291	—	9,291	3,398	—	3,398	9,291	—	9,291
France	—	—	—	2,282	—	2,282	—	—	—	2,282	—	2,282

TABLE K.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools	9	1,223	1,052	2,275	1,125	123	1,212	—	1,335
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Roman Catholic...	21	2,295	2,561	4,856	2,424	105	2,362	91	2,470
Anglican	8	1,087	967	2,054	1.088	138	1,140	44	1,322
Wesleyan	4	561	441	1,002	576	75	576	45	697
Church of Scotland	2	123	102	225	113	4	136	—	141
Totals for 1903	44	5,289	5,123	10,412	5,326	445	5,426	180	5,965
" " 1902	42	4,954	4,917	9,871	5,152	491	5,091	218	5,799
Increase in 1903	2	335	206	541	174	—	335	—	166
Decrease in 1903	—	—	—	—	—	46	—	38	—

TABLE L.

Secondary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—					£	£	£	£
Grenada Grammar School ...	41	—	41	39	185	375	—	615
Victoria Girls' High School ...	—	37	37	34	180	70	—	236
St. Joseph's Convent School(Girls)	14	56	70	56	171	100	83	345
Totals for 1903	55	93	148	129	536	545	83	1,196
„ „ 1902	48	105	153	119	484	550	98	1,161
Increase in 1903	7	—	—	10	52	—	—	35
Decrease in 1903... ...	—	12	5	—	—	5	15	—

TABLE M.

Criminal Statistics.

—	Average 1899–1901.	1902.	1903.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Convictions	997	1,312	1,379
Acquittals	315	326	356
Discharged...	537	562	491
Committed for trial at Supreme Court...	39	48	59
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrate.	1,888	2,248	2,285
Supreme Court :—			
Convictions	19	26	36
Acquittals	13	6	10
Not prosecuted	5	7	6
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	37	39	52
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	295	378	303
Prædial larceny	67	66	63
Other offences against property... ...	111	114	89
Other offences	543	780	960
Total	1,016	1,338	1,415

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda	"
419	Weihaiwei	"
420	St. Helena	"
421	Hong Kong	"
422	Gibraltar	"
423	Sierra Leone	"
424	Gambia	"
425	Ceylon	"
426	Gold Coast	"
427	Lagos	"
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Gold Coast : Northern Territories	1903
430	Mauritius	"
431	Seychelles	"
432	Barbados	"
433	Southern Nigeria	"
434	Fiji	1903
435	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.

INCHES 1 2 3 4 5 6
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
10 FIRST STREET SE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540
METRIC 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 443.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 411.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1904.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1904.

[Cd. 2238-20.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	14
LEGISLATION	22
EDUCATION	22
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	24
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	27
VITAL STATISTICS	29
POSTAL AND TELEPHONE STATISTICS	31
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	32

No. 443.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 411.)

ADMINISTRATOR SIR GEORGE MELVILLE to GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House,

5th November, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for 1903.

I have, &c.,

GEO. MELVILLE,

Administrator.

His Excellency

Sir R. B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,

Grenada.

---

875 Wt 22378 12/04 D & S 5 19924

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1903.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) Revenue.

The general revenue for the financial year ended on the 31st March, 1904, amounted to £66,008 13*s.* 1*d.*, inclusive of £1,683, the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture.

The revenue for the previous five years was as follows:—

1898	£67,628
1899	71,479
1900	72,108
1901-2	67,365
1902-3	72,193*

The revenue for the financial year was, therefore, less by £6,185 than that for the previous year, and was £1,368 below the estimate, which was £67,376. The decrease, as compared with the previous year, was to a large extent nominal, as the receipts for 1902-3 were abnormally inflated by the Imperial grant of £3,000 in aid of the sugar industry, and by a transfer of £1,144 from the proceeds of sale of the reclamation lots. These two items account for £4,144 of the decrease referred to.

In revenue from ordinary local sources there were increases under various heads amounting to £2,956, and decreases under other heads amounting to £5,194, the net result being a decrease of £2,238. As will be seen from the following statement, the principal decreases occurred under head 2, "Port, Harbour, &c., Dues," and head 3, "Licenses, &c."

* Includes the special Imperial Grant of £3,000 in aid of the sugar industry.

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate for 1903–4.	Actual Revenue to 31st March, 1904.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	33,000 0 0	31,860 9 11	30,850 5 2	1,010 4 9	—
2. Port, Harbour, &c. Dues	5,500 0 0	4,259 7 4	5,364 6 8	—	1,104 19 4
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	18,200 0 0	18,512 12 1	22,013 5 8	—	3,500 13 7
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in Aid	5,044 18 0	4,342 5 3	4,772 14 11	—	430 9 8
5. Post Office	1,215 0 0	1,402 1 5	1,511 9 9	—	109 8 4
6. Telephone	559 12 0	533 10 2	528 11 3	4 18 11	—
7. Miscellaneous	210 0 0	251 17 7	300 0 11	—	48 3 4
8. Interest	1,819 4 4	2,592 9 4	1,016 8 9	1,576 0 7	—
9. Repayment of Loans	388 10 0	571 0 0	206 0 0	365 0 0	—
	65,937 4 4	64,325 13 1	66,563 3 1	2,956 4 3	5,193 14 3
10. Part proceeds of Sales of Reclamation Lands	—	—	1,143 17 3	—	1,143 17 3
12. Imperial Department of Agriculture—Grant-in-Aid	1,347 0 0	1,683 0 0	1,486 0 0	197 0 0	—
13. Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Sugar Industry	—	—	3,000 0 0	—	3,000 0 0
14. Interest on Investment of Baron Trust Money	92 0 0	—	—	—	—
Total	67,376 4 4	66,008 13 1	72,193 0 4	3,153 4 3	9,337 11 6

It will be observed that the receipts from Customs duties were £1,010 above those of the previous year. During the earlier part of the year it seemed likely that there would be a serious decrease under this head, and, as a matter of fact, the figures given were only attained during the last two months of the financial year.

The increases shown under the heads "Interest" and "Repayment of Loans" are nominal, being due to the inclusion in the accounts of the year of 14 months' transactions by the Crown Agents, instead of 12, as usual.

The collection of the road tax was again very unsatisfactory, and amounted only to £1,205, or £95 less than the estimate of £1,300, and £129 less than the receipts of the previous year. A Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, appointed during the year, has made recommendations for improving the collection of the tax which are under consideration; but in view of the "floating" nature of the population, especially in and around Castries district, and the ease with which defaulters can evade the officers charged with the collection, a certain proportion of the tax will probably remain uncollected, although a substantial improvement of the present state of affairs should be possible.

The decrease shown under head 3, "Licenses, Excise, &c.," as compared with the previous year, is due to an extraordinary item of £3,120 for sale of 10*s.* revenue stamps included in 1902-3.

(B.) Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year was £70,692, of which £63,874 was on account of general services, and £6,818 on those of a special nature, *i.e.*:—

Public Works Extraordinary ...	£5,449
Agriculture	1,369

The expenditure for the previous five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1898...	60,975
1899...	63,821
1900...	64,750
1901-2	67,486
1902-3	69,408

The following statement details the expenditure of 1903-4 under the heads of the estimate:—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1903–4 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1904.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	11,420 19 6	14,923 17 6	7,965 3 11	6,958 13 7	—
2. Pensions	1,394 15 11	1,439 3 11	1,087 9 6	351 14 5	—
3. Governor and Legislature	3,043 2 5	2,964 0 10	2,794 15 1	169 5 9	—
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department.	3,169 14 0	3,098 8 4	2,935 18 7	162 9 9	—
5. Audit	577 16 0	510 16 4	526 19 1	—	16 2 9
6. Port and Marine	965 6 0	831 18 9	836 16 6	—	4 17 9
7. Legal	4,745 3 6	4,470 1 9	4,240 17 1	229 4 8	—
8. Police	4,582 14 0	4,265 18 11	4,556 10 1	—	290 11 2
9. Prisons	1,279 12 2	1,274 5 1	1,287 1 10	—	12 16 9
10. Medical	6,880 6 0	6,084 19 7	6,467 11 0	—	382 11 5
11. Sanitary	307 0 0	289 2 11	575 9 11	—	286 7 0
12. Charitable	900 0 0	844 16 10	1,017 7 10	—	172 11 0
13. Immigration	125 0 0	124 8 0	124 8 0	—	—
14. Education	4,249 16 0	4,286 12 1	4,164 3 9	132 8 4	—
15. Ecclesiastical	1,545 0 0	1,545 0 0	1,500 0 0	45 0 0	—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony—*cont.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1903–4 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1904.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
16. Miscellaneous...	6,013 12 0	6,222 2 3	5,447 19 2	774 3 1	—
17. Post Office	1,809 12 8	1,982 18 4	3,564 16 0	—	1,581 17 8
18. Telephone	845 10 0	909 3 3	756 15 3	152 8 0	—
19. Agriculture	252 8 11	223 19 7	136 12 4	87 7 3	—
20. Public Works Department	1,102 11 0	1,102 10 11	1,086 9 4	16 1 7	—
21. Survey and Crown Lands Department ...	682 10 0	656 16 5	672 11 5	—	15 15 0
22. Public Works Recurrent	6,468 0 0	5,813 1 1	7,716 9 6	—	1,903 8 5
	62,360 10 1	63,874 2 8	59,462 5 2	9,078 16 5	4,666 18 11
23. Public Works Extraordinary	5,240 11 7	5,448 18 2	5,531 7 0	—	82 8 10
	67,601 1 8	69,323 0 10	64,993 12 2	9,078 16 5	4,749 7 9
24. Imperial Grant-in-aid of Sugar Industry ...	—	—	3,000 0 0	—	3,000 0 0
Imperial Department of Agriculture ...	1,445 7 10	1,368 14 5	1,414 7 11	—	45 13 6
Total	69,046 9 6	70,691 15 3	69,408 0 1	9,078 16 5	7,795 1 3

The total estimated expenditure was £67,239, and the actual expenditure therefore exceeded the estimate by £3,453, and the revenue by £4,683. Against this excess there is, however, to be placed the cost £3,077 of the site for and the erection of the Coal Storage Building in Castries for the use of the Admiralty, an amount which, I may record, has now been repaid to the Colony.

The excesses under heads 1 and 2 are, like the excesses under heads 8 and 9 of Revenue, due to the inclusion in the accounts of the year of 14 months' transactions by the Crown Agents, instead of 12 months', as usual.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The surplus assets of the Colony amounted at the 31st March, 1904, to £18,788, arrived at as follows:—

Surplus at 31st March, 1903	£21,547
Less amount of the excess of expenditure over revenue for 1903-4	4,683
	£16,864
Interest received on investments of surplus funds	1,924
	£18,788

The details of the assets and liabilities are given below:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

LIABILITIES.

1904. March 31.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Savings Bank Deposit Account—			
	First District ...	16,476 19 0		
	Second District ...	811 12 11		
	Third District ...	546 4 10		
			17,834 16 9	
	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund.		1,828 6 4	
	Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...		1,211 6 2	
	Towns and Villages Funds		793 17 5	
	Imperial Post Office Fund		249 14 5	
	Post Office Money Order Account ...		118 19 1	
	Grenada Intercolonial Account ...		673 6 1	
	Land Sales Fund		311 14 7	
	Castries Town Fund		705 19 5	
	Work Yard Account		200 16 5	
	Hurricane Relief Fund		0 10 0	
	Savings Bank Working Account ...		166 0 6	
	Police Recreation Fund		90 9 1	
	Suspense Account—			
	Sale of Work Yard Lots		3,711 17 0	
	Prison Officers' Reward Fund		9 18 10	
	Suspense Account—			
	Estates of deceased St. Lucians at Panama.		2 7 6	
	Immigration Fund		718 9 5	
	Volcanic Eruption (British Refugees) Relief Fund.		77 0 0	
	Suspense Account—			
	Sale of Instruments of Police Band		7 19 10	
	Hire of "Midge" Account		14 17 9	
	Suspense Account—			
	Deceased Coolie Nohar		7 10 8	
	Interest Baron Trust Money Account		32 8 8	
	Imperial Grant-in-Aid for Agriculture.		61 13 5	
				28,829 19 4
	Interest on Investment of Surplus Funds		1,923 13 8	
	Surplus and Deficit Account		16,864 5 6	
				18,787 19 2
				47,617 18 6

1904. March 31.	Excess of Assets over Liabilities of the Colony of St. Lucia, exclusive of sums due to Debenture and Stock Holders, at 31st March, 1904	£18,787 19 2

of the Colony on 31st March, 1904.

	ASSETS.						
1904.			£	s.	d.	£	s. d.
March 31.	Cash on hand		415	14	2		
	Colonial Bank Current Account ...		406	3	4		
	Colonial Bank Deposit Account—						
	Savings Bank ...	2,000 0 0					
	Police, &c., Reward Fund.	300 0 0					
			2,300	0	0		
	Investments on account of Savings Bank		13,416	14	11		
	Investments on account of Police, &c. Reward Fund.		1,503	14	0		
	Investments on account of Public Buildings Insurance Fund.		1,211	6	2		
	Investments on account of Surplus Funds (General Revenue).		22,774	8	6		
	Loan to Castries Town Board for acquisition of Recreation Ground.		1,300	0	0		
						43,328	1 1
	Advances:						
	Sundry Services		382	5	0		
	New Cemetery		715	14	5		
	St. Vincent Intercolonial Account...		133	13	5		
	Shipping Master		2	2	0		
	Drafts and Remittances Account ...		1,969	8	4		
	Crown Agents' Advances at call ...		1,000	0	0		
	Micoud Village Fund		6	19	3		
						4,210	2 5
	Crown Agents' Current Account ...					79	15 0
						47,617	18 6

(D.) Surplus Funds.

The investments held on this account at 31st March, 1904, amounted to £22,774, against £17,215 on the same date in the previous year.

It is to be noted, however, that the statement of the Colony's assets and liabilities showed a surplus of only £18,788. The difference is due to the fact that a local investment of the sum of £2,358, received from the sale of the former work-yard site, was realised during the year for remittances to England on general account; and on the 31st March, 1904, the expenditure of £3,077 in connection with the Coal Storage Building for the Admiralty, which had prior to that date been treated as an "Advance" account, was charged as general expenditure. The position is being corrected during the current year.

(E.) Public Debt.

At the 31st March, 1904, the public debt stood at £167,880, as compared with £170,880 at the same date in the previous year. Of the former amount, the Immigration Fund is responsible for £11,100, and the Castries Town Board for £17,000.

Of the total debt, £82,400 is due to debenture holders, receiving rates of interest varying from 4½ per cent. to 6 per cent. per annum; and £85,480 to holders of inscribed stock, receiving interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

(F.) Towns and Villages.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the towns and villages of the Colony, and their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1904:—

—	1899.		1900.		1901–2.		1902–3.		1903–4.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1904.	Balance at 31st March, 1904.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries ...	4,992	6,027	5,993	5,516	7,371	8,192	6,151	5,316	5,885	6,137	19,566	+ 706
Soufrière ...	318	192	371	273	298	180	2,327*	2,612*	370	329	2,000	+ 188
Vieux-Fort ...	151	273	156	94	137	116	161	164	158	120	—	+ 47
Laborie... ...	57	48	58	35	57	43	60	57	63	60	—	+ 23
Canaries ...	32	19	36	26	23	35	35	50	33	35	—	+ 87
Dennery ...	88	175	97	146	94	323	118	99	120	97	—	+ 239
Gros-Islet ...	85	90	88	58	98	52	92	91	99	51	—	+ 102
Anse-la-Raye ...	185	355	69	32	52	122	56	47	56	47	—	+ 89
Choiseul ...	37	22	299	18	34	62	38	23	37	24	—	+ 17
Micoud	48	83	48	92	48	54	61	64	64	74	—	− 7

* For a Water Supply. The Loan was made from Savings Bank Funds, and is repayable in 27 years from the 1st July, 1902.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1903 was £351,086, and of the exports £169,489, including bunker coal supplied to steamers to the value of £63,506.

The imports and exports for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.		Total.
		General.	Bunker Coal.	
	£	£	£	£
1899	282,963	98,574	72,095	170,669
1900	403,597	104,881	124,555	229,436
1901	382,652	77,871	110,196	188,067
1902	326,324	73,458	84,295	157,753
1903	351,086	105,983	63,506	169,489

The values of the chief articles imported in 1903 are given below, as also those for the previous year:—

Articles.	1903.	1902.	Increase + or Decrease −
Class 1.	£	£	£
Live animals—			
Cattle	5,998	7,029	1,031 —
Horses and Mules	1,460	376	1,084 +
Sheep	1,640	1,688	48 —
Food and Drink Supplies—			
Ale and Beer	3,170	3,077	93 +
Bacon and Hams	784	784	—
Beef and Pork ; salted, canned, etc. ...	4,131	4,207	76 —
Biscuits (common and fancy)	1,253	1,311	58 —
Butter	3,490	3,075	415 +
Oleomargarine	894	1,181	287 —
Cheese	884	925	41 —
Coffee	1,319	1,166	153 +
Confectionery	662	903	241 —
Corn and Maize	523	840	317 —
Fish (salted and dried)	9,682	9,284	398 +
Flour, Wheaten	19,285	21,574	2,289 —
Fruit and Vegetables, Fresh	2,260	1,968	292 +
Hay and Straw	781	700	81 +
Lard	1,037	1,386	349 —
Medicines	1,475	1,761	286 —
Oats	1,801	1,774	27 +

Chief Articles of Import as compared with last year—cont.

Articles.	1903.	1902.	Increase + or Decrease —
Class I—*continued.*	£	£	£
Food and Drink Supplies—*continued.*			
Oil ; Lard, Olive, &c.	805	872	67 —
Pease and Beans	1,243	1,376	33 —
Preserves	1,879	2,835	956 —
Rice	2,540	2,896	356 —
Salt (coarse)	727	276	451 +
Spirits : Whisky, Gin, and Brandy ...	2,861	2,740	121 +
Tea...	531	427	104 +
Wines	3,596	3,528	68 +
Narcotics—			
Tobacco	3,116	2,646	470 +
Class II.			
Raw Materials—			
Coals	70,138	67,220	2,918 +
Manure	5,352	2,914	2,438 +
Oil (Cotton Seed)	3,472	3,814	342 —
Oil (Engine & Paint)	653	495	158 +
Oil (Petroleum)	2,353	1,865	488 +
Wood (White Pine)	2,815	6,632	3,817 —
Wood (Pitch Pine)	98	6,164	6,066 —
Class III.			
Textile Manufactures—			
Bags (empty)	756	1,406	650 —
Cottons and Woollens	24,877	18,726	6,151 +
Silks and Satins	603	803	200 —
Twine	507	380	127 +
Metal Manufactures—			
Hardware	2,679	4,686	2,007 —
Iron (galvanized)...	2,207	1,951	356 +
Machinery for industrial purposes ...	2,947	3,099	152 —
Manufactures other than above—			
Books, Printed	852	733	119 +
Boots and Shoes	5,010	3,798	1,212 +
Cement	1,585	2,025	440 —
Patent Fuel	700	110	590 +
Earthenware	1,486	924	562 +
Furniture	2,347	1,507	840 +
Glassware	1,152	1,221	69 —
Haberdashery and Hats and Bonnets ...	21,508	20,839	669 +
Harness and Saddlery	737	289	448 +
Lamps and Lanterns	578	280	298 +
Matches	726	753	27 —
Paints, Dyes and Varnish	1,060	1,241	181 —
Perfumery...	778	874	96 —
Puncheons and Casks	712	553	159 +
Soap (common)	2,727	2,646	81 +
Stationery...	937	789	148 +

Of the imports in 1903, goods to the value of £233,559 came from the United Kingdom; £34,409 from British Colonies, and £83,118 from foreign countries.

The fluctuations disclosed by the foregoing table call for no special comment, and are probably due to the ordinary course of trade.

The principal items of export (the produce of the Colony) and their values for 1903 and 1902 are given below:—

Articles.	1903.		1902.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Cocoa	1,714,300	38,266	1,493,352	31,733
Mangoes	—	385	—	337
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Molasses	59,570	993	5,640	94
Rum	16,252	813	24,467	1,019
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Sugar—Usine	7,724,400	32,772	8 253,484	23,029
" Melhado	889,056	1,984		
Hides...	—	572	—	595
	Cords.		Cords.	
Firewood	1,451	699	1,350	640
Pimento Sticks	10,470	554	15,996	446

The rise in the markets of the United Kingdom of the ruling price of sugar, due in part to the effect of the Brussels Sugar Convention, was fully taken advantage of by the local planters, and for the first time for many years almost the whole of the sugar crop was sent to England, instead of to the United States.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The only mine, if it can be so called, is the Sulphur one at Ventine, in the Soufrière district. Intermittent attempts to work this place have been made for years, but with little success and still smaller profit. An attempt is now being made, I understand, to ship the material in the crude state, and in this direction a greater measure of success may perhaps be looked for than has attended the previous experiments to utilise this natural product.

A fairly large number of boats is engaged in fishing around the coast of the Island, but solely for the purpose of supplying the local market, and no attempt is made at preserving for export purposes.

In addition to the quantity exported, the sugar and rum consumed in the Colony are almost entirely the produce of the home factories and distilleries.

Ice for local consumption is the only other item of manufacture.

(C.) Agricultural Industries, &c.

The production of sugar is, of course, still the principal industry of the Colony, though cocoa now takes the first place among the exports of island produce, and it seems probable that, with the prices now obtainable in the markets of the United Kingdom, the cultivation of the sugar-cane will at least be increased, if not largely extended.

The cocoa crop was the largest on record, and the following figures illustrate the progress which is being made in the cultivation of this product:—

Year.	No. of Bags Exported.
1899	4,412
1900	6,490
1901	3,285
1902	7,467
1903	8,571

It should be explained, with regard to the exports of 1901, that part of the crop of that year was not sent from the Colony until 1902, as on account of the Island being quarantined during the former year, steamers were chary about calling here.

There is almost an unlimited area suitable for the growth of cocoa in this Colony, and it is to be hoped that the impetus which has been given to the cultivation will result in its extension in the future.

During the year under review, the question of the cultivation of cotton has received a good deal of attention, and has been the subject of much discussion at the meetings of the St. Lucia Agricultural Society; but for a number of reasons our planters have not seemed disposed to regard the revival of the industry in the Colony with favour. One of the difficulties which presented itself was the selection of a variety of cotton to suit the varying conditions of soil in different localities. The cultivation is, however, now being more readily taken up, and it is estimated that at least 500 acres will be put under cotton during the current year. The efforts being made by the British Cotton Growing Association and the Imperial Department of Agriculture will no doubt result in this area being appreciably increased.

That cotton will grow in St. Lucia is, I believe, beyond dispute, and this is borne out by the quantity of wild cotton, a survival from former days, which is to be seen practically over the whole of the Colony.

Botanic Station.

Most of the experimental work formerly carried on at the Botanic Station has been transferred to the Agricultural School at "Union," which was opened in 1901. The station, however, still provides a pleasant place of resort for the people of Castries and visitors to the Colony, and its useful features in a practical direction have not been entirely superseded by the institution at "Union," as evidenced by the fact that during 1903 economic plants to a number over 10,000 were either sold at, exchanged, or issued free of charge from the station, as were over 2,000 decorative plants and cuttings.

Agricultural School and Experimental Station.

In the general school work and elementary science lessons, the progress made is stated to have been satisfactory, and as most of the pupils are now in their third year at the school, they are showing more interest in their work and studies.

Examinations are held half-yearly; that held in June, 1903, resulted in the pupils being awarded an average percentage of 65·2 of the marks obtainable, the highest number awarded being 81 per cent. The same average in respect of the following December examination was 58·5. Low as these figures are, they nevertheless represent, in view of the difficulties which have had to be overcome, valuable work on the part of the Curator.

Discipline has been satisfactorily maintained, and the conduct of the boys has on the whole been good.

Two boys were removed from the school by their parents without satisfactory reasons being assigned, and in these cases the provisions of the Agricultural Schools Ordinance had to be invoked and fines were imposed. Two other pupils were dismissed as unfit for the course of training in force.

Vegetables, &c., to the value of £34 were grown at the station, and consumed by the boys.

The average number of pupils maintained during the year was 1[illegible], and the expenditure on the institution from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid was £680.

Work of considerable value was undertaken by the Experimental Station at the institution, the operations forming practical object lessons for the pupils and the proprietors in the vicinity.

The crops under cultivation were cocoa, oranges, maize, onions, cotton, vegetables, &c.

The crops obtained from the maize plots are not unworthy of record, they were as follows:—

Plot.	Variety of Seed.	Yield per acre of air-dried Grains in bushels of 56 lbs.
A. $\frac{1}{30}$ acre.	Antiguan and American Cross A. 1.	56·25
B. $\frac{1}{30}$ acre.	Antiguan and American Cross A. 2.	50·62
C. $\frac{1}{30}$ acre.	Antiguan and American Cross A. 3.	64·50
D. $\frac{1}{30}$ acre.	Saint Lucia, selected from 2-cob Plants.	38·87
E. $\frac{1}{30}$ acre.	Saint Lucia, selected from 1-cob Plants.	41·75
F. $\frac{1}{10}$ acre.	Do.	35·00

As corn and cornmeal to the value of over £1,000 is imported into the Colony every year, there seems to be no reason, with the above results before them, why our planters should not grow at least sufficient to meet the local consumption.

Cocoa, Cotton, and other Experiment Stations.

These stations are situated at Rivière Dorée; La Perle Estate, Soufrière; St. Joseph Estate, Dennery; Bellair Estate, Roseau; and Entrepot Estate, Castries.

The cultivation consists of cotton, limes, pine-apples, &c., on the first-named plot, and of cocoa on the remainder.

The Agricultural Instructor reports that the cultural and manurial methods employed on these plots are being largely followed by both large and small proprietors, with increasingly satisfactory results, and that while three years ago only one or two planters ventured to disturb their cocoa roots with a fork, now thorough and deep tilth has become a recognised operation; while artificial manures are known, used, and thoroughly appreciated, and pruning and draining are constantly practised, not in the former ignorant fashion, but on intelligent lines.

Bee-keeping.

There are now 250 colonies of bees in the Island, in modern hives, all being kept for extracted honey. This is an increase of nearly 100 per cent. within the past year.

The year proved a poor one, but shipments began to be made in the early part of the current year.

The industry seems to be now firmly established, and may be expected to increase in future, and for this result credit is due to the officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture.

(C.) Crown Lands.

58 new applications were received for the purchase of Crown lands of an area totalling 1,198 acres. In the previous year the number of applications was 104, but while there was thus a decrease in applications the area applied for shows a large increase in 1903, that of 1902 being only 746 acres.

The area actually alienated during 1903 comprised 75 lots, aggregating 1,253 acres, an increase on the figures for the previous year, which were 53 lots of a total area of 480 acres.

The revenue of the Crown Lands and Survey Department for the year was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey Fees	203	11	1
Deposits on Account	223	7	8
Instalments	527	19	9
Sundries	433	17	10
	£1,088	16	4

The expenditure was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey Fees	358	4	6
Roads	261	10	7
Sub-division for sale of "Union" Estate Lands	150	11	7
Refunds of Deposits	77	18	8
Miscellaneous	100	11	0
	£948	16	4

In addition, the sum of £233 9*s.* 0*d.* was paid from the Land Sales Fund as compensation for lands sold by the department to which a claim was made and admitted by the Government.

A sum of £1,708 9*s.* 0*d.* was also expended from the same fund on the acquisition of the Malgré Tout Estate at Soufrière, on which new Yaws and Poor Asylums have been erected, and on which it is also proposed to erect a Lunatic Asylum.

The amount standing to the credit of the Land Sales Fund at the 31st December, 1903, was £221 2*s.* 11*d.* The expenditure on the department from general revenue for salaries, office, &c., amounted to £678.

A Commission of Enquiry into the working of the Survey and Crown Lands Department was appointed in the course of the year, but no decision on its report had been arrived at when the year closed.

(D.) Shipping.

As will be seen from the following figures, the year 1903 was a bad one for the Colony as regards the shipping trade. The number of steamers which visited Port Castries was the lowest on record since the year 1895.

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1899	364	525,255	222	6,813	113	101,019	49	4,451
1900	473	751,463	271	9,009	147	154,695	41	6,258
1901	461	770,443	273	9,634	124	148,488	15	4,260
1902	430	682,878	338	11,001	108	141,240	71	3,869
1903	354	542,095	269	7,470	66	84,391	152	5,212

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1899	367	528,883	219	6,450	113	101,019	51	5,463
1900	473	749,172	266	8,530	147	156,988	39	5,480
1901	460	768,110	266	9,788	124	142,488	15	5,509
1902	432	685,282	346	10,994	108	141,240	68	3,579
1803	352	540,122	280	7,664	66	84,391	150	4,564

The diminution in the number of steamers calling for coal adversely affected the receipts from harbour and other dues in 1903, and they fell below the estimate by a little over £1,200.

There can be little doubt that the increased number of steamers which coaled at Castries from the commencement of 1900 was due to the South African war, a large number of transports calling here *en route* from American ports to the Cape, and the decline which has ensued is in part merely the result of the trade recurring to its normal level.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were placed on the Statute Book during the year, of which the more important were—the Medical Officers Ordinance, which regulates the duties, &c., of the Government Medical Officers; the Travelling Allowances Ordinance, regulating the payment of the expenses of public officers travelling on duty; the Port Charges Ordinance, which consolidates the legislation scattered over a number of separate enactments, relating to the payment of wharfage, cargo, and other dues by vessels entering the port; the Wireless Telegraph Ordinance, which requires persons wishing to establish such a system in this Colony to first obtain the Governor's license to do so; the Soufrière Water Supply Ordinance, to provide for the maintenance of a supply of water in that town and district; and the Savings Bank Ordinance, an amending and consolidating measure.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Primary.

The general statistics for the year and a comparison of the totals for 1902 under the same heads are given in the following table:—

Schools.	No.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.	Government Grant.
					£
Anglican	4	616	385	436	396
Wesleyan	1	283	138	174	116
East Indian Mission ...	1	56	28	29	39
Roman Catholics	37	6,034	3,526	4,172	2,737
Totals, 1903	43	6,989	4,077	4,811	3,287
1902	42	6,665	3,714	4,583	3,116

It is satisfactory to observe that increases continue, as in the past few years, to be made under each head. The percentage of the whole population attending school was 13·5; the percentage of number on roll in average attendance, 58·3; and the percentage of whole population in average attendance, 7·9. These percentages compare very favourably with the similar ones of other colonies, and they speak well for the work of the managers and teaching staffs.

The Government Grant averaged 16*s.* 1½*d.* per unit of the average attendance, a figure lower than in any other year since 1891. The augmentation of the grant-in-aid is under consideration, but in view of the many calls of an imperative nature on the public revenues, it is not easy to see how further money for the purpose is to be provided.

Teaching of English.

The Inspector reports that "English" lessons continue to be given with good results, and that in the more distant parts of the Island, such as Dennery, Micoud, and Vieux-Fort, it is spoken as well as, if not better than, in those parts of the Colony more open to outside English influences, such as the port of Castries, which is frequented by soldiers and sailors and round which are congregated immigrants from Barbados and other English-speaking colonies.

School Gardens.

The formation of school gardens was taken up with zeal and success by teachers in most parts of the Island during the year, and twenty-three were established at its close. The districts of Anse-la-Raye and Canaries are now the only ones in which there was not such a garden, each of the other districts having at least two.

Special grants for tools for the gardens were made from the grant-in-aid, and complete sets were purchased in England and Barbados and distributed, and a grant of seeds to the various schools was made by the Imperial Department of Agriculture.

Lectures to Teachers.

In July, 1903, 25 teachers went into residence at the Union Agricultural School and passed a fortnight there, receiving lectures and practical demonstrations in agricultural subjects from the Curator and the Agricultural Instructor.

The experiment proved very successful, and cannot fail to be of benefit both to the teachers themselves and to their pupils, as demonstrations and object lessons on agricultural subjects now form a regular part of the ordinary school work. It is

perhaps not too much to say that there has been a real awakening of interest in this direction among both teachers and scholars.

(B.) Secondary.

Secondary education is provided for boys by the Saint Mary's College, and for girls by the Saint Joseph's Convent. The former school received a Government grant of £286, and the latter one of £50.

There were 79 boys on the roll of the College with 52 in average attendance, the similar figures for Saint Joseph's Convent being 135 and 120 respectively.

The boys are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the girls for those of the London College of Preceptors.

In response to a representation made to the Legislative Council by the public, the grant-in-aid of St. Mary's College was increased to £400 from the 1st October to enable the College to obtain the services of two English masters, one condition of the increased grant giving the Government the right to appoint a Visiting Committee for the College.

It is hoped that the changes which have been made will enable the College to maintain the good record which it has established.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(i.) Hospitals and Asylums.

The following statement tabulates the principal statistics for 1903, relating to the hospitals and asylums of the Colony:—

Institutions.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during 1903.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.		No. of Deaths.
				Cured.	Relieved.	
Victoria Hospital, Castries ...	98	1,637	73	1,422	117	113
Soufrière Hospital	6	112	13	73	—	23
Vieux-Fort Hospital	11	100	10	79	13	8
Dennery "	12	193	12	167	12	19
Yaws Hospital, Soufrière ...	31	39	21	49	—	1
Poor Asylum " ...	60	92	44	—	—	19

There are two small temporary asylums for lunatics, one in Castries for males, and the other at Soufrière for females. Lunatics are only confined in them pending their transfer to the Central Asylum at Grenada. A proper lunatic asylum has been required in St. Lucia for some years, and it is proposed to undertake its construction as soon as the finances of the Colony permit.

Apart from the Yaws Hospital, the principal diseases treated at the above institutions were—of thoracic organs, 236; fevers, 492; and ulcers, 363.

The patients at the Yaws Hospital include five persons suffering from leprosy, who are treated there for the want of a more suitable place. The death which is recorded as occurring in that institution in 1903 was that of a leper.

(ii.) Dispensaries.

Out-door medical relief is given through the medium of a dispensary in each district, at which a medical officer attends every week.

The number of patients treated in 1902 and 1903 was as follows:—

Dispensary.	1902.	1903.
Castries	8,371	7,637
Gros-Islet	1,119	684
Dennery	1,524	989
Anse-la-Raye	780	853
Soufrière	1,185	1,387
Choiseul	285	295
Vieux-Fort	1,880	1,204
Laborie	793	325
Micoud	635	627
Total	16,572	14,001

The chief diseases treated at the dispensaries in 1903 were malarial fever, worms, syphilis, wounds, ulcers, and diseases of the digestive and respiratory organs.

1,310 children were successfully vaccinated during the year.

(iii.) Out-door Relief of Paupers.

The out-door relief of paupers had been provided for by the Medical Aid and Poor Relief Ordinance, 1871, which enacted that a Poor Law Board for each district should be constituted with the Magistrate of the District as Chairman, *ex officio*. As

regards the board, the law appears to have fallen into desuetude many years ago, and as a consequence the whole of the work and responsibility in connection with the administration of out-door relief had fallen to the Magistrate alone. The system was inconvenient and cumbrous in many ways, and especially in Castries, where the proper duties of the Magistrate are more than sufficient to keep the whole time of one man fully occupied.

Advantage was, therefore, taken of the repeal of the Ordinance of 1871 by the Medical Officers Ordinance, 1903, to appoint a Committee to investigate the entire system of relief, and to advise what changes should be made.

The result of this investigation has led to the transfer of the work to the police under a simple but effective system, and to a reduction in the amount annually spent on the service. The new system came into operation at the end of the year.

The number of persons in receipt of out-door relief in 1903 was 321, of whom 127 belonged to the 1st district, and 97 to each of the other two districts.

(iv.) Savings Bank.

The principal bank is in Castries, and there are branches at Soufrière (II. District), and Vieux-Fort (III. District).

The following statement shows the transactions of the bank for the five years ended the 31st December, 1903:—

Year.	Total number of depositors on 31st December of each year.	Total deposits inclusive of Interest.			Total Withdrawals.			Amount on deposit at the end of each year.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1899	1,263	14,916	15	9	13,113	17	7	13,884	9	11
1900	1,405	17,487	18	10	16,953	12	4	14,418	16	5
1901	1,467	20,891	5	3	22,022	7	5	13,287	14	3
1902	1,590	20,365	12	6	17,696	8	6	15,956	18	3
1903	1,584	18,338	16	7	17,084	5	11	17,211	8	11

There was a slight reduction in the number of depositors in 1903, as compared with 1902, with a comparatively large decrease in the value of the deposits. The latter decrease is attributed to there being fewer new depositors during the year than in former years, but it is also probably due in part to the decline in the coaling trade, to which I have referred under the head "Shipping," and the consequent smaller earnings of the people employed in it.

On the other hand, it will be observed that the balance at the end of the year rose from £15,957 in 1902 to £17,211 in 1903.

Of the 1,584 depositors at the end of the year, a little over half, viz., 852, had accounts of under £1; 262 accounts of £1 and under £5; 117 accounts of £5 and under £10; and 122 accounts of £10 and under £20. It is, therefore, evident that the class of persons for which the benefits of the institution are primarily intended avails itself of them to a large extent.

The progress made by the district banks is shown by the following statement of their transactions for the last five years.

There were 91 depositors in the Second District, and 54 in the Third District.

Year.	Second District.		Third District.	
	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1899	467 12 5	307 17 4	151 16 4	166 3 9
1900	607 6 7	630 16 3	373 13 11	272 8 10
1901	1,108 17 9	912 10 11	599 17 9	650 10 5
1902	1,142 6 7	1,120 6 8	663 12 11	656 15 8
1903	1,483 10 4	1,167 10 1	690 13 5	434 10 3

Investments to the extent of £13,416 14*s.* 11*d.* have been made in England by the Crown Agents on behalf of the bank, and in addition, a sum of £2,000 is on deposit in the local branch of the Colonial Bank.

The working account of the Bank shows a revenue of £479 3*s.* 11*d.*, and an expenditure of £417 12*s.* 9*d.* The excess of revenue, £61 11*s.* 2*d.*, was transferred to general revenue.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The strength of the force is one officer and 70 non-commissioned officers and men.

Twelve men joined the force during the year, taking the place of seven who resigned, three who were dismissed, and one who died, and there was one vacancy.

The Chief of Police reports that considerable difficulty is experienced in getting suitable men for the force, and that natives of St. Lucia seldom offer themselves for enrolment, there being only two on the strength.

Notwithstanding this difficulty, the state of the force is reported to have improved considerably during the year. The good effect among the men resulting from the superior training of the non-commissioned officers from the Royal Irish Constabulary, of whom there were two, showed itself in the general knowledge displayed in the performance of police work.

Very few complaints were received from private persons against constables for misconduct or neglect of duty.

There were 1,172 prosecutions by the police during the year, 44 being for indictable offences, and 1,128 for those amenable to summary jurisdiction.

The new Police Quarters in Castries were practically finished at the end of the year, but were not occupied until the present year.

(B.) Prisons.

At the commencement of the year there were 58 prisoners in the Royal Gaol—45 males and 13 females.

The number of committals during the year was 767—529 adult males, 18 adult females, and 20 juveniles. This is a considerable decrease on the number committed in 1902, as the following comparison shows:—

—	1902.	1903.
For Statutory Offences ...	679	456
" Non-payment of Road Tax	150	71
" Military Offences	50	54
" Safe custody, trial, &c. ...	164	186
	1,043	767

The highest number of prisoners in custody at one time was 75 and the lowest 41, and the daily average number was 56·60, not taking into account the long-sentence St. Lucia prisoners, who are undergoing their sentences in the Grenada Prison—the daily average of whom was 6·91. The corrected daily average for St. Lucia would be 63·51, as against a similar total of 66·81 in 1902.

Three prisoners escaped during the year, two from gangs employed outside the prison, and one from the prison. All were recaptured within a few days by the police.

The labour of the prisoners during the year is valued at £637 10*s.* 3*d.*; the principal item is for quarrying and breaking stones.

The expenditure on the prison was £1,250, of which £101 was for the maintenance of St. Lucia prisoners at Grenada.

The Medical Officer reports the health and sanitary conditions of the prison and its inmates to have been most satisfactory. The daily average on the sick list was 1·71. No death occurred in the prison, but one prisoner was removed to the Victoria Hospital and died there.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

There was a considerable diminution in the number of offences reported, compared not only with 1902, but also with 1901.

It is perhaps too much to hope that this decrease in crime will be permanent, having regard to the class from which our population is increased, but the decrease may in part be genuine, and it may be expected that the Infirm Paupers and Immigrants Regulation Ordinance, which was passed in March, 1904, will tend to protect the Colony to a large extent against the influx of the rowdy and pauper element from neighbouring colonies.

The following figures summarise the chief items of the criminal statistics for the last three years:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.
Offences reported to the police ...	2,258	2,790	1,942
Summary convictions—			
For offences against the person ...	272	333	255
" prædial larceny	21	48	28
" offences against property ...	138	133	77
" other offences	1,185	1,430	877
Conviction by the Superior Court—			
For offences against the person ...	5	6	12
" " " property ...	5	17	11
" other offences	4	1	2

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The estimated total population on the 31st December was 51,881, which shows an increase of 1·86 per cent. during the year, and was composed of 24,826 males and 27,055 females.

The birth-rate of the year was 3·82 per cent., as compared with 3·33 per cent. in 1902, and the death-rate 1·96 per cent., as compared with 2·18 per cent. in 1902. The number of births was 2,118, and of deaths 1,171.

The population on the 7th April, 1901, according to the census taken on that date, was 49,883, made up of 23,821 males and 26,062 females. The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths from the date of the census to the 31st December, 1903, has been, therefore, approximately 1,998, or 4 per cent., equivalent to an annual increase for the same period of about 1·33 per cent.

The number of marriages registered during the year was 311, as against 288 in the previous year.

(B.) Public Health.

The health of the Colony was good throughout the year, and there is no feature in the statistics relating thereto which calls for special comment.

Malarial fevers, diseases of the digestive organs, and bronchial affections account, as usual, for most of the sickness during the year. The fevers were generally of a mild type, although a few cases are reported of a more malignant character.

(C.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year, as recorded at the Botanic Station in Castries, was 86·84 inches, and it fell on 255 days; but at the Agricultural School at Union, only $1\frac{3}{5}$ miles off in a direct line, the fall recorded was 102·10 inches. At Errard Estate, towards the eastern centre of the Island, 107·56 inches were recorded, and at Soufrière, on the south-western coast, 79·09 inches fell.

The wettest months of the year were July and August, and October and December, whilst the driest were March, April, and May.

The Botanic Station is the only place in the Colony at which continuous meteorological observations of a reliable nature have been made for any length of time, and the following figures are taken from its records:—

Rainfall.

Year.	Inches.
1898	104·49
1899	84·64
1900	73·25
1901	99·71
1902	91·43
Average	90·70
1903	86·84

It will be seen that the rainfall in St. Lucia is subject to considerable fluctuations, but how far they affect agriculture and the health of the Colony is by no means certain, and, as will appear from the remarks above, it is doubtful whether the rainfall at the Botanic Station can be taken as a measure of the average fall over the whole Colony.

The absolute maximum temperature registered during 1903 was 94° in the month of May, and the absolute minimum temperature 62° in December. The mean maximum and minimum for the year were 86·4° and 70·5°, respectively. The mean barometrical pressure for the year was 29·290 inches at 10 feet above mean sea level.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(A.) Post Office.

The revenue of the department was £6,751 15*s.* 10*d.*, of which £3,029 was received from letters, post-cards, &c., and £3,488 16*s.* 8*d.* from sales of stamps to collectors. The latter receipts were abnormally increased by the sale of over £3,000 worth of 10*s.* "Queen's Head" Stamps.

The expenditure was £2,782 6*s.* 3*d.*, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure was, therefore, £3,969 9*s.* 7*d.*

The total number of letters and post-cards dealt with was 327,637, as compared with 341,218 in 1902; newspapers, &c., 119,663, as compared with 97,765 in the previous year; and 4,029 parcels, as compared with 3,398 in 1902. The major portion of the correspondence was with the United Kingdom.

The total value of the money order business was £10,734, the share of the United Kingdom in which was £5,760.

(B.) Telephones.

The length of telephone lines open was 127 miles, and there were 108 subscribers.

The receipts amounted to £553 4*s.* 2*d.*, and the expenses to £574 19*s.* 8*d.*, the latter amount including a charge of £225 for interest, &c., on the loan raised for the construction of the system.

There was a slight improvement in the working of the system during the year, but the lines, &c., erected over ten years ago

are now in need of almost entire reconstruction. The working staff, too, was quite inadequate to meet the demands made upon it in an Island with the physical configuration of Saint Lucia. This has been remedied during the current year, and with the larger sum placed at the disposal of the department by the Legislature, it is confidently expected that a marked improvement will result during the next few years.

One of the many difficulties which has to be overcome is the stealing from the lines of considerable lengths of wire, and although the practice was somewhat checked during the year, it still continues, principally in the quarter of Dennery.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

From a financial aspect, the year under review occasioned the Government some anxiety, and the diminution in the business of the coaling trade was severely felt by the large section of the people of Castries who find a livelihood therein. The stoppage, too, during a part of the year, of the works under construction by the military authorities was another factor which adversely affected labour.

Those persons in the Colony who may be expected to have special knowledge in the matter express themselves as confident of a revival in the coaling trade, and of the number of vessels making Castries a port of call increasing in the near future; and when the extent to which the prosperity of the Colony is bound up with the coaling trade is borne in mind, one can only hope that the confidence so expressed is not misplaced.

Perhaps the most pleasing feature in the record of the year is the extension of the production of cocoa, and the good omen which it conveys for the future. St. Lucia is also, as already stated, well qualified to take a prominent place in the production of cotton, and the efforts which are being made throughout the West Indies to revive this industry should prompt the proprietors of the Colony with large areas of suitable land in their possession, now lying absolutely unproductive, to greater energy in this direction.

The question of improving the harbour of Castries, so as to afford greater facilities for the steamers of deeper draught which now visit the port, was still undecided when the year closed.

A Commission was appointed during the year for the purpose, primarily, of enquiring into the system under which the roads of the Colony are maintained, and to make recommendations for their improvement. The report of the Commission was an exhaustive one, but the changes to be made were not settled during the year.

The opening up of the rich Crown lands of the Island to peasant proprietors by the construction of more roads and bye-ways is of as much importance to the large proportion of the population which is composed of agriculturists, and to the general prosperity of the Colony, as is the improvement of the Castries harbour to the coaling and shipping trade.

GEO. MELVILLE,

Administrator.

Saint Lucia,

30th October, 1904.

P.V. - 11 28 589643 F. of C Bdr-Ja 800 X - 11

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
421	Hong Kong	1903
422	Gibraltar	"
423	Sierra Leone	"
424	Gambia	"
425	Ceylon	"
426	Gold Coast	"
427	Lagos	"
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Gold Coast: Northern Territories	1903
430	Mauritius	"
431	Seychelles	"
432	Barbados	1903–1904
433	Southern Nigeria	1903
434	Fiji	"
435	Straits Settlements	"
436	Grenada	"
437	Northern Nigeria	"
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	"
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 and 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.

LBFe '06

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 446.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1903-4.

(For Report for 1902-3, *see* No. 403.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
April, 1905.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1905.

[Cd. 2238-23.] *Price 2d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industry	12
Imports and Exports	12
Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries	14
Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations	15
Land Grants and General Value of Land	16
Shipping	17
Legislation	18
Education	18
Government Institutions	20
Judicial Statistics	23
Vital Statistics	24
Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	26
Military Forces and Expenditure	26
General Observations	26

No. 446.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1902–3, *see* No. 403.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. LYTTELTON.

Grenada,
18th February, 1905.

Forwarded.

R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
31st January, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for transmission to the Secretary of State the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1903-4 together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

---

875 Wt 23792 4/05 D & S 5 20922

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1903–4.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of revenue and expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads, for the years 1902-3 and 1903-4, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years 1899-1903-4:—

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1903–4 *and* 1902–3.

Heads of Revenue.	1903-4.	1902-3.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	11,759 12 3	13,589 5 10	—	1,829 13 7
2. Port, Harbour, &c. Dues	682 6 11	861 2 4	—	178 15 5
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	5,293 6 0	6,485 16 5	—	1,192 10 5
4. Fees of Office, Payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements in aid.	627 18 9	730 12 10	—	102 14 1
5. Post Office..	823 16 0	2,102 4 11	—	1,278 8 11
6. Telephones	447 7 3	419 2 10	28 4 5	—
7. Rent (Government Property) ..	58 11 8	34 17 4	23 14 4	—
8. Interest	955 18 11	1,371 17 0	—	415 18 1
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	62 6 4	91 2 4	—	28 16 0
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands..	232 6 0	244 10 9	—	12 4 9
Total Local Revenue ..	20,943 10 1	25,930 12 7	51 18 9	5,039 1 3
Parliamentary Grants—				
Grant for Botanical Station and Agricultural School.	1,572 4 3	1,561 12 11	10 11 4	—
Grant in aid of deficit	4,000 0 0	1,800 0 0	2,200 0 0	—
Total General Revenue	26,515 14 4	29,292 5 6	2,262 10 1	5,039 1 3

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1903-4 *and* 1902-3.

Heads of Expenditure.	1903-4.	1902-3.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	1,342 5 0	2,089 17 4	—	747 12 4
2. Pensions	2,380 13 2	2,170 6 6	210 6 8	—
3. The Governor and Legislature ..	939 1 9	919 3 1	19 18 8	—
4. Colonial Secretary, Treasury, and Customs.	2,247 1 5	2,083 15 4	163 6 1	—
5. Audit Department	339 14 7	290 6 3	49 8 4	—
6. Legal Departments	1,903 15 3	1,859 5 3	44 10 0	—
7. Police, Excise, and Prisons	3,277 1 2	3 162 15 4	114 5 10	—
8. Medical Department	1,937 7 10	1,840 6 8	97 1 2	—
9. Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,966 6 10	3,105 4 4	—	138 17 6
10. Poor Relief	1,109 8 1	1,020 5 8	89 2 5	—
11. Education	1,581 2 9	1,561 7 4	19 15 5	—
12. Post Office..	1,223 12 2	1,014 15 1	208 17 1	—
13. Telephone Department	339 0 1	329 19 8	9 0 5	—
14. Miscellaneous	1,443 7 11	1,357 11 3	85 16 8	—
15. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	596 7 0	602 6 9	—	5 19 9
16. Public Works Department	453 1 1	457 3 4	—	4 2 3
17. Do. Do. Recurrent	2,067 13 9	1,439 10 3	628 3 6	—
18. Do. Do. Extraordinary ..	293 9 4	212 14 11	80 14 5	—
19. Agricultural Department	216 17 11	241 12 2	—	24 14 3
Totals	26,657 7 1	25,758 6 6	1,820 6 8	921 6 1
Expenditure from Parliamentary Grants—				
19A. Agricultural Department	1,458 3 2	1,450 16 11	7 6 3	—
Total	28,115 10 3	*27 209 3 5	1,827 12 11	921 6 1

* Exclusive of £1,180 7*s.* 7*d.* unexpended balance of Imperial Grant in aid of Hurricane Losses and repaid to Imperial Treasury.

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1899 *to* 1903-4.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1899.	Local	29,218		Local	30,322	
	Imperial Grant	34,075		Imperial Grant	17,533	
			63,293			47,855
1900.	Local	28,376		Local	29,081	
	Imperial Grant	2,050		Imperial Grant	7,040	
			30,426			36,121
1901-2.	Local	23,705		Local	26,149	
	Imperial Grant	2,907		Imperial Grant	3,423	
			26,612			29,572
1902-3.	Local	25,931		Local	25,758	
	Imperial Grant	3,361		Imperial Grant	2,632*	
			29,292			28,390
1903-4.	Local	20,944		Local	26,657	
	Imperial Grant	5,572		Imperial Grant	1,458	
			26,516			28,115

* Including the sum of £1,180 7*s.* 7*d.* referred to in note to preceding table.

The total local revenue of the Colony for the year 1903-4 was £20,944, being £203 more than the estimate, but £4,987 less than the receipts of the previous year, in which, however, the conditions were of course abnormal, owing to the eruption of the Soufrière and its consequences, as explained in my last annual report.

The gross excess of receipts over estimate was £1,357, of which £1,165 was under the head of "Customs," and the gross deficiency on estimated receipts was £1,154, of which £640 was under "Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue," and £275 under "Post Office," the result being a net increase of £203 as above stated.

On a close comparison of the revenue details of 1903-4 with those of the previous year, it is seen that the large decline of nearly £5,000 is made up of £1,855 in import duty, principally on foodstuffs, over one-half being on the single item, rice, of which an enormous quantity came in after the eruption; £2,046 in sale of stamps, of which £768 is allotted under internal revenue (stamp duty) and £1,278 under "Post Office"; £520 "Excise Duty"; and £416 under head of "Interest," which last item does not represent a genuine revenual receipt. There are other minor decreases, and there are also increases under some of the revenue sub-heads, which contribute to the net result of £4,987 decrease—the figure already given.

The gross revenue, including Imperial Grant of £4,000 in aid of deficiency of general revenue, was £24,944, and in addition to this a sum of £1,400* was paid by the Imperial Government, being the annual grant for Botanic Station and Agricultural School.

The expenditure of the Colony for the same period was £26,657, as against £27,321 estimated, and a further amount of £1,458 was expended on upkeep of Botanic Station and Agricultural School.

The corresponding figures of expenditure in 1902-3 were £25,758 and £1,451.

Comparison shows an increased expenditure of £709 in 1903-4 on necessary "Public Works," £210 on "Pensions," £114 on "Police," £208 on "Post Office," and other smaller additions, while £338 of the total belongs, as explained in the next paragraph but one, to 1902-3.

---

* N.B.—The actual amount of the Imperial Grant in respect of the 12 months was £1,400, but £357 paid to the Crown Agents in March, 1903, on account of the Grant for that year was not incorporated in the Colony's account till 1903-4. (*Vide* last Blue Book report, page 7.)

The unexpended portion of the gross receipts of these annual grants from their commencement has now (from 1st April last) in accordance with the Secretary of State's instructions been carried to a ledger account, to which all subsequent instalments of Grant have been and will be now carried as received.

On the other side are decreases of £748 on account of "Public Debt," the liability on which is lessening annually, and £139 on "Hospitals and Asylums."

In my last report I drew attention to the exclusion from the 1902-3 statement of account of the transactions of the Crown Agents for the Colonies during February and March, owing to the provisions of the new financial instructions, which were found to work inconveniently. This matter has now been put straight for the future, but £338 of expenditure and £361 of receipts, being the transactions of the months in question, have gone to swell the figures for the year on which I am reporting.

(B.) Taxation.

No changes took place during the year under review, with the exception of a slight alteration in the table of Customs Duties and Rates payable, and in the table of Exemptions, for the purpose of adjusting certain ambiguities and anomalies, and the following alterations of the duty on sugars:—

Muscovado, raised from 1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lbs. to 1*s.* 9*d.*

Crystallized, reduced from 3*s.* per 100 lbs. to 1*s.* 9*d.*

Refined, reduced from 4*s.* per 100 lbs. to 1*s.* 9*d.*

The last change was made in August, 1903, in consequence of the obligations imposed under the terms of the Brussels Convention on sugar-producing colonies. It means a loss of revenue to the Colony of from £80 to £100 per annum.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

An examination of the statement subjoined shows an excess of liabilities of £1,032.

At 31st March, 1903, the account showed an excess of assets of £568.

Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the

Liabilities.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits:						
Savings Bank Account...	12,450	9	10			
Police Reward Fund	70	1	9			
Town of Georgetown	26	6	0			
Town of Layou	9	6	5			
Town of Bequia...	4	12	3			
Special Hurricane Loan Fund... ...	2,145	0	2			
Roads and Land Settlement Fund* ...	2,089	1	8			
Soufrière Eruption Fund	31,535	3	6			
Alexander Indemnity Fund	1,051	1	4			
The Home Fund	5	18	8			
Graham Bequest Fund...	164	8	6			
Cotton Cultivation Fund	278	2	4			
The Imperial Agricultural Department	184	15	9			
Sundry Deposits	101	9	0			
				50,115	17	2
Intercolonial Accounts:						
Government of St. Lucia	133	13	5			
" " Grenada	11	5	11			
				144	19	4
Crown Agents, Current Account ...				26	10	0
Post Office Account				167	4	6
Total Liabilities†				50,454	11	0

* £2,049 13*s.* 10*d.* of the Imperial Grant-in-aid for these purposes is on

† The Public Debt is £5,750. The Colony is also responsible for the

Examined and found correct,
Arthur Darrell,
Acting Audit Clerk.

Audit Office, St. Vincent,
16th June, 1904.

Colony of Saint Vincent at 31st March, 1904.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				336	16	7
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				2,292	9	9
INVESTMENTS:						
Savings Bank Funds	11,000	0	0			
Soufrière Eruption Fund	30,066	2	1			
Alexander Indemnity Fund	1,022	13	8			
Hurricane Loan Special Fund	1,608	10	11			
				43,697	6	8
LOANS FROM GENERAL REVENUE:						
Georgetown Extension Loan	140	9	6			
" Water Supply Loan ...	263	12	1			
Chateaubelair Latrine	35	17	2			
				439	18	9
ADVANCES:						
Town of Calliaqua	5	17	10			
Town of Barrouallie	11	9	6			
Town of Chateaubelair	11	18	2			
Kingstown Fund	480	13	7			
Other Advances	223	8	5			
				733	7	6
Drafts and Remittances				422	15	3
Crown Agents Deposit Account... ...				1,500	0	0
Total Assets				49,422	14	6
Excess of Liabilities				1,031	16	6
				£50,454	11	0

deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which is £16,077.

Treasury, St. Vincent,
27th May, 1904.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Treasurer.

(D.) Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1904, stood at £5,750, as against £6,770 at the end of the previous financial year. By the end of the current year two of the loans, the Telephone Loan and the Kingstown Water Works Loan (1894), will have been finally paid off.

£4,550 of the above, though guaranteed by the Colony, is repayable from the funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown, which are able to meet the call, and the actual amount for which the Colonial revenue is liable is thus only £1,200, which, by March next, will be reduced to £1,000.

The gradual elimination of the Public Debt is a matter for congratulation.

The Colony is further responsible for a sum of £16,026, loaned to planters to enable them to restore works and buildings destroyed by the hurricane. Repayment of this sum is provided for by Ordinance, and is made to extend over 23 years. Repayments of principal continue to be met punctually by the borrowers. In one case, however, of a small loan to a coloured proprietor, the Government will have to bear a loss amounting to £53, the borrower failing to meet his liability, and having since died, and the security for the loan proving, when tested, to be unstable, some suspicion of fraud on the part of the borrower attaching to the transaction.

(E.) Currency.

Gold, American and British, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management and control of the affairs of the town of Kingstown are vested in a Board, half of whom are elected by the ratepayers, and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by wardens, annually appointed by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,082*	1,961	1,805	1,495	1,621†
Georgetown	52	120	194	179	157
Chateaubelair	18	25	38	31	35
Calliaqua	19	13	33	40	34
Barrouallie	6	38	42	33	26
Layou...	2	15	18	22	24
Bequia	—‡	6	8	6	9

* Includes amount transferred from Imperial Grant for damage caused by hurricane.

† Inclusive of £201 1902 revenue not passed to account till 3rd January, 1903.

‡ No assessment in consequence of destruction caused by hurricane.

Expenditure.

Town.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	2,197	1,902	1,759	1,637	1,795
Georgetown	48	133	175	204	139
Chateaubelair	21	26	35	33	26
Calliaqua	21	36	36	27	48
Barrouallie	10	36	40	60	26
Layou	2	16	15	17	29
Bequia	—	3	12	5	5

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at 31st March, 1904, are as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	3,600	
Kingstown town improvement...	450	
		4,050
Georgetown water supply ...		500
		£4,550

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown Water Supply Loan is being repaid at the rate of £300 per annum, the Town Improvement Loan at the rate of £50 per annum, and the Georgetown Loan by annual instalments of £50.

In addition to the above, the town of Georgetown was indebted to general revenue for advances made in previous years for

certain specific purposes in the sum of £404, as against £419 at the end of 1901-2.

The town of Chateaubelair was similarly indebted in the sum of £36, its resources having admitted of no repayment during the year.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statement gives the value of the chief articles of import in 1902 and 1903-4:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1902.	1903-4.
Class I.—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	405	482
Biscuits	1,712	1,412
Butter	1,590	1,568
Coffee	359	287
Fish, salted, &c.	5,005	3,699
Flour, wheaten	9,252	8,840
Flour, other kinds...	698	477
Oilmeal and cake	425	323
Pork, salted	2,170	1,847
Rice	6,681	1,866
Salt	385	445
Sugar, muscovado	45	128
Sugar, refined	427	309
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	902	894
Class II.—		
Manure	44	51
Petroleum oil	1,033	1,116
Timber and shingles	7,242	6,815
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	14,792	15,717
Metal, manufactured	4,654	5,295
Boots and shoes	846	869
Cement	525	462
Rope, cordage, and canvas	872	935
Soap...	1,411	1,467

The slight net decrease of £1,269 in the value of imports in the year 1903-4, as compared with the calendar year 1902, is the resultant of the following, viz.:—a decrease of £8,892 from foreign countries, £8,508 of which is from the United States of America, which country sent in 1902 very large supplies of foodstuffs and lumber after the Eruption, and increases of £6,567 from the United Kingdom, and £1,056 from British Colonies.

The most noticeable items among the considerable number contributing to the above increases are, from the United Kingdom, textiles £1,150, hardware £950, machinery (for the Government) £313, earthenware £224, food and drink unenumerated £225, and unenumerated manufactured articles other than textile or metal £2,700, and in the case of the British Colonies £700 furniture and £180 cement, both from Trinidad. This furniture, however, should have been more correctly set down as from the United Kingdom, it having been in transit only from Trinidad.

The value of the principal exports is given in the annexed comparative table:—

Exports.

Articles.	1902.	1903–4.
	£	£
Cassava starch	485	921
Whale oil	1,107	1,150
Turtle shell	309	472
Firewood	238	588
Cotton and cotton seed	561	900
Vegetables	1,292	1,329
Manure	298	137
Syrup	369	382
Sugar, muscovado	6,034	2,298
Sugar, Crystallized	Nil.	521
Pease	636	550
Molasses	149	198
Rum	1,150	28
Ground-nuts	259	926
Live stock	4,353	2,682
Fresh fruit	25	52
Farine	24	80
Arrowroot	21,817	21,686
Cocoa	1,558	2,155

The total imports and exports for the five years 1899 to 1903-4 are given below:—

Imports.

Classes.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	50,765	39,900	31,828	37,861	31,643
II. Raw materials... ...	15,391	15,398	7,980	11,292	10,076
III. Manufactured articles	37,471	40,893	35,111	29,970	36,134
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	103,627	96,191	74,919	79,123	77,853

* No returns.

Exports.

Classes.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	28,418	91,154	47,243	38,781	33,023
II. Raw materials... ...	3,133	1,452	2,651	3,201	3,572
III. Manufactured articles	2,024	5,163	2,093	2,112	1,579
IV. Coin and bullion* ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	33,575	97,769	51,987	44,094	38,174

* No returns.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1899-1903-4 are shown below:—

Imports.

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	29,241	35,538	31,733	24,579	31,146
British Colonies	52,046	35,882	26,756	25,107	26,162
Foreign Countries	22,340	24,771	16,430	29,437	20,545
Totals	103,627	96,191	74,919	79,123	77,853

Exports.

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	19,383	71,584	28,306	22,333	19,204
British Colonies	10,812	14,584	12,983	15,146	16,470
Foreign Countries	3,380	11,601	10,698	6,615	2,499
Totals	33,575	97,769	51,987	44,094	38,173

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

A whale fishery is carried on in the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Bequia and Canouan, and is a very material benefit to the inhabitants of those islands, whose condition compares favourably with that of the labourers of St. Vincent itself. The value of whale oil exported was £1,150, as against £1,107 in 1902.

During the year a cotton ginning factory of the most modern approved pattern, planned by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture after a personal inspection of many cotton estates in the Southern States of America, which he visited specially in connection with the desired revival of this industry in the West Indies, was erected and equipped with six single action Macarthy gins supplied by three different firms, by which the first experimental crop of Sea Island cotton was effectively handled.

The cost of the factory, erected with the object of assisting to raise the fallen fortunes of the Island and so improve the condition of its people, was defrayed from the Soufrière Eruption Fund.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanic Station.

Agriculture.

Last year, under this head, I had to refer to the devastating effects of the terrible eruption of the Soufrière, by which one-third of the Island was laid waste.

The last of the long series of volcanic outbreaks was on March 22nd, 1903. There has been no recurrence of activity since that date, but the lands affected by the enormous discharge of sand, stones and cinderous matter were scarcely in a condition, during the 12 months under review, to respond to any agricultural effort, and no such effort was made, solitude reigning supreme.

On the Windward side, however, a mantle of green was at the time I left the Colony, in June last, fast spreading itself over the slopes at the foot of the mountain, and gradually enshrouding the jagged spurs and ravines of the volcano itself, while in certain favoured spots, the canes that had not been killed out by the fiery blast, had asserted themselves and were growing vigorously. Very good provision crops also were reaped latterly in the vicinity of Georgetown, bananas and ground nuts giving especially fine results.

The Land Settlement or Peasant Proprietary Scheme Estates continued much in the same condition as last described, though a certain advance was made in the direction of the establishment of economic plants of a permanent nature as against provision crops, which had previously absorbed the efforts of the peasantry for the most part. In this connection the appointment of the Agricultural Instructor, who has been constantly

on and around the estates in touch with the people, has done good.

No further lands were acquired during the year. The great agricultural feature of the year has been the inauguration of the Sea Island cotton industry under the auspices and by the very active effort of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, under Sir D. Morris, K.C.M.G., with whom I have had the pleasure of being associated in this excellent work. The results are certainly encouraging. 136 bales of excellent cotton realizing from 4*d*. (this figure is for the Upland quality) to 1*s*. 3½*d*. per lb. have been shipped from the Colony since April last, and the present area in cultivation, from which the crop is being taken off at the time of writing, is approximately 1,471 acres. With these prices, which moreover leave a fair margin for a fall, the industry should certainly pay and go some way in assisting to restore the Colony's sorely shattered prosperity.

An Agricultural Show, the first for many years, was also held in March, 1904, under the auspices of the Imperial Department, and was very successful.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The settled price of ordinary Crown land is £1 an acre cash, and £2 if paid in instalments. The land is disposed of to applicants under regulations; these together with the laws which authorize them, are in need of consolidation and amendment to bring them into conformity with modern conditions.

This legislative need is, however, only one of many, and in the absence of a regular Law Officer of the Crown, for whom the Colony cannot afford to pay, it remains unmet.

Grants in 1903-4 were confined to lands devastated by the eruption of the Soufrière, which the holders, who in most cases had not completed payment in full, relinquished on receipt of compensation to the extent of what they had paid, and which they were then permitted, if they desired, to repurchase at the cash rate of 5*s*. per acre. The number of persons who decided to retain their lands under these conditions was 66 out of 235, and the acreage granted 350½ out of 1,124, which thus is added to the land tax roll of the Colony.

The renting system initiated in 1901-2 at the rate of 6*s*. 3*d*. per acre was extended. A year's rent money must be paid down before the tenant is allowed to use the land, and the advance payment must be renewed annually to allow continuance upon it. This satisfies the people's land hunger, retains the fee in the Crown in case of the unlikely happening of a large tract of the mountain land being at any time needed for some economic purpose, obviates the necessity for expensive survey and elaborate diagrams to which the present staff is too small to attend expeditiously, and prevents any accumulation of arrears with their inevitably demoralizing effect.

(E.) Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during 1902 and the fifteen months ended 31st March, 1904, is annexed, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping for the last five years.

These figures do not include men-of-war, of which nine British and two French visited the Colony during the fifteen months.

Sailing Vessels.

—	1902.				January, 1903, to March, 1904.			
	Inwards.		Outwards		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	391	7,786	394	7,998	450	9,972	456	10,247
United States ...	1	183	1	183	3	425	3	425
Venezuelan ...	9	433	9	433	1	9	1	9
Dutch	4	418	2	343	5	385	5	385
French	1	56	1	56	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	406	8,876	407	9,013	459	10,791	465	11,066

Steamers.

—	1902.				January, 1903, to March, 1904.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	126	117,928	126	117,928	142	205,956	142	205,956
German	4	3,407	4	3,407	1	854	1	854
Totals ...	130	181,335	130	181,335	143	206,810	143	206,810

Total Shipping for last Five Years.

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	January, 1903, to March, 1904.
	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	122,853	144,846	181,185	190,211	217,601
Outwards	122,735	144,895	180,282	190,348	217,876
Totals	245,588	289,741	361,467	380,559	435,477

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed during the year 1903, of which the more important were those to consolidate and amend the law relating to primary education, and to provide for the constitution of a volunteer reserve force.

Various Orders in Council and Regulations under the authority of Ordinances were also issued, these being more numerous than usual in consequence of the long quarantine against Barbados and Trinidad, and the battle to keep the disease, so-called "varioloid varicella," out of St. Vincent.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1902-3 and 1903-4 compare as follows:—

—	1902–3.	1903–4.
Number of Schools	32	27
Number on Roll	6,693	5,466
Average Attendance ...	3,242	2,555
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid ...	1,344	1,326

An examination of the schools was held from May to July, 1903, by the Inspector of Schools of Grenada, who, it is now settled, will hereafter perform this duty annually, thus ensuring some regularity of system and period.

A new Education Law and new Code of Regulations, simplification and adaptation to modern conditions and financial possibilities being the feature of each, were brought into force. A commodious new school, similar to those previously erected by the Government out of the Eruption Fund at the refugee

settlements of Camden Park and Layou, was established at Troumaca, the cost of which was defrayed, one-half by the Eruption Fund and one-half by the Land Settlement Fund, the building being to accommodate the children both of eruption refugees and land settlement peasants.

The Inspector's report on his examination of the schools is satisfactory reading, and shows that there was evidence of more vitality among teachers and in the system generally than has been the case for some time.

He writes:—"I might add incidentally on the result of the "recent inspection that there is not a single school which may "be said to have done badly."

(B.) Secondary Education.

The Kingstown Grammar School for boys and girls is the only secondary educational establishment in the Colony. The curriculum of the school embraces the subjects required for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the annual examination is conducted by the Syndicate. The Government grant to the school amounted to £114.

(C.) Industrial, Technical, and Agricultural Schools.

An Agricultural School was established under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture with Imperial money in 1900.

There was an average of 20 pupils during 1903-4.

The Institution is progressing satisfactorily and several of the lads trained there have recently, after completion of their course, found employment in useful agricultural work in St. Vincent and other adjacent colonies.

The total cost of the school's upkeep during the year was £655, of which £201 was spent on special work, such as a thorough painting of the entire building and outhouses to preserve the woodwork, and the installation of drains and gutters.

A beginning was made in the laying out and preparation of plots adjacent to the principal Primary School buildings in the Island as school gardens, to afford an opportunity to the young generation to acquire some knowledge of the rudiments of skilled agriculture.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

The number of patients treated at the Colonial Hospital during the year 1903-4 was 1,014, of whom 897 were discharged cured or relieved, 15 discharged not improved, 50 died, and 52 remained in hospital. The daily average was 61·38. The figures for the 12 months of 1903-4 are:—

Remaining at 31st March, 1903	47
Admissions	967
Total ...	1,014

Discharged cured or relieved	897
Discharged not improved	15
Died	50
Remaining	52
Total ...	1,014

The admission figure for 1902-3 was 864.

The above admission figure, which is the highest yet recorded, includes 239 cases of anchylostoma.

There were also 266 operations performed, exclusive of such minor matters as teeth extractions and catheterizations, which is a high figure and a testimony to the value of the Institution.

The expenditure was nevertheless kept well within the limit of the estimate, the actual saving being £120.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old military barracks at Fort Charlotte is set aside for temporary detention of lunatics prior to their removal to the asylum at Grenada.

There were 17 cases under treatment during the year (nine being new admissions), of whom two were discharged cured, two died, and six were transferred to the asylum at Grenada.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 32, at a cost to the Colony of £559 18*s.* 3*d.*

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1903, was 13; three fresh cases were admitted during the year 1903-4.

The Medical Officer who has this Institution under his care writes:—

> "The inmates are steadily decreasing in number. Two who were merely syphilitic and had recovered were discharged. One case of anæsthetic leprosy who had recovered was allowed to go home, and one case of doubtful diagnosis was also allowed to go.
>
> "There is no compulsory segregation, nor is any attempt made to collect all the lepers of the Colony into an asylum. It will shortly be a matter for consideration whether it be worth while continuing this Institution. It will be cheaper to afford outdoor help to the few lepers now there, and close the building."

(C.) Poor Houses.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, on a considerable elevation, commanding the town of Kingstown.

There were 115 inmates on 31st March, 1903, and the admissions and discharges in 1903-4 were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions ...	39	33	72
Discharged ...	31	16	47
Died	14	8	22
	45	24	69

leaving 118 on 31st March, 1904.

The total expenditure in 1903-4 was £1,098 on the Institutions, including lepers, and lunatics kept locally, as against £1,287 in 1902-3, in which last period there was special expenditure authorized on equipment.

The actual cost of maintenance exclusive of officers' salaries and upkeep of buildings was as near as possible 5*d.* a day for each inmate.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this Institution offers asylum for the closing stage of their lives.

(D.) Reformatories.

Nil.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the work of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1899	1,036	5,375	5,123	9,716
1900	900	7,790*	7,122	10,594
1901	907	6,108†‡	6,015	10,687
1902	992	8,781	6,501	11,975
1903	987	6,587	6,171	12,653

* Includes £2,926 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
† Includes £1,200 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
‡ Includes Interest.

Up to 1900 the bank was established at Kingstown only, but in that year branches were opened at the small towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown.

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

—	1902.	1903.
	£	£
Kingstown	11,180	11,627
Georgetown	357	487
Chateaubelair	438	539
Total	11,975	12,653

In view of the substantial increase in the amount of deposits as compared with the perpetual outcry of poverty and distress with which the Government is at all times assailed, a close scrutiny of the bank ledger was made by me which disclosed the fact that the major part of the money belongs to shopkeepers, professional men, Government officers, pensioners, charities and trust accounts, and that the figures indicate no real increase in the wealth of the community in general or its poorer class in particular. The money is kept in the Savings Bank because the Colonial Bank has no outlet for it and does

not wish to take it, and there has been small opportunity locally of late years for the investment of such savings.

A further analysis showed that of the above total of £12,653 there was held—

in sums of £100 and over	... ...	£5,108
" " £50 and under £100	...	2,840
" " £20 and under £50	...	2,230
" " £10 and under £20	...	889
" " under £10 ...	... ...	1,322
add interest for the year	... ...	264
		£12,653

The Government made a profit in the working of the bank of £69 1*s.* 3*d.*

There was invested of Savings Bank Funds at 31st December, 1903, £9,500, since when a further investment of £1,500 has been made.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The Colonial Police Force consists of a Chief, a Sergeant-major of European birth and late of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 53 West Indian non-commissioned Officers and Privates. They are, in addition to their civil duties, drilled and have some training in the use of arms, and are armed with Martini-Enfield rifles. Besides ordinary police work, they render assistance to the Government in many details of the administration, being charged with the supervision of the Excise duty on rum, and with co-operating in the collection of Customs duties, district post office work, registration of births, &c., poor relief, and the management of the small district telephone exchanges. In Kingstown they are responsible for extinguishing fires, receiving from the Town Board additional pay for this service.

(B.) Prisons.

188 persons were committed to prison in the year—109 men, 77 women, and two juveniles. The daily average was 15·2, against 14·3 in the previous year.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the Police or to the Magistrates in 1903 was 1,055, against 954 in 1902.

Of the offences reported in 1903, 264 were for offences against the person, 128 were for prædial larceny, 157 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 506 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Court in 1903 was 630, against 529 in 1902.

These convictions are classed as follows:—142 for offences against the person, two for malicious injuries to property, 67 for prædial larceny, 69 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 107 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., one for offence against Masters and Servants Acts, &c., 242 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—11 for offences against the person, two for offences against property.

The acquittals were as follows:—In the Inferior Court, 139; in the Supreme Court, three.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1904, was 48,424. This figure, however, as explained in last year's report, is generally considered to be inaccurate and reducible by about 15 per cent.

The births registered in 1903-4 were 1,518—760 male and 758 female—as against 1,551 in 1902. Of these 836, or 55·07 per cent., were illegitimate.

Still-births were 119—42 legitimate and 77 illegitimate; the figures being, curiously enough, all precisely the same as for the year 1902.

Marriages appear to be appreciably on the increase, there having been 66 in the first quarter of 1903, against 30 in the similar period of 1902, and 241 in the year 1903-4, as against 226 in the calendar year 1902. The preponderance is among the Wesleyan denomination, owing, I understand, to a special

crusade in this direction in one of the country districts, and I am afraid, therefore, the figures cannot be taken as necessarily indicating a better financial condition of the labouring classes.

The total registered deaths were 875, being 18·07 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The infant mortality (infants under one year exclusive of still-births) was 222, being about 25 per cent. of the whole.

(B.) Public Health.

If the death-rate may be taken as an index of the public health, then 1903-4 was an exceptionally healthy year; the number of deaths registered being 52 below the average of the ten preceding years, which was 927.

Anchylostoma, syphilis, and intestinal parasites are the three great evils with which the medical staff have to contend.

Malaria was severe in certain localities, and there was also an epidemic of whooping cough.

The peculiar form of small-pox, to which the hybrid designation of "varioloid varicella" was given, was introduced from Trinidad, but fortunately was prevented from spreading.

After a personal experience of 23 years, which embraces every single one of the British insular colonies in the West Indies and several foreign ones, I am inclined to set down St. Vincent as the healthiest and pleasantest in climate of all, for the European dweller who has to spend two or three years at a stretch in one place without a break.

(C.) Sanitation.

There is nothing special under this head to call attention to. In the villages of the peasantry, the ideas and methods in sanitary matters are elementary in the extreme. In the towns, things are passable, but could be much improved if there were money to lay out. On the whole, however, there are no glaring evils.

Public Health Regulations were passed during the year, which empower action to deal with any serious epidemic that may appear.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year 1903-4 was 100·45 inches, as against 108·37 in 1902.

Rain fell on 261 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in one day was 5·25 inches, on 19th December.

October was the wettest month with 19·84 inches, and February the driest with only 2·97 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 79°.7 F. Maximum for the year 88°.5 F. in November, minimum 66° in February.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The postal service is performed by a fortnightly service of steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, from and to Barbados, where they meet the ocean packets, under contract with His Majesty's Government. There are also lines of steamers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Canadian Government, fortnightly, and other steamers also, from and to the United States, and direct from and to London, call at the Port of Kingstown, though at somewhat irregular intervals.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward and Leeward Districts of the Colony are served daily, and the islets of the Grenadines weekly.

The volume of business of the Post Office was normal, save for an increase in the number of parcels.

The old Post Office, which was in great disrepair, was thoroughly renovated and enlarged, and is now a really presentable and commodious building.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £447, and the expenditure £339. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair on the Leeward side and to Georgetown on the Windward side of the Island, about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Nil.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony in May, 1903, remaining 18 days. His Excellency proceeded to England on leave in June and remained to November, during which time the Windward Islands Government was administered by Sir George Melville, K.C.M.G., Administrator of St. Lucia.

The question of the local Attorney Generalship was settled by the nomination in July, 1903, of Mr. D. T. Tudor, the new Attorney-General of Grenada, to be also titular Attorney-General of St. Vincent. Mr. Tudor visits the Island three times a year and conducts prosecutions at the Criminal Sessions, but the usual duties of legal adviser to the Government now devolve on the Chief Justice, an arrangement brought about by the absolute necessity of reducing the expenditure.

There were several changes in the medical staff of the Colony, and the numbers were reduced by one, the boundaries of the medical districts being correspondingly altered—this economy being rendered possible by the eruption having denuded the northern Windward District of its former population.

The financial year opened gloomily, a very serious outburst of the Soufrière having taken place on the 22nd of March, 1903 (after a lull of five months), spreading yet another carpet of volcanic dust and ashes over the Carib country, and causing fresh disturbance and unsettlement of the dwellers in the vicinity of the mountain. Happily there has been no renewal of activity since the date last mentioned, and it is hoped that the subterraneous forces have now settled to rest, though, even so, for many years to come, the grim possibilities of a new development in the mountain's womb must remain a factor to reckon with.

No attempt was made to re-establish cultivation proper on the devastated estates, which remained stricken and deserted, though surface vegetation was fast asserting itself and softening with its green mantle the jagged and dust-covered fields and ravines.

The feature of the year was the re-introduction of the cotton industry, already referred to under the head of "Agriculture." This has been taken up well and bids fair to be a success and to help in improving the Island's condition.

To some extent also the recent rise in the price of sugar should do good, but this did not operate during the period under review.

The general condition of the Colony in 1903-4 may be said to have been one of gradual recovery after the terrific experiences of the previous ten months, but its strength has been greatly impaired by this second convulsion, following on the terrible 1898 hurricane, and recuperation cannot be, even if assisted by much improved circumstances, other than a very gradual process. Moreover the "Relief" remedy, which has had perforce to be so largely applied in these two illnesses, is a dangerous drug, and apt to leave enduring ill-effects on the constitution.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Administrator.

31st January, 1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
427	Lagos	1903
428	Bahamas...	1903–1904
429	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1903
430	Mauritius	"
431	Seychelles	"
432	Barbados	1903–1904
433	Southern Nigeria	1903
434	Fiji	"
435	Straits Settlements	"
436	Grenada...	"
437	Northern Nigeria	"
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	"
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 and 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	"
443	St. Lucia...	"
444	Basutoland	"
445	Leeward Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simons.

2

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

682
10

No. 463.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 436.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1905.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1905.

[Cd. 2684-9.] *Price* 2½*d.*

THE LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS

JV33
.G7A4

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	6
LEGISLATION	12
EDUCATION	13
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	14
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	16
VITAL STATISTICS	18
POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	19
MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE	20
GENERAL REMARKS	20

25/2/290

MAR 8 1906
D. of D.

No. 463.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 436.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. LYTTELTON.

St. Lucia,
2nd September, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1904.

I have, &c.,

R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

1000 Wt 23792 10/05 D & S 5 22623 A 2

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1904.

FINANCIAL.

Financial Position of the Colony.

The financial year 1904-5 opened with a balance of assets amounting to £22,649, and closed with a similar balance of £22,408. In Table A, details of the colonial assets and liabilities are given, the principal items of the surplus being as follows:—

Reserve Fund, invested	£12,645
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund ...	4,660
Advances to towns for water works...	1,483
Advances to towns for other works...	236
	£19,024

The Carriacou Land Settlement Fund represents a portion of the Colony's balance invested in the purchase of land in the island of Carriacou; this land has been re-sold by the Government to peasants, who pay for their lots by instalments, the unpaid balances bearing interest, and being secured on the land itself. £1,416 of the advances for water works is repayable by instalments of £500 per annum without interest, the balance being the initial advances on account of loans to be made to the towns of St. George's and Sauteurs, bearing interest, and extinguishable by sinking funds. The other advances to towns are minor loans from general revenue, repayable by instalments.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The figures for the last five years are:—

Year.	Revenue	Expenditure.
	£	£
1900	70,363	62,718
1901-2	70,075	65,490
1902-3	72,802	68,669
1903-4	70,265	70,113
1904-5	68,993	69,509

3. Details of the revenue and expenditure for the financial year under review will be found in Tables B and C in the

Appendix, on reference to which it will be seen that the reduction of the revenue of the year by £1,267, as compared with its predecessor, is due to shortage under Customs, £237; internal revenue, £927; water supplies, £358; and Imperial grant for agriculture, £143. In all but the second item the shortage is apparent only. Under Customs, it is attributable to a temporary deficit in the cocoa crop, caused by weather conditions, and resulting in decreased receipts from export duty in the first three months of 1905; at this date the crop deficit has nearly disappeared. The reduction under water supplies is due to recent legislation, which brought about a change in the date of payment of rates, which are being received in the current financial year, and a vacancy in the office of Curator of the Botanic Station led to less of the usual Imperial grant for agricultural services being required. The decline in internal revenue is, however, of more serious significance, for it is chiefly due to decreased receipts from the excise duty on rum, £1,138 less being received than in the preceding year. Smuggling and illicit distillation of spirits are responsible for this, and to this subject reference will be made later on.

4. The expenditure was kept under careful control, and although it exceeded the revenue by £516, was less than that of 1903-4 by £604. But for the necessity for granting certain pensions, and the payment of a special grant for the Colonial Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in 1905, it would have been kept within the revenue.

Public Debt.

5. The public debt of the Colony is £123,670, in four per cent. inscribed stock, redeemable between the years 1917 and 1942 from a sinking fund to which annual contributions at the rate of one per cent. on the nominal value of the stock are made. The Crown Agents for the Colonies are Trustees of this fund, which amounted at 31st March, 1905, to £16,131.

Town Boards' Finances.

6. The debts of the town Boards amounted at 31st March, 1905, to £12,901, as under:—

Board.	Amount.
	£
St. George's	6,077
Grenville	1,090
Sauteurs	1,100
Victoria	1,384
Gouyave	3,250

These are all owed to the Government, and are repayable either by annual sinking fund contributions, or by annual instalments, which are now nearly always regularly paid.

7. The revenue and expenditure of the Board in the last five years are shown in Table D in the Appendix. The last financial year closed, in regard to each of them, with a balance of pecuniary assets; two Boards, however, owed merchants' bills amounting to £106 and £13, respectively.

8. The Hillsborough Town Board ceased to exist on 30th September, a system of official and unofficial town wardens being substituted for it.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

9. The trade of the Colony showed a marked increase in 1904, as will be seen from the figures for the last five years, given below:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Volume.
	£	£	£
1900...	232,790	311,681	544,471
1901...	246,567	303,934	550,501
1902...	239,108	310,602	549,710
1903...	235,440	283,565	519,005
1904...	256,269	321,766	578,035

This was due to the satisfactory output of the staple products, the cocoa crop being the largest on record, spices fairly good, and the results of the cotton industry nearly twice as much as usual. It is probable that the imports would have been much larger, but towards the end of the year there were indications of a shortage in the cocoa output, and a certain amount of caution was displayed by importers. Table E shows that the increase of imports took place chiefly under Class I., *i.e.*, live animals, food, drink, and narcotics, and Tables F and G indicate the principal items of increase or decrease both of imports and exports. As regards the imports, attention may be directed to the increased consumption of imported foodstuffs, such as biscuits, fish, wheaten flour, and rice, and to the presence in the table for the first time of the

fresh vegetables, known in the West Indies as "ground provisions," the quantity imported in 1904 having been of sufficient volume to justify its separate inclusion in the statement; these provisions nearly all came from St. Vincent and Barbados. The table of the principal exports shows a satisfactory increase under almost every item.

10. The direction of trade is indicated in Table H, which, as regards the imports, may be summarised as follows:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	46	44	48	46
British Colonies	24	21	18	22
Foreign Countries	30	35	34	32

In effect, therefore, the mother country supplies about one-half of the imported goods, British Colonies about one-fifth, and foreign countries about one-third, and the change from year to year is but slight.

11. The exports, however, show a growing tendency to favour foreign countries. In 1904, one-third of the trade went thither, Great Britain receiving nearly all of the remaining two-thirds, the exports to British Colonies, which showed a marked increase in 1902 and 1903, returning to their normal average of about £5,000.

12. Following up in Table I this tendency of the export trade, we find that the steady increase of that to the United States of America, which has been a feature for many years, is being closely approached by that to France and her colonies. The French market for a certain grade of cocoa supplied by this Colony is fortunately improving year by year, just as the American market for another grade tends to improve, and in this happy trade connection with the two great republics the Colony has legitimate ground for a hopeful outlook for the future of her main product.

13. The value of the imports from Canada in the last five years was:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1900	7,946
1901	11,263
1902	9,140
1903	15,686
1904	11,811

The principal items in the last two years were:—

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Timber and shingles ...	10,593	6,948
Wheaten flour	1,246	1,301
Butter	882	936
Salt fish	815	729
Oats	684	510
Ropes and cordage ...	483	643
Peas	171	84

There were no exports to Canada in the year under review, and this section of the trade with the Dominion is usually insignificant. More Canadian foodstuffs would doubtless be introduced here if means of communication were simpler and more frequent, but as there are three direct steamers per month from New York, and only one from Halifax, and as the latter takes a long time to reach Grenada, after calling first at nearly all of the northern islands of the Caribbean, it is not surprising that commerce prefers the former channel.

Agricultural Industries.

14. The staple products of the Colony are cocoa, spices (chiefly nutmegs), and cotton. There is a certain amount of sugar cane and coffee cultivated for local consumption, and a small quantity of kola nuts (value about £300 per annum) for export.

Cocoa.

15. A record has been kept of the cocoa crops, for the years ending 30th September, since 1878, and the average crops for quinquennial periods from 1880 to 1904, inclusive, are given below:—

Quinquennial Period.	Bags.
For 5 years ending 30th September, 1884	29,267
" " " 1889	36,620
" " " 1894	46,418
" " " 1899	49,891
" " " 1904	59,661

The bag averages 180 pounds.

The crop for the year under review was the largest on record, 67,225 bags, exceeding that of the previous year by 4,206, and the five years' average by 7,564 bags.

Spices.

16. Owing to the absence of uniformity in the packages in which spices are shipped, a comparison by crops is not so easy as in the case of cocoa, so the figures, by weight, of the quantities exported are resorted to for comparison:—

—	Cwt.
Average for 5 years ended 31st December, 1901	4,624
Exported in 1902 (Nutmegs 5,999 cwt.)	6,839
" 1903 (" 6,944 ")	7,959
" 1904 (" 5,900 ")	6,915

The output of 1904 was, therefore, about 1,000 cwts. less than in the preceding year, a result which is doubtless attributable to the irregular incidence of the rainfall in the year under notice.

Cotton.

17. This industry is almost entirely confined to the Dependency of Carriacou, where conditions are highly favourable to its growth. The statistics of the exports, given below, show a steady increase:—

—	Raw Cotton.	Cotton Seed.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
Average for 5 years ended 31st December, 1901.	2,095	4,537
Exported in 1902	2,212	4,536
Exported in 1903	2,688	6,757
Exported in 1904	2,807	6,844

18. It may be safely prophesied that with the present demand in England for British-grown cotton and with the changed conditions affecting the tenure of land in Carriacou, brought about by the Land Settlement Scheme of the Government, this industry has an important future before it. A feature of the current year is the opening up by one of the largest landowners of the island of some valuable estates there for the cultivation of Sea Island cotton, an example which the peasant settlers will not be slow in following.

19. The Land Settlement Scheme continues to make highly satisfactory progress. The details given in last year's report

will not be repeated here, but it may be stated that the Government have this year purchased two more properties, the cultivable lands of which will soon be sold out on the system adopted, while both estates include valuable reserves for forest conservancy and other public objects. Other important details of the development of the island, such as the improvement of the water supply, the provision of a fine hospital, the erection of a new police station, and the preliminary survey for the erection of a jetty, are being steadily pushed forward under the energetic supervision of the Commissioner, Mr. Whitfield Smith, and the value to the Colony of her long neglected annex is daily becoming more apparent.

20. This value is likely to be felt by the lower and middle classes in the future, in one way, not yet fully realised, viz., in the capacity of Carriacou, with its crops of annuals, to supply the principal island with "ground provisions." Reference has been made to the appearance of these articles among the imports of the Colony of late years; twenty years ago, not only were none imported, but the exports were worth about £600 per annum. The change is due to (1) the increase of population, which proceeds at the rate of 20 per cent. in 10 years; and (2) the permanent absorption of the cultivable land of the island by cocoa and nutmegs. The result, while favourable to the large landowner, is distinctly unfavourable to the peasant, be he proprietor or labourer, for whereas years ago he had his provision "garden" always available for the support of himself and his family, and probably had also a small piece of pasture for his cattle, the areas thus beneficially occupied either have been or are being absorbed by permanent cultivation, on the proceeds of which he is becoming more and more dependent. Inasmuch as this permanent cultivation does not provide continuous employment for a large number of labourers, such as cultivation of annuals does, it will be seen that a situation full of possible difficulty is being created for the future. Were it not for liberal expenditure on public roads and works, the pressure would have been felt already more than it has been.

21. An additional agricultural industry, which requires annual cultivation and reaping, such as that of sugar cane or cotton, would be a boon to Grenada, where some of the low-lying coast lands still remain uninvaded by the ruling industries. Such cultivation would admit of vegetables being grown along with it, and alternatively to it, and would also provide steady employment for a number of labourers, thus solving what is likely to become within the next decade a pressing question for the community. Meanwhile the agricultural development of the land of Carriacou, within a few hours' sail of the principal island, is a factor in the situation, which may be of considerable assistance by providing supplies of

vegetables at cheaper rates than those at which they could be imported from other colonies.

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

22. There are no mines and no fisheries. Cane sugar of a low grade, rum, and ice are manufactured in the Colony for local consumption, and in the case of ice for export also; in 1903, 245 tons, and in 1904, 172 tons, were exported to neighbouring colonies. There is no means of estimating the quantity of sugar made, which is entirely inadequate both in quality and quantity for the wants of the population, and in 1904, 3,357 cwts. of refined, and 6,472 cwts. of muscovado sugar, were imported, worth nearly £7,000.

23. Returns of the rum made are required by law, there being an excise duty levied, and the figures so returned in the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Quantity made.	Excise Duty paid.
	Gallons.	£
1900	47,942	11,327
1901	53,204	11,669
1902	45,054	11,853
1903	43,314	12,723
1904	46,911	11,812

24. The quantities of rum returned and of duty paid do not keep pace with the increase of population and with the increased money circulation in the Colony. In 1892, with a population of about 54,000, the excise duty amounted to £11,775; in 1904, the population being about 68,000, it was only £11,812.

It is unfortunately the fact that contraband trade in spirits both externally and internally is going on, though every effort is being made to suppress it. A revenue cruiser is kept on preventive duty among the Grenadines, and, amongst other good work done in this direction, during 1904 a seizure of a sloop was made off Carriacou in November, with a contraband cargo of spirits worth about £600, which, together with the vessel, was forfeited, while her crew were imprisoned. Two complete illicit stills were seized by the police during the year, and portions of several others; there were eight prosecutions, resulting in fines being paid amounting to £150, while four offenders went to prison in default of payment of their fines.

SHIPPING.

25. The subjoined statement of the total tonnage of shipping, inwards and outwards, in the last five years shows that there was a substantial increase in 1904, both as compared with 1903 and with the average for the period: —

Year.	Tonnage.	
	Entered.	Cleared.
1900	222,899	216,110
1901	267,972	275,770
1902	287,000	290,035
1903	280,862	288,328
1904	316,223	316,068
Average	274,991	277,262

26. In the Appendix Table J, a comparison of shipping entered and cleared in the last two years is made, distinguishing between steam and sailing vessels and also between nationalities. It will be observed that the French and German steam tonnage, commented upon last year as being due to exceptional causes in that year, has disappeared. The appearance of a small quantity of American steam tonnage in 1904 is explained by two visits of a steamer, of United States registry, belonging to the Asphalt Company of Trinidad.

LEGISLATION.

27. Among the 15 Ordinances passed during the year are three important measures:—

The Taxes Management Ordinance,

The Carriacou District Ordinance,

The Registration of Births and Deaths Ordinance.

The first consolidates, with amendments and improvements suggested by experience, the several laws which provided for the collection of the tax on land and houses; the second provides for the first time for the effectual government of the islands of Carriacou and Petit Martinique, which (with the adjacent islets) are made into a district and placed under the care of a resident Commissioner; and the third consolidates and amends the previous local enactments relating to the registration of vital statistics, following as far as possible the English model, so that much improvement may be expected in the accuracy of future records.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

28. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from colonial revenue, and grant-in-aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the inspector, who is a Government officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of one shilling per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils; these are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but having only a casting vote.

29. The statistics of the year, contained in Table K in the Appendix, show an increase of one in the number of schools and increases in the number of pupils on the roll and in the average attendance. The Government grant is as usual on the increase, but there is an entire absence of voluntary contributions. As before, comment must be made upon the disparity in the collection of school fees; the Anglicans, with 9 schools, and the Government schools, also 9 in number, collected £132 and £114, respectively, while the Roman Catholics, with 21 schools, collected only £117.

30. It is self-evident that a system which can admit of such differential treatment must have some inherent defect, and in the opinion of those qualified to pass judgment on it, it is radically unsuited to the requirements of the Colony. During the year a Committee of the Board of Education sat with instructions from the Board to propound a new scheme, but its labours were not completed by the end of the year.

Secondary.

31. Statistics furnished in respect of the Secondary Schools of the Colony are given and compared with 1903 in Table L. Here, too, the system may be described as being in a stage of transition. An elaborate scheme, prepared by a Committee appointed by the Governor in 1902, having for its object the establishment of a boys' college, somewhat on the lines of the Mauritius Royal College, fell through, because a condition prescribed by the Secretary of State, that a portion at all

events of the initial outlay should be provided by private generosity, failed to commend itself to those interested; and it has since been proposed, and is now under consideration, that Government should take over the existing schools (except the Roman Catholic Convent School, which holds its own satisfactorily), and manage them entirely.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

32. The general results of the year's work in the charitable institutions are tabulated below:—

Institution.	Number at 1st January.	Admitted during the year.	Daily Average.	Cured.	Relieved or not improved.	Died.	Remaining at 31st December.	Cost of Institution.
								£
Colony Hospital	61	734	69·32	505	185	39	66	1,838
Yaws "	53	139	37·95	138	—	1	53	678
St. Andrew's "	11	122	10·35	107	4	11	11	577
Carriacou "	10	169	14·8	117	45	2	15	387
Lunatic Asylum	121	40	127	16	2	12	131	1,860
Pauper "	33	28	36	1	4	16	40	393

33. It may be recorded that the steady improvement which has of late years been going on at the Colony Hospital has resulted in that institution being now entirely creditable to the Colony. Mention should be made of one special item of good work, which was commenced in 1904 by Dr. T. M. R. Leonard, who assumed the duties of House Surgeon on 30th March. He found that ankylostomiasis was largely prevalent among patients, and 150 cases were satisfactorily dealt with during the year, the treatment being by thymol. The current year will show even better results.

34. Fewer cases were admitted at the Yaws Hospital than in 1903, the activity exhibited of late years in hunting up cases being apparently on the wane: the following are the admissions of the last four years:—

Year.	No.
1901	150
1902	163
1903	189
1904	138

A few cases are now occasionally admitted from Carriacou, which was once regarded as quite free from the disease.

35. Much activity was exhibited at the St. Andrew's Hospital. More patients were admitted than in 1903, and 1,901 more prescriptions were compounded at the Dispensary, of which 3,570 were paid for at the shilling rate, realising £179. The buildings are in good condition and well kept.

36. At the Carriacou Hospital the highest number of patients on record, 179, was treated. Of these there were only two deaths, one being due to double pneumonia and the other to traumatic tetanus. Another noteworthy feature for a small district hospital was the successful performance of no less than 22 operations. The dilapidated condition of the buildings and the unhealthy nature of the site have been so frequently commented upon that it is a relief to be able to record this year that a fine new hospital is in course of erection on one of the healthiest spots in the West Indies.

37. A change of Medical Superintendent took place at the lunatic asylum, Dr. P. F. Macleod, who had held the office since 1881, retiring on pension, his long and faithful services there and elsewhere being recognised by His Majesty conferring upon him the Imperial Service Order; he was succeeded on 1st of March by Dr. E. F. Hatton.

38. As will be seen from the figures given above, there were at 31st December, 1904, 131 patients in the asylum; of these, 73 were from Grenada, 29 from St. Lucia, and 29 from St. Vincent, the daily average under treatment being 127. As the buildings can only properly provide for 120, undesirable conditions are created, which can only be remedied by St. Lucia erecting its long-promised asylum, or by a corresponding increase of the structural accommodation in this Colony. As they stand, they are only capable of dealing with the Grenada and St. Vincent patients effectively.

39. The poor asylum (or asylum for incurables) provided as usual for more male than female patients, the daily average of the sexes being 26 and 10, respectively. Steps were taken towards the end of the year to carry out much needed improvements in the buildings and premises generally, which are being effected in the current year. Additional accommodation for males is becoming a pressing necessity; for females there remains plenty of room.

Savings Bank.

40. The transactions of 1904 show a healthy increase, although the number of depositors continues to decrease. £12,000 of the balance to credit of depositors at the close of

the year was either invested in Colonial Securities (£9,500) or held on deposit by the Colonial Bank (£2,500) at 3 per cent. interest. The principal figures of the last five years are compared below:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance to credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1900	1,387	9,379	9,136	11,168
1901	1,355	8,603	8,561	11,21[illegible]
1902	1,847	9,184	9,378	11,417
1903	1,544	7,480	7,674	11,658
1904	1,465	9,279	8,416	12,790

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

41. The strength of the police force is 74 rank and file, the details being 1 chief, 1 sub-inspector, 7 sergeants, 7 corporals, and 58 constables. They are trained to the use of the Martini-Henry rifle, and maintained on a semi-military footing. Attached to the department at present are the duties connected with the supervision of the collection of the excise duty on rum, and the St. George's fire brigade is the headquarters detachment. A Government band, consisting of a bandmaster and 13 performers, is maintained, and, for disciplinary purposes, kept under the control of the chief of police.

Prisons.

42. On 1st January, 1904, the new annex to the Richmond Hill Prison was occupied for use as the female prison of the Colony. It is a well-constructed, substantial, and airy building, and marked improvement in the disciplinary treatment of the female prisoners has resulted from the change, little having been possible hitherto under previous conditions. The Richmond Hill Prison is now the sole prison for the Colony, and it may safely be said that its management and discipline will stand the test of criticism. It is and has been for years practically self-supporting, and is generally a credit to the Colony.

43. The committals for the year under review were 208 in number—149 male and 56 female adults and 3 boys; of these,

23 males were from the other Colonies of the Windward Islands' Government—20 from St. Lucia, and 3 from St. Vincent. In the case of St. Vincent, a standing arrangement exists whereby all convicts with sentences of two years and upwards are transferred to Grenada, and St. Lucia sends as many convicts as can be accommodated by Grenada, her prison room being limited.

44. The daily average in prison was 63·9, of which only 50 were Grenada convicts; the cost of the institution was £1,352, and the value of the work done was £1,379; the cost per prisoner was £21, of which £11 10*s.* represents the cost of the staff, and £5 the dietary; this last contains no animal food other than a small quantity of fish, and costs 3¼*d.* per head per diem. The scale of dietary has been in force for 17 years, and has worked with marked success; in respect of 1904, the Superintendent reports as follows on it: "The dietary, as in the past, has proved quite sufficient for the physical requirements of the prisoners, most of whom gain weight upon it, and are usually more robust on discharge than on receipt into prison."

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

45. A comparison is instituted in Table M between the criminal statistics of 1904 and 1903 and also with the averages for the years 1900-2. The Attorney-General in his report on the year's statistics makes the following remarks: " . . it is satisfactory to find that the amount of crime in general during the year 1904 was below the average for the previous eight years, and in particular it is to be noted that there was during 1904 a marked decrease in the number of convictions for certain classified offences, as well as in the total number of persons acquitted (in comparison with those recorded during the previous eight years); . . . . It is also of interest to observe that the diminution in the number of persons acquitted is accompanied by a slight decrease in the number of 'Cases which fell through for want of prosecution, etc.' (that is in proportion to the increased total for charges investigated). These are gratifying facts, as tending to show the greater care and efficiency taken by the police and others in obtaining evidence; and also as pointing towards the continued vigilance exercised by the Courts in discountenancing the compounding of felonies and the compromising of other offences."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

46. The population according to the Census of April, 1901, was 63,438, and by natural increase was estimated at 31st December, 1904, to be 68,253, an increase of 4,815, or about 7½ per cent. The proportions of the sexes in this estimate are—males, 32,389; females, 35,864. The birth-rate for the year, calculated on the mean estimated population, was 43·19, and the death-rate 21·10 per 1,000.

Public Health.

47. No disease was epidemic during the year, and the usual endemic, malarial fever, resulted in only 99 deaths, a decrease on the two preceding years. The death-roll returned to normal figures, the previous year having been an exceptionally bad one in this respect. The principal causes of death in the year were as follows:—

Disease.	No. of Deaths.
Enteritis	116
Diarrhœa...	107
Dysentery	69
Fevers	99
Phthisis	64

48. On the 29th of December a case of the eruptive disease, which had been epidemic in Trinidad in 1903, and which is possibly a very mild and unusual type of small-pox, was detected in the St. Andrew's district and isolated. Thanks to the energetic action of the Local Health Authority, ably seconded by the medical officers and police, the outbreak has been confined to that district and was stamped out in June of the current year.

Climate.

49. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are as follows:—

Rainfall—

North of Island	105·22 inches.
Centre „ „	176·49 „
South „ „	69·41 „
Carriacou	56·38 „
Relative humidity (mean)	74·7 per cent.
Mean temperature (maximum) ...	91·4° Fahr.
„ „ (minimum) ...	68·4° Fahr.
Mean pressure	29·987 inches.
Days of rain	253.

The rainfall at the Meteorological Station in the south of the island was 9½ inches less than in the preceding year, and below the average for the previous 12 years. In the centre and north of the island, however, and in Carriacou the record of 1903 was exceeded. The rainy season commenced on 4th June.

50. The average annual rainfall at the above station for the 14 years 1891-1904 is 78·37 inches, the maximum for one year (1892) 105·89 inches, and the minimum (1891) 56·69 inches. The maximum for one month was recorded in November, 1896, 20·90 inches, and the minimum in May, 1899, ·49 inches. There are now 13 rain-recording stations in the Colony, and statistics of some value will in a few more years be available.

51. Three shocks of earthquake were felt during the year, and volcanic dust (from Mont Pelée in Martinique) fell on several occasions.

Sanitation.

52. The Governor and the members of the Executive Council form the General Board of Health for the Colony, and there are six District Health Authorities, consisting of the Medical Officers, the Chief and Sub-Inspector of Police, and other official and unofficial members. Fixed monthly meetings are held, at which the reports of the non-commissioned officers of police, detailed as district sanitary inspectors, are considered. These authorities have more than once done excellent work, and are a valuable part of the administrative machinery, unofficial co-operation in details of this description being particularly useful in these Colonies.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

53. The business of the Post Office continues steadily to increase, as will be seen from the statistics for the last three years given below:—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.
Letters and post cards	440,934	470,173	530,231
Newspapers, books, &c.	147,628	148,915	169,806
Parcels	6,147	8,431	9,323
	£	£	£
Money orders issued and paid ...	20,808	20,227	20,465

Among other improvements effected during the year may be mentioned the introduction on 1st October of British postal orders for every sixpence in value from 6*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*, thus furnishing a cheap and simple method for small remittances to the mother country, other British Colonies, and locally.

TELEPHONES.

54. The service was satisfactorily conducted during the year. Receipts for the financial year amounted to £1,430, and expenditure to £1,337, inclusive of £226 for loan charges; besides the ordinary expenditure, £202 was spent on re-construction work, which is being gradually pushed on. A feature of the year's work was the introduction of the telephone into Carriacou, where at 31st December there were five installations.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

55. There is no military force in the Colony. The police are drilled and trained to use arms, and laws have been passed enabling the Government to enrol a volunteer force and also volunteer reserve corps. For these latter the Imperial Government has kindly supplied the necessary rifles and equipment, and a rifle range has been prepared adjacent to the principal town, and is ready for use.

GENERAL REMARKS.

56. On the 4th of March, at a meeting presided over by the Governor, it was decided by the Grenada Agricultural Society to incorporate the mercantile interests of the Colony in the Society, and new rules were then passed providing for an "Agricultural and Commercial Society of Grenada." The combined Society has already done some good work, and there can be no doubt as to the importance of the future which is possible to it.

57. On the 1st of April a new light on Point Salines, the south-western extremity of the harbour of St. George's, was lighted by the Governor for the first time. This light, with the buildings and adjacent land, was presented to the Colony by the Honourable C. Macaulay Browne, C.M.G., and G. G. Browne, Esquire, in memory of their late father, Jonas Browne, Esquire, who was long and honourably connected with the Colony, commercially. It is a white light of the fourth order,

enclosed in a lantern on an iron column, 120 feet above sea-level, and visible 12 miles.

58. On the 5th of August a new town clock for St. George's commenced to work. This clock, which rings the "Westminster Chimes" for the quarters and is an excellent time-keeper, was erected by the Government in the re-constructed steeple of the Anglican Church, the most prominent and suitable place for it, and removes a serious defect, the absence of a thoroughly reliable public timepiece.

59. In June, new waterworks for the town of Gouyave were commenced by the Public Works Department, the water rights and land for reservoirs, &c., on Dougaldston Estate having been generously presented by the Honourable D. S. De Freitas. These works have been rendered necessary by the collapse years ago of the former works owing to defective foundations. The Government is paying the cost of new works from Colonial revenue, the cost of the first works remaining charged as a loan to the town authority.

60. Probably the most important public event of the year was the passing by the Legislative Council, on the 16th of August, of a resolution approving of the creation of semi-elective District Boards for the administration of all purely parochial details, and of the maintenance of the main roads of the island by a system of official and unofficial Road Wardens, to be appointed by the Governor. Local self-government in the districts of Grenada has been on its trial now for 19 years, and an impartial judgment on results would infallibly declare that there has been such a margin of success as to justify the present consolidation of effort in this direction, and thus afford the growing community its only possible arena of training in that co-operation in the administration of public affairs which is the pride of the British race wherever it finds itself. On 1st October in the current year, the scheme comes into legal effect, and the Government, in common with the community generally, entertain a sincere conviction that success may be hoped for from this important new departure.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Administrator.

Grenada,

31st August, 1905.

TABLE

STATEMENT of the ASSETS and

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits as follows :—						
Savings Bank	12,805	18	7			
Post Office	1,200	17	8			
Supreme Court	3,259	6	5			
St. George's Town Fund	81	7	5			
Grenville " "	126	3	11			
Sauteurs " "	85	4	11			
Victoria " "	167	18	8			
Gouyave " "	82	12	1			
Hillsborough " "	10	5	1			
Governor in Chief's Office Fund ...	3	5	8			
Other Deposits	315	2	10			
				18,158	3	3
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Botanic Station				19	13	1
Drafts and Remittances...				54	3	4
Total Liabilities ...				£18,211	19	8
Surplus Assets				22,407	17	4
Total				40,619	17	0

A.

LIABILITIES at 31st MARCH, 1905.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				448	0	3
„ Colonial Bank on Current Account.				1,923	2	10
Colony's Reserve Fund—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...				12,644	12	5
Savings Bank—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...	9,000	0	6			
„ in British Guiana Bonds	500	0	0			
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	2,500	0	0			
				12,000	0	0
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
On Current Account	466	18	3			
Remittances in transit, on Current Account.	5,000	0	0			
				5,466	18	3
Imprest Balances				297	16	1
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony—						
Loans to Town Boards from General Revenue.	236	3	9			
Government of St. Vincent ...	72	5	4			
„ „ St. Lucia	605	12	11			
„ „ Trinidad and Tobago.	6	10	9			
Distillery Apparatus Advance Account.	28	13	9			
Other Advances	676	10	0			
				1,625	16	6
Saint George's Waterworks Extension Loan.				50	9	0
Sauteurs Waterworks Loan				16	10	2
Gouyave Water Supply Advance ...				1,416	4	10
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund ...				4,660	6	8
Arrears of Revenue—						
Interest on Loans to Town Boards				70	0	0
Total Assets				40,619	17	0

TABLE B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE for the Year ended 31st MARCH, 1904 and 1905.

Head of Revenue.	1903-4.	1904-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	35,167	34,929	—	238
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	27,791	26,864	—	927
Fees of Office, &c.	1,749	1,753	4	—
Post Office	1,315	1,397	82	—
Telephones	1,372	1,430	58	—
Water Supplies	581	222	—	359
Rent of Government Property...	429	602	173	—
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	938	1,006	68	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	162	135	—	27
Land Sales	208	245	37	—
Total Local Revenue ...	69,712	68,583	422	1,551
Imperial Grant in aid of Agricultural Department.	553	410	—	143
Total Revene	70,265	68,993	422	1,694

TABLE C.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE for the years ended 31st MARCH, 1904 and 1905.

Head of Expenditure.	1903-4.	1904-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charges on Account of Public Debt.	6,201	6,198	—	3
Pensions	2,208	2,864	656	—
The Governor	2,230	1,916	—	314
Colonial Secretary	1,593	1,577	—	16
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank.	4,158	4,394	236	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	399	—	—	399
Post Office	2,233	2,432	199	—
Land and House Tax Collection	624	498	—	126
Carried forward ...	19,646	19,879	1,091	858

TABLE C—*cont.*

Head of Expenditure.	1903–4.	1904–5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	19,646	19,879	1,091	858
Audit Department	567	554	—	13
Legal Departments	5,071	4,842	—	229
Police and Excise Department...	4,997	5,176	179	—
Prisons	1,181	1,104	—	77
Medical Department	4,439	3,591	—	848
Hospitals and Asylums	4,524	4,699	175	—
Education...	6,999	7,154	155	—
Ditto Special Expenditure...	450	300	—	150
Ecclesiastical	444	444	—	—
Charitable	503	470	—	33
Telephone Department	1,339	1,337	—	2
Ditto Special Expenditure	516	202	—	314
Carriacou District	—	317	317	—
Water Supplies	494	395	—	99
Miscellaneous Services	4,740	5,261	521	—
Agricultural Department ...	472	156	—	316
Public Works Department ...	1,053	918	—	135
Public Works Recurrent (including upkeep of Roads).	10,293	10,389	96	—
Public Works Extraordinary ...	1,814	1,877	63	—
Total Expenditure from Colonial Funds	69,542	69,665	2,597	3,074
Agricultural Department (paid from Imperial Funds).	571	444	—	127
Total Expenditure ...	70,113	69,509	2,597	3,201

TABLE D.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the TOWN BOARDS for the last FIVE YEARS.

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1900–1.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1900–1.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.	1904–5.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	2,459	2,818	3,189	3,152	3,296	2,707	3,114	2,861	3,251	3,282
Grenville..	940	909	944	1,053	990	992	860	889	871	1,175
Sauteurs	540	601	738	619	600	465	507	650	471	752
Victoria	300	331	307	309	359	288	244	344	307	318
Gouyave	601	579*	680	599	596	551	655*	548	544	741
Hillsborough	133	109	124	85	83	126	173	97	82	105

* For the calendar year, 1901.

TABLE E.

Classified Return of Trade Statistics for the last Five Years.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	108,353	106,696	110,627	100,825	119,178	303,148	295,990	298,974	266,595	309,776
II. Raw materials	21,402	22,842	23,887	23,328	22,391	6,484	5,989	6 591	8,518	10,389
III. Manufactured articles	102,342	110,882	104,241	109,381	110,861	1,649	1,955	2,027	1,985	1,601
IV. Coin and bullion	693	6,147	353	1,906	3,839	400	—	3,010	6,467	—
Totals	232,790	246,567	239,108	235,440	256,269	311,681	303,934	310,602	283,565	321,766

TABLE F.

Comparative Statement of Chief Imports in the last Two Years.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Live animals	1,249	2,062
Bread of all kinds (*i.e.* biscuits)	2,303	3,942
Butter	1,772	1,945
Cheese	1,032	1,176
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel)	10,418	15,159
Flour (wheaten)	29,560	32,002
Lard	1,657	1,438
Malt liquor	1,962	1,840
Meal (corn)	634	538
Meat (salted or preserved)	8,060	9,506
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,560	2,847
Oats	3,167	3,879
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	3,718	3,286
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,799	4,279
Rice	4,981	6,215
Spirits	5,213	5,082
Sugar (refined)	2,880	2,961
Do. (muscovado)	2,653	3,827
Wines	1,241	1,593
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	3,039	3,410
Fresh vegetables ("ground provisions")... ...	309	843
Class II.—		
Coal	1,376	2,327
Leather	909	922
Manures	2,328	3,828
Petroleum oil...	3,250	3,121
Timber and shingles	14,901	11,220
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	7,267	9,414
Textiles	48,480	48,083
Rope and cordage	1,313	1,690
Metal manufactures	15,656	16,779
Books	1,241	1,029
Soap	3,829	4,355
Stationery	974	1,193
Cement	1,115	1,287
Earthen and glass ware	3,132	3,350
Furniture	2,560	1,897
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	4,796	5,494
Other	2,957	2,741

TABLE G.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of COLONIAL PRODUCE EXPORTED in the last FIVE YEARS.

Produce Exported.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	269,931	265,979	268,211	230,957	272,226
Spices	30,153	26,714	25,522	31,583	33,767
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,622	4,905	4,069	5,345	8,521
Live stock	1,133	1,147	1,082	1,186	1,356
Firewood	560	428	249	285	400
Fruit	404	326	713	219	430
Poultry	283	262	665	560	443
Turtle and turtle shell ...	267	351	152	235	381
Kola nuts	203	331	231	210	367
Coffee	5	126	25	238	65
Rum	—	9	70	—	2
Wool	27	23	113	22	5[illegible]
Ice	—	—	—	399	260
Logwood	39	48	30	8	—

TABLE H.

Direction of Trade in the last Five Years.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	105,592	113,953	105,425	112,138	117,292	259,079	226,715	265,936	201,799	209,310
British Colonies	57,628	58,949	50,835	43,860	57,855	5,399	4,535	10,528	12,244	5,316
Foreign Countries	69,570	73,665	82,843	79,442	81,122	47,203	72,685	34,137	69,522	107,140
Totals	232,790	246,567	239,103	235,440	256,269	311,681	303,935	310,601	283,565	321,766

TABLE I.

Trade with Foreign Countries in the last Five Years.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	66,572	71,228	80,317	76,763	76,081	31,875	38,894	26,451	51,971	61,126
France and French Colonies	1,623	650	549	478	1,146	14,249	32,909	6,356	16,819	44,906
Holland and Dutch Colonies	798	1,256	1,248	931	2,297	313	402	437	61	527
Denmark and Danish Colonies	34	35	41	43	54	—	—	18	—	13
Venezuela	372	9	416	296	784	762	481	876	671	475
Germany	163	347	226	757	667	—	—	—	—	—
Other Countries	8	138	51	174	93	4	—	—	—	93
Totals	69,570	73,663	82,848	79,442	81,122	47,203	72,686	34,138	69,522	107,140

TABLE J.

Details of Shipping in the last Two Years.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1903.			1904.			1903.			1904.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	259,361	8,766	268,127	302,820	11,211	314,031	266,745	8,843	275,588	302,820	11,052	313,872
Foreign	11,873	1,162	12,735	384	1,808	2,192	11,573	1,167	12,740	384	1,812	2,196
Viz. —												
U. S. of America ...	—	283	283	384	—	384	—	283	283	384	—	384
Holland	—	698	698	—	1,514	1,514	—	702	702	—	1,481	1,481
Venezuela	—	182	182	—	294	294	—	182	182	—	331	331
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	9,291	—	9,291	—	—	—	9,291	—	9,291	—	—	—
France	2,282	—	2,282	—	—	—	2,282	—	2,282	—	—	—

TABLE K.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools ..	9	1,309	1,092	2,401	1,189	114	1,298	—	1,412
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Roman Catholic ..	21	2,433	2,621	5,054	2,557	117	2,497	*	2,614
Anglican	9	1,099	1,042	2,141	1,121	132	1,131	*	1,263
Wesleyan	4	589	472	1,061	656	74	644	*	718
Church of Scotland ..	2	152	101	253	129	4	135	*	139
Totals for 1904 ..	45	5,582	5,328	10,910	5,652	441	5,705	—	6,146
Totals for 1903 ..	44	5,289	5,123	10,412	5,326	445	5,426	180	5,965
Increase in 1904..	1	293	205	498	326	—	279	—	181
Decrease in 1904..	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	180	—

* No returns furnished by managers for 1904.

TABLE L.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Description of School.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
					£	£	£	£
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—								
Grenada Grammar School	42	—	42	39	160	415	—	485
Victoria Girls' High School	—	31	31	28	123	56	17	221
St. Joseph's Convent School (Girls) ..	19	57	76	54	160	100	80	322
Totals for 1904	61	88	149	121	443	571	97	1,028
" " 1903	55	93	148	129	536	545	83	1,196
Increase in 1904	6	—	1	—	—	26	14	—
Decrease in 1904	—	5	—	8	93	—	—	168

TABLE M.

Criminal Statistics.

—	Average 1900–1902.	1903.	1904.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Convictions	1,065	1,379	1,346
Acquittals	311	356	310
Discharged...	505	491	632
Committed for trial at Supreme Court...	40	59	36
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrates.	1,921	2,285	2,324
Supreme Court :—			
Convictions	22	36	29
Acquittals	10	10	7
Not prosecuted	5	6	12
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	37	52	48
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	322	303	271
Prædial larceny	69	63	76
Other offences against property... ...	104	89	78
Other offences	592	960	950
Total	1,087	1,415	1,375

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
439	Malta	1903–1904
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 and 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	"
443	St. Lucia	1903
444	Basutoland	1903–1904
445	Leeward Islands	"
446	St. Vincent	"
447	Bermuda	1904
448	St. Helena	"
449	Falkland Islands	"
450	Weihaiwei	"
451	Hong Kong	"
452	Gambia	"
453	Gibraltar	"
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
455	British Honduras	"
456	Seychelles	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	1904
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Islands	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 464.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 446.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1905.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1905.

[Cd. 2684-10.] *Price* 2*d*.

CONTENTS.

		PAGE
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industry	12
III.	Legislation	19
IV.	Education	19
V.	Government Institutions	20
VI.	Judicial Statistics	21
VII.	Vital Statistics	24
VIII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	26
IX.	Military Forces and Expenditure	26
X.	General Observations	26

No. 464.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 446.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. LYTTELTON.

St. Lucia,
4th September, 1905.

Forwarded.

R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
30th August, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for transmission to the Secretary of State my report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1904-5.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir R. B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
St. Lucia.

1000 Wt 23792 10/05 D & S 5 22622

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1904–5.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of revenue and expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads, for the years 1903-4 and 1904-5, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years, 1900 to 1904-5:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1904–5 *and* 1903–4.

Heads of Revenue.	1904-5.	1903-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs:—				
Import	10,333 15 0	11,119 0 10	—	785 5 10
Export	639 16 10	640 11 5	—	0 14 7
2. Port and Harbour Dues:—				
Tonnage..	607 18 6	561 5 11	46 12 7	—
Port	131 19 0	121 1 0	10 18 0	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:—				
Licences—Liquor	325 5 0	405 5 0	—	80 0 0
Do. Other	1,161 17 3	778 3 11	383 13 4	—
Excise	2,664 0 0	1,598 10 0	1,065 10 0	—
Land and House Tax	1,975 0 4	1,468 11 1	506 9 3	—
Income Tax	509 5 10	480 13 3	28 12 7	—
Other Internal Revenue	625 9 2	562 2 9	63 6 5	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	696 4 9	627 18 9	68 6 0	—
5. Post Office..	905 18 1	823 16 0	82 2 1	—
6. Telephones	445 7 4	447 7 3	8 0 1	—
7. Rent of Government Property ..	30 0 0	58 11 8	—	28 11 8
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans ..	786 5 4	955 18 11	—	169 13 7
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	71 7 8	62 6 4	9 1 4	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands..	528 7 3	232 6 0	296 1 3	—
Total Local Revenue ..	22,447 17 4	20,943 10 1	2,568 12 11	1,064 5 8
Parliamentary Grants—				
In aid of deficit	4,500 0 0	4,000 0 0	500 0 0	—
Total General Revenue	26,947 17 4	24,943 10 1	3,068 12 11	1,064 5 8

ST. VINCENT, 1904-5.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1904-5 *and* 1903-4.

Heads of Expenditure.	1904-5.	1903-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	983 15 0	1,342 5 0	—	358 10 0
2. Pensions	2,172 4 6	2,380 13 2	—	208 8 8
3. The Governor and Legislature ..	941 2 10	939 1 9	2 1 1	—
4. Colonial Secretary, Treasury, and Customs.	2,263 1 4	2,247 1 5	15 19 11	—
5. Audit Department	349 4 8	339 14 7	9 10 1	—
6. Legal Departments	1,877 18 1	1,903 15 3	—	25 17 2
7. Police, Excise, and Prisons	3,277 15 4	3,277 1 2	0 14 2	—
8. Medical Department	1,663 10 1	1,937 7 10	—	273 17 9
9. Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,778 0 2	2,966 6 10	—	188 6 8
10. Poor Relief	934 15 8	1,109 8 1	—	174 12 5
11. Education	1,560 7 8	1,581 2 9	—	20 15 1
12. Post Office..	973 8 6	1,223 12 2	—	250 3 8
13. Telephone Department	341 8 1	339 0 1	2 8 0	—
14. Miscellaneous	1,214 1 5	1,443 7 11	—	229 6 6
15. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	600 18 11	596 7 0	4 11 11	—
16. Public Works Department	535 15 11	453 1 1	82 14 10	—
17. Do. Do. Recurrent	1,898 19 4	2,067 13 9	—	168 14 5
18. Do. Do. Extraordinary ..	624 0 10	293 9 4	330 11 6	—
19. Agricultural Department	237 12 5	216 17 11	20 14 6	—
Totals	25,228 0 9	26,657 7 1	469 6 0	1,898 12 4

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1900 *to* 1904-5.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1900.	Local	28,376		Local	29,081	
	Imperial Grant	2,050		Imperial Grant	7,040	
			30,426			36,121
1901-2.	Local	23,705		Local	26,149	
	Imperial Grant	2,907		Imperial Grant	3,423	
			26,612			29,572
1902-3.	Local	25,931		Local	25,758	
	Imperial Grant	3 361		Imperial Grant	2,632	
			29,292			28,390
1903-4.	Local	20,944		Local	26,657	
	Imperial Grant	5,572		Imperial Grant	1,458	
			26,516			28,115
1904-5.	Local	22,448		Local	25,228	
	Imperial Grant	5,818		Imperial Grant	1,287	
			28,266			26,515

NOTE.—This Table includes receipts from the Imperial Agricultural grant, and expenditure charged against the same, both of which are omitted in Table 1.

The total local revenue of the Colony for the year 1904-5 was £22,448, being £493 more than the estimate, and £1,504 in excess of the receipts of the previous year.

The gross excess of receipts over estimate was £1,582, of which £1,093 was under the head of "Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue," and the gross deficiency on estimated receipts was £1,089, of which £1,026 was under "Customs," the result being a net increase of £493, as above stated.

On a comparison of the revenue details of 1904-5 with those of the previous year, it is seen that there is an increase under nearly every head other than Customs, the most notable rise being under Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue, amounting to £1,968. This last is the result mainly of greater police activity and consequent suppression of illicit distillation. The fall in Customs was, however, £786, owing to reduced importations, there being a difference on flour alone of £450.

Other minor fluctuations contribute to the net result of £1,504 increase—the figure already given.

The gross revenue, including Parliamentary grant of £4,500 in aid of deficit, was £26,948, and in addition to this a sum of £1,318 was paid by the Imperial Government, being the annual grant for Botanic Station and Agricultural School.

The expenditure of the Colony for the same period was £25,228, as against an estimate of £26,685, and a further amount of £1,287 was expended on upkeep of the agricultural institutions.

The corresponding figures of expenditure in 1903-4 were £26,657 and £1,458.

Comparison shows a decreased expenditure of £358 on account of Public Debt, the liability on which is lessening annually, £208 on pensions, £462 on Medical Department and hospitals together, £174 on poor relief, £250 on Post Office, and £229 on miscellaneous, while the only appreciable increase is £244 on public works.

The net result of the year's working is therefore:—

Actual local revenue	£22,448
" " expenditure	25,228
Deficit	£2,780

as against an estimated deficit of £4,730.

(B.) Taxation.

No changes took place during the year under review.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

An examination of the statement subjoined shows an excess of assets of £688.

At 31st March, 1904, the account showed an excess of liabilities of £1,032.

(Table

Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d
DEPOSITS:						
Savings Bank Account...	12,128	2	2			
Police Reward Fund	55	14	3			
Town of Georgetown	14	2	4			
Town of Calliaqua	10	9	1			
Town of Bequia...	12	3	7			
Special Hurricane Loan Fund... ...	2,001	16	4			
Roads and Land Setltement Fund ...	4,875	8	7			
Soufrière Eruption Fund	30,869	6	9			
Alexander Indemnity Fund	1,056	5	11			
Graham Bequest Fund...	277	0	4			
The Imperial Agricultural Department	215	18	10			
The Home Fund	2	19	1			
Sundry Small Deposits...	76	7	6			
				51,595	14	9
INTER-COLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of St. Lucia	131	5	8			
" " Grenada	72	5	4			
				203	11	0
Drafts and Remittances				33	6	8
Post Office Account				100	3	4
Total Liabilities*				51,932	15	9
Excess of Assets				688	0	1
				£52,620	15	10

* The Public Debt is £5,050. The Colony is also responsible for the Treasury, which is at date £15,273 3*s.* 0*d.*

Examined and found correct,

WM. CUDDEFORD,
Auditor.

Audit Office, St. Vincent,
27th May, 1905.

3.)

Colony of Saint Vincent at 31st March, 1905.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				366	2	9
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				468	9	5
INVESTMENTS:						
Savings Bank Funds	11,498	13	8			
Soufrière Eruption Fund	30,956	5	11			
Alexander Indemnity Fund	1,021	0	9			
Hurricane Loan Special Fund	1,998	1	4			
Roads and Land Settlement Fund ...	3,091	0	9			
				48,565	2	5
LOANS FROM GENERAL REVENUE:						
Georgetown Extension Loan	130	9	6			
" Water Supply Loan ...	258	12	1			
Chateaubelair Latrine	35	17	2			
				424	18	9
ADVANCES:						
Kingstown Fund	527	9	9			
Town of Layou	5	4	11			
Town of Barrouallie	1	15	6			
Town of Chateaubelair	9	16	8			
Cotton Cultivation Fund	173	5	1			
Cotton Working Account	59	14	8			
Other Advances	263	6	6			
				1,040	13	1
Crown Agents, Current Account ...	255	9	5			
" " Deposit Account ...	1,500	0	0			
				1,755	9	5
Total Assets				£52,620	15	10

unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial

Treasury, St. Vincent,
26th May, 1905.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Treasurer.

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1905, stood at £5,050, as against £5,750 at the end of the previous financial year.

Of the above sum, however, the amount for which Colonial revenue is actually liable is £1,000 only.

The remainder, though guaranteed by the Colony, is repayable from the municipal funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown.

(E.) Currency.

Gold, American and British, notes of the Colonial Bank and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management and control of the affairs of the town of Kingstown are vested in a Board, half of whom are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by wardens, annually appointed by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,961	1,805	1,495	1,873*	1,657
Georgetown	120	194	179	90	164
Chateaubelair	25	38	31	27	23
Calliaqua	13	33	40	36	31
Barrouallie	38	42	33	38	29
Layou	15	18	22	28	16
Bequia	6	8	6	6	15

* Inclusive of £201 1902 revenue not passed to account till 3rd January, 1903.

Expenditure.

Town.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,902	1,759	1,637	1,609	1,650
Georgetown	133	175	204	137	120
Chateaubelair	26	35	33	31	26
Calliaqua	36	36	27	33	40
Barrouallie	36	40	60	20	27
Layou	16	15	17	23	34
Bequia	3	12	5	7	4

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at 31st March, 1905, are as follows:—

Kingstown water supply	£3,200	
Kingstown town improvement ...	400	
		£3,600
Georgetown water supply		450
		£4,050

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown Water Supply Loan is being repaid at the rate of £300 per annum, the Town Improvement Loan at the rate of £50 per annum, and the Georgetown Loan by annual instalments of £50.

In addition to the above, the town of Georgetown was indebted to general revenue for advances made in previous years for certain specific purposes in the sum of £389, as against £405 at the end of 1903-4.

The existence of this liability and the encroachment which even the small annual repayment of £15 makes on the frail revenue of this eruption-shattered village, already burdened with an annual legalised debt charge, have been frequently referred to by me, and a full representation of the circumstances has recently been sent forward with a view to an adjustment.

The town of Chateaubelair was similarly indebted in the sum of £36, its resources having admitted of no repayment during the year.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statement gives the value of the chief articles of import in 1904-5 and the previous year:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1903-4.	1904-5.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Beef, salted or cured	482	605
Biscuits	1,412	1,780
Butter	1,568	1,688
Coffee	287	201
Fish, salted, &c.	4,754	5,671
Flour, wheaten	8,840	7,951
Flour, other kinds...	477	445
Oilmeal and cake	323	362
Pork, salted	1,847	2,056
Rice	1,866	2,399
Salt	445	458
Spirits	758	908
Sugar, muscovado	128	54
Sugar, refined	309	436
Wine	581	601
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated	1,075	1,092
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	894	949
Class II.—		
Manure	51	12
Petroleum oil	1,116	1,179
Timber and shingles	6,815	4,158
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	15,717	16,262
Metal, manufactured	5,295	4,385
Boots and shoes	869	855
Cement	462	498
Rope, cordage and canvas	935	1,326
Soap	1,467	1,498
Articles unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures.	6,049	4,200

The figures given in the annual report of the Supervisor of Customs show a decrease in value of imports of £3,616, as compared with the figures of 1903-4, the distribution being as follows:—

Value of Imports.

Decrease from United Kingdom	...	£2,330
" " foreign countries	...	4,685
		£7,015
Increase from British Colonies ...	...	3,399
Net decrease ...	...	£3,616

The items in which there is the principal falling off are flour and lumber, the first being attributable to the large quantity of land in cultivation by small settlers, who are thus able to support themselves by the ground produce and do not in consequence consume the same quantity of shop provisions.

The decrease from the United Kingdom is distributed among a number of heads, the chief item being £1,576 under unenumerated manufactured articles other than textile and metal.

The figure of increase from British Colonies merely denotes the entry of provisions and goods from the United States *viâ* Barbados instead of direct, partly on account of its being cheaper to obtain the supplies at Barbados and convey them thence to St. Vincent by small sailing vessel, than to order direct from New York, owing to the difference in the rate of freight to the two places, and also partly to the fact that the amount of freight offering is an insufficient inducement to the direct steamers to come here.

The value of the principal exports is given in the annexed table:—

Exports.

Articles.	1903–4.	1904–5.
	£	£
Cassava starch	921	1,379
Whale oil	1,150	437
Turtle shell	472	341
Firewood	588	627
Cotton and cotton seed	900	4,857
Vegetables	1,329	2,340
Manure	137	97
Syrup	382	648
Sugar, muscovado	2,298	9,777
Sugar, crystallized	521	Nil
Pease	550	458
Molasses	198	652
Rum	28	204
Ground-nuts	926	1,258
Live stock	2,682	3,993
Fresh fruit	52	227
Farine	80	343
Arrowroot	21,686	20,674
Cocoa	2,155	2,255

The increase on sugar, molasses, and syrup is noticeable, also in vegetables and other ground produce and live stock, all tending to show a better condition of things among the peasantry.

This is the second year of the revival of the cotton industry in St. Vincent. Although the output was not so large as was anticipated, owing to the failure in some portions of the Island, yet it shows an encouraging increase, and in quality the St. Vincent cotton has surpassed any put on the English market.

The total imports and exports for the five years, 1900 to 1904-5, are given below:—

Imports.

Classes.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	39,900	31,828	37,861	31,643	32,534
II. Raw materials... ...	15,398	7,980	11,292	10,076	8,628
III. Manufactured articles	40,893	35,111	29,970	36,134	33,076
Totals	96,191	74,919	79,123	77,853	74,238

Exports.

Classes.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	91,154	47,243	38,781	33,023	43,374
II. Raw materials... ...	1,452	2,651	3,201	3,572	6,648
III. Manufactured articles	5,163	2,093	2,112	1,579	1,880
Totals	97,769	51,987	44,094	38,174	51,902

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years, 1900 to 1904-5, are shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	35,538	31,733	24,579	31,146	28,816
British Colonies	35,882	26,756	25,107	26,162	29,562
Foreign Countries	24,771	16,430	29,437	20,545	15,860
Totals	96,191	74,919	79,123	77,853	74,238

Exports.

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	71,584	28,306	22,333	19,204	22,192
British Colonies	14,584	12,983	15,146	16,470	26,881
Foreign Countries	11,601	10,698	6,615	2,499	2,829
Totals	97,769	51,987	44,094	38,173	51,902

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

A whale fishery, which is a very material benefit to the inhabitants of the St. Vincent Grenadines, is carried on in those Islands, notably Bequia and Canouan, but, unfortunately, in 1904-5 it was somewhat of a failure, and the value of whale oil exported was £437 only, as against £1,150 in the year previous.

The cotton ginnery, the erection of which was mentioned in my last report, started work in January, and dealt with the season's crop under the supervision of the officers of the Imperial Agricultural Department.

Owing to defects in the oil engine by which it was originally intended that the gins should be worked, a steam engine, which gives more effective power, was imported from Barbados to supply its place. A disintegrator for the crushing of cotton seed was also supplied.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanic Station.

Agriculture.

There has been some advance made during the year under this head.

The demand on the Agricultural Department for the supply of economic plants was very considerable, and from the returns it is evident that an appreciable area is being planted in cacao and other permanent crops.

The export of cacao was 742 bags, as against 443 in 1900, and in the absence of any further set-back the figure should in a few years rise to beyond what it was (1,500 bags) before the disastrous hurricane of 1898.

It should be noted, too, that a considerable quantity of cacao is consumed locally by the peasantry, and it is therefore a product of great importance to the community.

The cotton prospects are also encouraging, though disease occasioned loss in some localities, and the total yield in comparison with acreage in cultivation was in consequence disappointing.

The cotton-ginning factory was opened on January 4th last, and up to 31st March, 222,262 lbs. of seed cotton had been ginned, giving 171 bales containing 61,011 lbs. of lint.

In quality the cotton left little to be desired, and an all round price of 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb. was realised.

St. Vincent, indeed, is in the position of having produced the highest priced cotton in the Empire, and as a result, there has been a great demand for the St. Vincent seed, large quantities of which have been disposed of at a satisfactory price, after undergoing careful selection and disinfection at the hands of the agricultural officers.

In the areas devastated by the eruption, on the Leeward side, one of the estates has changed hands, and a commencement has been made in re-starting cultivation.

On the windward side, the Carib country estates, with the exception of Mt. Bentinck, are still untouched, save for the reaping of a considerable quantity of ratoon cane which, having had vitality enough to survive the effects of the volcanic blast, has now sprouted and thrown up luxuriant stools.

Large areas of land on these estates are still, however, no more than a cinderous waste, and in an ascent which I made to the summit of the Soufrière crater in April last for the purpose of observing conditions, I was much struck by the havoc wrought by water, as well as the depth and uncompromising consistency of the scoriæ, and the consequent difficulties and expense that must be attendant on any attempt at systematised cultivation.

No further lands were acquired under the Land Settlement Scheme, attention being rather directed to securing a fuller and more beneficial use of those already taken up and given out in allotments. The services of the Agricultural instructor in this direction continued to be of great use. Over 15,000 economic plants, mainly cacao, were distributed, the windbreak system was proceeded with and instructions were given, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, as to the preparation and maintenance of compost manure heaps, compliance with which has been insisted on under regulations which give the requisite power.

Considerable improvement has also been effected in the matter of the approaches to the allotments and the roads connecting with the acquired estates, a special sum from the fund having on my representations been approved by the Secretary

of State for this object, with due provision for annual expenditure on upkeep so as to ensure a state of permanent fair repair.

An agricultural show—the second—was held on March 9th under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, at which the exhibits showed considerable advance in number and quality, but the success of the day was unfortunately somewhat marred by the weather.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The price of ordinary Crown land is £1 an acre, cash, and £2 if paid in instalments. A certain area is rented out in small lots at 6*s*. 3*d*. an acre.

The law governing the disposition and administration of these lands, which is in great need of revision, is now being dealt with.

To the ordinary Crown lands, which are for the most part mountain land, have been added since the eruption of 1902 the estates acquired from the eruption fund for the location of refugees, and their administration has entailed a good deal of additional work. Over 300 grants for small tracts of these lands were issued during the year, as well as 70 for tracts of Crown land proper.

A long outstanding and thorny matter was also disposed of by the survey, sub-division, and grant to 33 persons of a tract of 142 acres which had been in years gone by apportioned to the use of the inhabitants of the so-called Carib Settlement of Greig's, by which action the tenure of these people is placed on a proper and intelligible footing, and their rights and tax obligations defined.

Arrears were steadily dealt with, and this evil has now been in large measure arrested.

The Crown lands, exclusive of eruption estates, gave the appreciable little revenue of £528 during the year under review.

(E.) Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the 15 months ended 31st March, 1904, and the year 1904-5 is annexed, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping for the last five years. These figures do not include ships-of-war, of which three British and one German visited the Colony during the year:—

Sailing Vessels.

—	January, 1903, to March, 1904.				1904–5.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	450	9,972	456	10,247	434	8,811	431	8,785
United States ...	3	425	3	425	4	530	3	484
Venezuelan ...	1	9	1	9	3	60	3	60
Dutch	5	385	5	385	3	237	3	237
French	—	—	—	—	1	23	—	—
Totals ...	459	10,791	465	11,066	445	9,661	440	9,566

Steamers.

—	January, 1903, to March, 1904.				1904–5.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	142	205,956	142	205,956	179	239,680	179	239,680
German	1	854	1	854	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	143	206,810	143	206,810	179	239,680	179	239,680

Total Shipping for last Five Years.

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	January, 1903, to March, 1904.	1904–5.
	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	144,846	181,185	190,211	217,601	249,341
Outwards	144,895	180,282	190,348	217,876	249,246
Totals	289,741	361,467	380,559	435,477	498,587

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirteen Ordinances were passed during the year 1904, of which several were of importance, viz.:—

No. 1 of 1904. The Coroners' Ordinance, a well-prepared and useful piece of legislation, replacing several less clear enactments.

No. 9 of 1904. The Licences Amendment Ordinance, which reduces the rates of liquor licences to a figure more in keeping with modern conditions, and is of importance in its connection with the suppression of illicit distillation.

Nos. 12 and 13 of 1904. The Land and House Tax Ordinance and the Income Tax Ordinance, 1904.

The first of these provides for the imposition of a house tax, which is a new direct impost in St. Vincent, levies a tax on fractional parts of an acre which were previously exempted, and institutes an entirely new system of assessment.

The second repeals the old tax law, disconnects income tax from the land tax with which it was previously united, and provides for it in a separate enactment. Being, however, only a consolidation, the imperfections of the old law are retained, and the subject is one which will require further handling. Various regulations under the authority of Ordinances were also issued.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1903-4 and 1904-5 compare as follows:—

—	1903-4.	1904-5.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number on Roll	5,466	5,244*
Average Attendance ...	2,555	2,535*
Government Grant-in-aid ...	£ 1,326	£ 1,361

* During last quarter of 1904-5.

An examination of the schools was held from May to July, by the Inspector of Schools, Grenada, on whom this duty now devolves annually.

There are no features of special interest in the report. The various teachers do their duty for the most part in a conscientious and painstaking manner, but they labour under considerable difficulties, and until the Colony can afford to provide for regular supervision of detail throughout the year by a resident educational officer, nothing great in the way of progress can be expected. The schools, however, continue to do fair work, and exercise a distinctly civilising influence in return for the money spent on their maintenance.

(B.) Secondary Education.

The Kingstown Grammar School for boys and girls was maintained throughout the year, the amount of the Government grant amounting to £124. This grant has, however, now been withdrawn.

(C.) Industrial, Technical, and Agricultural Schools.

An Agricultural School was established under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture with Imperial money in 1900, and between then and now several boys have completed their course and found employment in useful agricultural work in St. Vincent and the neighbouring Colonies.

There were 22 boys at the school on 31st March last, and the year's work was of a satisfactory character.

In the primary schools some measure of progress has been achieved by the teachers through the medium of the school gardens, in imparting the rudiments of agricultural knowledge.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

During the year there were 697 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 748 cases treated. This is a much lower figure than that of the previous year, which was 1,014.

The daily average was 55, as against 65 and 66 in the previous two years.

The death-rate was 6·95 of the total cases, which is higher than in the preceding year, attributable to the admission of a somewhat large proportion of moribund cases.

229 operations were performed, which figure includes no minor matters such as teeth extractions and the like, and the classification attached to the Medical Officer's report shows skilful and valuable work performed.

The expenditure of the institution continues to be carefully and economically supervised, there being a very considerable saving on the figures of the estimate.

The Medical Officer-in-Charge has also done much good by the establishment of an out-patient department, whereby a large number of persons from all over the island have been treated for syphilis and other diseases, and have derived great benefit.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is available for detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies; other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the pauper asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards had during the year to be partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are acute. Really, any detention of lunatics at Fort Charlotte was meant to be but provisional and temporary, pending the opportunity for their removal to the asylum at Grenada.

That asylum has had, however, latterly so many calls upon its space as to be unable to accommodate any more patients from here, and the Medical Officer of the Fort Charlotte poor house and asylum is thus compelled to make the best arrangements he can, and is confronted with considerable difficulties at times.

There were 22 cases under treatment during the year (11 being new admissions) of whom seven were discharged cured, one died, and four were transferred to the Grenada asylum.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 30, at a cost to the Colony of £558 19*s.* 9*d.*

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the leper asylum on the 31st March, 1904, was nine, and the same number were there at the close of 1904-5.

There is no compulsory segregation.

(C.) Poor Houses.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, on a considerable elevation, commanding the town of Kingstown.

There were 106 inmates on 31st March, 1904, and the admissions and discharges in 1904-5 were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions ...	32	34	66
Discharged ...	15	16	31
Died	22	13	35
	37	29	66

leaving 106 on 31st March, 1905.

The total expenditure in 1904-5 was £1,033 on the institutions, including lepers, and lunatics kept locally, as against £1,098 in 1903-4.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stage of their lives.

(D.) Reformatories.

Nil.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the work of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1900	900	7,790*	7,122	10,594
1901	907	6,108†‡	6,015	10,687
1902	992	8,781	6,501	11,975
1903	987	6,587	6,171	12,653
1904	976	5,012	5,467	12,465

* Includes £2,926 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
† Includes £1,200 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
‡ Includes Interest.

Up to 1900 the bank was established at Kingstown only, but in that year branches were opened at the small towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown.

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Kingstown	11,627	11,323
Georgetown	487	545
Chateaubelair	539	597
Total	12,653	12,465

The Government made a profit in the working of the bank of £158 14*s*.

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1904, £11,000.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The Colonial police force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth and late of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 53 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. They are, in addition to their civil duties, drilled and have some training in the use of arms, and are armed with Martini-Enfield rifles. Besides ordinary police work, they render assistance to the Government in many details of the administration, being charged with the supervision of the excise duty on rum, and with co-operating in the collection of Customs duties, district post office work, registration of births, &c., poor relief, and the management of the small district telephone exchanges. In Kingstown they are responsible for extinguishing fires, receiving from the Town Board additional pay for this service.

(B.) Prisons.

277 persons were committed to prison in the year—154 men, 87 women, and 36 juveniles. The daily average was 16·6, against 15·2 in the previous year.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1904 was 909, against 1,055 in 1903.

Of the offences reported in 1904, 206 were for offences against the person, 104 were for prædial larceny, 84 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 515 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Court in 1904 was 622 against 630 in 1903.

These convictions are classed as follows:—101 for offences against the person, 2 for malicious injuries to property, 73 for prædial larceny, 47 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 194 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., 1 for an offence against Masters and Servants Acts, &c., 204 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—2 for offences against the person, 6 for offences against property.

The acquittals were as follows:—In the Inferior Court 75; in the Supreme Court 4.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 Census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1905, was 49,236. This figure, however, as explained in previous reports, is generally considered to be inaccurate and reducible by about 15 per cent.

The births registered in 1904-5 were 1,788—922 male and 866 female—as against 1,518 in 1903-4. Of these, 1,008, or 56·38 per cent., were illegitimate.

Still-births were 130—33 legitimate and 97 illegitimate; the figures for the previous year having been 42 and 77, respectively.

Marriages show a slight decrease on last year's figures, but as explained in the last report, special influences were at work during that period.

The figures are given in the following comparative table:—

—	1902.	1903–4.	1904–5.
Church of England ...	113	79	82
Roman Catholic... ...	15	26	24
Wesleyan...	77	125	83
Church of Scotland ...	21	11	13

The total registered deaths were 876, as against 875 in 1903-4, being 17·79 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 191, being 21·80 per cent. of the whole. The similar figures in 1903-4 were 222, 25·37.

Although the estimated figure of total population is, as I have said, believed to be appreciably in excess of the reality,

yet it is pretty plain from the statistics given year by year that the number of the inhabitants of the Colony must be on the increase. There is a steadily increasing excess of birth-rate over death-rate; in the country villages and hamlets one passes through, children are largely "en evidence" at every door-step, and there are no indications to-day of any continuous drain in the other direction by emigration.

(B.) Public Health.

The figures of 1903-4 showed that year to be a particularly healthy one, the death-rate being 52 below the average of the ten years preceding. In 1904-5 the same conditions prevailed, the number of deaths registered being 876, as against 875 the year previous.

A table of the causes of death, properly classified and stated, has been prepared under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Kingstown, Dr. C. W. Branch, and it may be interesting to quote in an abridged form the information it gives:—

Cause of Death.

General (includes syphilis, 86; tubercle, 90; tetanus, 27; malarial fever, 26)	277
Nervous system	24
Circulatory system	61
Respiratory system	55
Digestive system	116
Parasites	48
Age	69
Still-born	130
Other	96
	876

(C.) Sanitation.

There is nothing special under this head to which to call attention. In the villages of the peasantry, the ideas and methods in sanitary matters are elementary in the extreme. In the towns, things are passable, but could be much improved if there were money to lay out. On the whole, however, there are no glaring evils.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year 1904-5 was 97·74 inches, as against 100·45 in 1903-4.

Rain fell on 284 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in one day was 4·50 inches, on 17th August.

August was the wettest month with 15·77 inches, and February the driest, with only 2·85 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 77·8° F. Maximum for the year 88·5° F., in October; minimum, 67°, in January and March.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The postal service was performed during the year under the contract with His Majesty's Government, since terminated, by a fortnightly service of steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company from and to Barbados, connecting there with the ocean packets. There are also lines of steamers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Canadian Government, fortnightly; and other steamers, also, from and to the United States, and direct from and to London, call at the port of Kingstown, though at somewhat irregular intervals.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward and Leeward districts of the Colony are served daily, and the islets of the Grenadines weekly.

The volume of business in the Post Office was in excess of the year previous. A direct money order system with the United States of America was inaugurated; the British postal order system was brought into force, and arrangements for insurance of letters in the post were perfected, the year being thus altogether one of progress in postal matters.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £455, and the expenditure, £341. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair, on the Leeward side, and to Georgetown, on the Windward side of the Island, about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The first steps towards establishment, under the provisions of an Ordinance passed in 1903, of a Volunteer Reserve in St. Vincent were taken, and a small expenditure of £38 10*s.* 11*d.* incurred, but the movement has not yet assumed live and practical proportions.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony in April, June, and December, 1904. The Administrator, Mr. Edward J. Cameron, proceeded to England, on leave, in June, and remained till December, the duties of the office being performed during such absence by Mr. E. D. Laborde, I.S.O., Chief of Police of St. Lucia.

Various useful public work in the direction of repairs of public buildings and property, notably the renovation throughout of the fine Court House, was carried out, and the improvement of the roads was continued.

The year was, on the whole, it may be said, uneventful, and taken up in furthering the working and progress of existent schemes for betterment of the Island, rather than in the institution of new departures.

The retrenchment and strict economy of the past few years is beginning to show, and the conditions at the commencement of the new financial period seem to justify (though the light is a little dim as yet) the hope that the Colony may ere long be able to cast off the slur of being annually dependent on financial aid from the Imperial Treasury.

Towards this desired end a very considerable stride was made during the year under review by the suppression of illicit distillation, which has for many years past been a canker undermining the financial and political health of the Colony. This suppression was carried out effectively and without mishap by the local police under the directions of Mr. F. W. Griffith, the Acting Chief, to whom great praise is due, on instructions issued as the result of correspondence arising out of the visit of inspection to the West Indies of the Excise Expert, Mr. Steele, C.B.

With regard to the cotton industry, if the results as far as yield is concerned did not come quite up to expectations, the quality at least was unquestionable, and with care and attention and a good use of the knowledge gained by experience, it is certain that planters will secure a fair return for the capital they are able to lay out.

The rise in the price of sugar was another factor tending to an improvement of agricultural conditions.

The comparatively large area of land now held in small holdings by the peasantry gives them a stake in the country such as they did not previously possess, and while it is too much to hope just at once for a thoroughly strenuous use of such lands to their full capacity, it is clear that such ownership tends to increase the comfort and physical well-being of the individual holders and their families, and, if only to such extent, must make for good.

To the Imperial Government which has, through all these dark days dating from before the hurricane of 1898, through that catastrophe and the further dire volcanic upheaval of 1902-3, stood by the Island with generous financial aid, and sound direction as to its affairs, the inhabitants of the Colony stand greatly indebted.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

30th August, 1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
437	Northern Nigeria	1903
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	"
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 & 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903-1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	"
443	St. Lucia	1903
444	Basutoland	1903–1904
445	Leeward Islands	"
456	St. Vincent	"
447	Bermuda	1904
448	St. Helena	"
449	Falkland Islands	"
450	Weihaiwei	"
451	Hong Kong	"
452	Gambia	"
453	Gibraltar	"
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
455	British Honduras	"
456	Seychelles	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	"
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Islands	Report by Mr. E. T. Simon.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 482.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 443.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

March, 1906.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1906.

[Cd. 2684-28.] *Price 2d.*

CONTENTS.

		PAGE
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	14
III.	Legislation	20
IV.	Education	21
V.	Government Institutions	23
VI.	Judicial Statistics	26
VII.	Vital Statistics	27
VIII.	Postal and Telephone Services	29
IX.	General Observations	29

No. 482.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 443.)

ADMINISTRATOR CORK to GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House,
30th January, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book for 1904.

I have, &c.,

P. C. CORK,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir Robert B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

1125 Wt 23907 3/06 D & S 5 24133

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1904.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) Revenue.

The General Revenue for the financial year ended on the 31st March, 1905, amounted to £69,272 14*s.* 6*d.*, inclusive of £1,196, the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture.

The revenue for the previous five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1899	71,479
1900	72,108
1901–2	67,365
1902–3	72,193*
1903–4	66,009

The revenue for the financial year, therefore exceeded by £3,264 that for the previous year, and the estimate by £4,419. The excess was principally due to the reimbursement by the Admiralty of £3,085 12*s.* 3*d.*, being the amount expended in previous years by the Colonial Government in the construction of a naval coal depôt, and to the transfer to General Revenue of sums of £2,002 10*s.* 6*d.* and £1,094 4*s.* 11*d.* from the Sale of Work Yard Lots Account and Police Reward Fund respectively.

In revenue from ordinary local sources there were increases under various heads amounting to £725 7*s.* 4*d.*, and decreases under other heads amounting to £3,157 3*s.* 7*d.*, the net result being a decrease of £2,431 16*s.* 3*d.* As will be seen from the following statement, the principal decreases occurred under "Customs," "Rum Duty," and "Road Tax."

* Includes the special Imperial Grant of £3,000 in aid of the sugar industry.

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1905.

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate for 1904–5.	Actual Revenue to 31st March, 1905.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	31,500 0 0	30,386 13 10	31,860 9 11	—	1,473 16 1
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	5,000 0 0	4,696 8 3	4,259 7 4	437 0 11	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	18,350 0 0	17,977 6 3	18,512 12 1	—	535 5 10
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in Aid	4,582 12 0	4,354 12 3	4,342 5 3	12 7 0	—
5. Post Office	1,300 0 0	1,300 19 8	1,402 1 5	—	101 1 9
6. Telephone	559 8 0	608 15 5	533 10 2	75 5 3	—
7. Miscellaneous	170 0 0	452 11 9	251 17 7	200 14 2	—
8. Interest	1,714 10 0	1,727 19 5	2,592 9 4	—	864 9 11
9. Repayment of Loans	388 10 0	388 10 0	571 0 0	—	182 10 0
	63,565 0 0	61,893 16 10	64,325 13 1	725 7 4	3,157 3 7
9A. Part proceeds of Sale of Work Yard Lots.	—	2,002 10 6	—	2,002 10 6	—
9B. Re-imbursements of Expenditure on Admiralty Coal Shed	—	3,085 12 3	—	3,085 12 3	—
9C. Balance transferred from Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund ...	—	1,094 4 11	—	1,094 4 11	—
10. Imperial Department of Agriculture—Grant-in-Aid	1,196 10 0	1,196 10 0	1,683 0 0	—	486 10 0
11. Interest on Investment of Baron Trust Money	92 0 0	—	—	—	—
Total	64,853 10 0	69,272 14 6	66,008 13 1	6,907 15 0	3,643 13 7

(B.) Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year was £65,508, of which £61,725 was on account of general services, and £3,782 on those of a special nature, *i.e.*:—

Public Works Extraordinary	£2,562
Agriculture	1,220

The expenditure for the previous five years was as follows:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1899	63,821
1900	64,750
1901–2	67,486
1902–3	69,408
1903–4	70,692

The following statement details the expenditure of 1904-5 under the heads of the estimate:—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1905.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1904–5 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1905.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	11,420 19 6	11,443 3 7	14,923 17 6	—	3,480 13 11
2. Pensions	1,703 4 8	1,798 18 5	1,439 3 11	359 14 6	—
3. Governor and Legislature	3,003 12 5	2,942 18 1	2,964 0 10	—	21 2 9
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department.	3,185 0 0	3,090 0 8	3,098 8 4	—	8 7 8
5. Audit	577 16 0	554 13 1	510 16 4	43 16 9	—
6. Port and Marine	878 6 0	898 16 4	831 18 9	66 17 7	—
7. Legal	4,894 6 6	5,103 0 9	4,470 1 9	632 19 0	—
8. Police	4,435 4 0	4,530 15 11	4,265 18 11	264 17 0	—
9. Prisons	1,271 16 0	1,482 14 1	1,274 5 1	208 9 0	—
10. Medical	6,255 9 5	5,934 6 7	6,084 19 7	—	150 13 0
11. Sanitary	312 0 0	168 5 9	289 2 11	—	120 17 2
12. Charitable	780 0 0	707 6 3	844 16 10	—	137 10 7
13. Immigration	30 10 0	30 10 0	124 8 0	—	93 18 0
14. Education	4,364 16 0	4,275 12 11	4,296 12 1	—	20 19 2
15. Ecclesiastical	1,600 0 0	1,600 0 0	1,545 0 0	55 0 0	—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony—*cont.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1904–5 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1905.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
16. Miscellaneous...	5,702 0 0	5,503 17 1	6,222 2 3	—	718 5 2
17. Post Office	1,817 16 0	1,854 3 10	1,982 18 4	—	128 14 6
18. Telephone	1,005 6 0	997 5 3	909 3 3	88 2 0	—
19. Agriculture (from local funds)	370 18 1	359 3 4	223 19 7	135 3 9	—
20. Public Works Department	1,080 1 0	1,099 17 1	1,102 10 11	—	2 13 10
21. Survey and Crown Lands Department ...	787 0 0	659 3 1	656 16 5	2 6 8	—
22. Public Works Recurrent	6,658 0 0	6,690 11 6	5,813 1 1	877 10 5	—
	62,134 1 7	61,725 3 7	63,874 2 8	2,734 16 8	4,883 15 9
23. Public Works Extraordinary	1,000 0 0	2,562 1 10	5,448 18 2	—	2,886 16 4
	63,134 1 7	64,287 5 5	69,323 0 10	2,734 16 8	7,770 12 1
19A. Agriculture (from Imperial funds) ...	1,216 10 0	1,220 9 8	1,368 14 5	—	148 4 9
Total	64,350 11 7	65,507 15 1	70,691 15 3	2,734 16 8	7,918 16 10

The total estimated expenditure was £64,351, and the actual expenditure, therefore, exceeded the estimate by £1,157, but was less than the total revenue by £3,765.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The surplus assets of the Colony amounted at the 31st March, 1905, to £23,189, arrived at as follows:—

Surplus at 31st March, 1904	£16,864
Add the amount of the excess of revenue over expenditure for 1904-5 (exclusive of receipts and disbursements on account of Imperial Grant for Agriculture)	3,789
Interest received on investments of Surplus Funds	2,536
	£23,189

The details of the assets and liabilities are given below:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

LIABILITIES.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1905. March 31.	Savings Bank Deposit Account—			
	First District ...	13,716 17 5		
	Second District ...	1,071 11 6		
	Third District ...	539 11 5		
			15,328 0 4	
	Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...		1,552 10 5	
	Towns and Villages Funds		794 9 8	
	Imperial Post Office Fund		225 7 10	
	Post Office Money Order Account ...		166 3 10	
	Grenada Intercolonial Account ...		605 12 11	
	Land Sales Fund		864 2 2	
	Castries Town Fund		428 0 7	
	Work Yard Account		131 17 5	
	Savings Bank Working Account ...		90 6 7	
	Police Recreation Fund		24 6 1	
	Suspense Account—			
	Sale of Work Yard Lots		2,295 7 11	
	Prison Officers' Reward Fund		4 0 1	
	Immigration Fund		792 10 0	
	Hire of "Midge" Account		39 1 11	
	Interest Baron Trust Money Account		97 6 11	
	Postal Order Account		158 0 5	
	Suspense Account—			
	Shipping Master		11 8 4	
	Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture		37 13 9	
				23,646 7 2*
	Interest on Investment of Surplus Funds		2,536 0 8	
	Surplus and Deficit Account		20,653 4 7	
				23,189 5 3
				46,835 12 5

1905. March 31.	Excess of Assets over Liabilities of the Colony of St. Lucia, exclusive of sums due to Debenture and Stock Holders, at 31st March, 1905	£23,189 5 3

of the Colony at 31st March, 1905.

ASSETS.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1905. March 31	Cash on hand	144	5	1			
	Colonial Bank Current Account ...	774	1	6			
	Colonial Bank Deposit Account— Savings Bank	1,500	0	0			
	Investments on account of Savings Bank.	13,416	14	11			
	Investments on account of Public Buildings Insurance Fund.	1,552	10	5			
	Investments on account of Surplus Funds.	24,902	18	5			
	Loan to Castries Town Board for acquisition of Recreation Ground.	1,200	0	0			
	Loan to Castries Town Board for Cemetery.	715	14	5			
					44,206	4	9
	Advances:						
	Sundry Services	327	2	0			
	St. Vincent Intercolonial Account...	131	5	8			
	Drafts and Remittances Account ...	1,475	16	8			
	Micoud Village Fund	0	16	5			
					1,935	0	9
	Crown Agents' Current Account ...				694	6	11
					46,835	12	5

(D.) Surplus Funds.

The investments held on this account at the 31st March, 1905, amounted to £24,903 against £22,774 on the same date in the previous year.

It is to be noted, however, that the statement of assets and liabilities shows a surplus of only £23,189, the difference of £1,714 representing a portion of the proceeds of the sale of Work-yard lots.

(E.) Public Debt.

At the 31st March, 1905, the public debt stood at £164,680, as compared with £167,880 at the same date in the previous year. Of the former amount, the Castries Town Board is responsible for £17,000.

Of the total debt £79,200 is due to debenture holders, receiving rates of interest varying from 4½ per cent. to 6 per cent. per annum; and £85,480 to holders of inscribed stock, receiving interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

(F.) Towns and Villages.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the towns and villages of the Colony, and their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1905:—

Town or Village.	1900.		1901–2.		1902–3.		1903–4.		1904–5.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1905.	Balance at 31st March, 1905.
	Revenue.	Expenditure	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries ...	5,993	5,516	7,371	8,192	6,151	5,316	5,985	6,137	5,758	6,036	19,466	+ 428
Soufrière ...	371	273	298	180	2,327*	2,612*	370	329	486	559	2,000*	+ 116
Vieux-Fort ...	156	94	137	116	161	164	158	120	154	123	—	+ 78
Laborie... ...	58	35	57	43	60	57	63	60	63	55	—	+ 31
Canaries ...	36	26	23	35	35	50	33	35	34	14	—	+ 108
Dennery ...	97	146	94	323	118	99	120	97	121	159	—	+ 201
Gros-Islet ...	88	58	98	52	92	91	99	51	96	70	—	+ 129
Anse-la-Raye ...	69	32	52	122	56	47	56	47	58	57	—	+ 91
Choiseul ...	299	18	34	62	38	23	37	24	42	18	—	+ 42
Micoud	48	92	48	54	61	64	64	74	72	66	—	− 1

* For a Water Supply. The Loan was made from Savings Bank Funds, and is repayable in 27 years from the 1st July, 1902.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1904 was £370,706, and of the exports £172,030, including bunker coal supplied to steamers to the value of £70,580.

The imports and exports for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.		Total.
		General.	Bunker Coal.	
	£	£	£	£
1900	403,597	104,881	124,555	229,436
1901	382,652	77,871	110,196	188,067
1902	326,324	73,458	84,295	157,753
1903	351,086	105,983	63,506	169,489
1904	370,706	101,449	70,581	172,030

The values of the chief articles imported in 1904 are given below, as also those for the previous year:—

Articles.	1904.	1903.
Class 1.	£	£
Live animals—		
Cattle	5,867	5,998
Horses and Mules	672	1,460
Sheep	1,835	1,640
Food and Drink Supplies—		
Ale, Beer, &c.	3,586	3,170
Bacon and Hams	1,523	784
Beef and Pork; salted, canned, etc. ...	3,804	4,131
Biscuits (common and fancy)	1,350	1,253
Butter	3,512	3,490
Oleomargarine	1,589	894
Cheese	980	884
Cocoa	910	427
Coffee	1,739	1,319
Confectionery	949	662
Corn or Maize	501	523
Fish (salted and dried)	10,076	9,682
Flour of Wheat	19,029	19,285
Fruits and Vegetables	1,969	2,260
Hay and Straw	893	781
Ice	513	358

Chief Articles of Import as compared with last year—cont.

Articles.	1904.	1903.
Class I—*continued.*	£	£
Food and Drink Supplies—*continued.*		
Lard	1,380	1,037
Medicines	2,331	1,751
Oats	2,133	1,801
Oil, Lard, Olive and other	980	805
Pease and Beans	1,128	1,243
Preserves	2,110	1,879
Rice	2,560	2,540
Spirits: Whisky, Gin, and Brandy ...	2,785	2,861
Sugar	689	184
Wines	3,570	3,596
Narcotics—		
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes	3,409	3,116
Class II.		
Raw Materials—		
Coal	63,199	70,138
Manure	5,055	5,352
Oil (Cotton Seed)	3,379	3,472
Oil (Engine & Paint)	623	653
Oil (Petroleum)	2,838	2,353
Wood (Pitch Pine)	4,647	98
Wood (White Pine)	4,686	2,815
Class III.		
Textile Manufactures—		
Bags (empty)	1,381	756
Cottons and Woollens	21,346	24,877
Rope and Cordage	624	372
Silks and Satins	601	603
Metal Manufactures—		
Hardware	6,945	2,679
Iron (galvanized)...	1,431	2,207
Machinery for industrial purposes ...	3,034	2,947
Manufactured articles other than above—		
Books, Printed	749	852
Boots and Shoes	6,102	5,010
Cement	765	1,585
Earthenware	1,141	1,486
Furniture	2,090	2,347
Glassware	1,224	1,152
Haberdashery	20,432	21,508
Matches	535	726
Musical Instruments	634	355
Paints, Dyes, and Varnish	1,024	1,060
Perfumery...	927	778
Soap (common)	2,510	2,727
Stationery...	1,114	937

Of the imports in 1904, goods to the value of £241,027 came from the United Kingdom; £29,401 from British Colonies; and £100,278 from foreign countries.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

There are no mines of any description in operation. The proposal to work the sulphur mine at Soufrière fell through.

A fairly large number of boats is engaged in fishing around the coast of the Island, but solely for the purpose of supplying the local market, and no attempt is made at preserving for export purposes.

In addition to the quantity exported, the sugar and rum consumed in the Colony are almost entirely the produce of the local factories and distilleries.

(C.) Agricultural Industries, &c.

The growth of the sugar cane and of cocoa are the only considerable agricultural industries of the Island. The people grow native foodstuffs for their own consumption, but the amount exported is inappreciable. A small quantity of fruit is exported, but fruit cultivation cannot be considered a serious industry. During the past ten years little or no progress has been made, as the following comparative statement of exports will show:—

—	1894.	1904.
	£	£
Cocoa ...	28.513	29,008
Coffee...	211	28
Cocoanuts	30	5
Fruits ...	1,016	548
Ginger...	8	—
Rum ...	106	237
Sugar ...	66,162	53,799
Molasses	3,722	—
Vegetables and provisions ...	28	404
Fuel wood	905	556
Hoe sticks	20	579
Logwood	37,359	1,089
Posts and Piles	227	62
Spokes, Sleepers, &c.	82	99
Pimento Sticks	2,065	66
Animals (alive, including cattle, horses, pigs, poultry, rabbits, and sheep).	—	444
Arrowroot	—	25
Cassava and Farine ...	—	269
Cassia Fistula	—	62
Honey ...	—	82
Kola ...	—	44
Nutmegs and Mace ...	—	27
Cotton and Cotton Seed	—	119
Hides, Hoofs, and Horns	—	722
Horsehair	—	730
Musk Seeds ...	—	156
Timber (local)	—	90

It may be observed with regard to cocoa that 1904 appears to have been an unfavourable year, as the yield was 1,803 bags less than in 1903, and the price was low as compared with 1894. Generally, progress in agriculture made in one direction seems to have been counterbalanced by retrogression in another, the principal interests affected being sugar and logwood, this latter being almost wiped out.

The reports on the cotton experiments show that, though good samples of lint were obtained, they resulted in failure to cover expenses. I learn on enquiry that the cultivation was done by hand labour, and I do not think that cotton on a considerable scale can be made to pay unless level land can be secured, where ploughs, cultivators, and cotton planters can be used, and where plantations are sheltered from high winds and excessive rainfall when the cotton is becoming dry and the lint exposed. The number of places where cotton could be grown to advantage is probably not large, as the bulk of the land is hilly and more suitable for rubber and cocoa. The Central American Rubber (*Castilloa elastica*) seems particularly adapted to these latitudes, and would probably handsomely repay intelligent cultivation and treatment. Cocoa has long passed the experimental stage, and may be regarded as a staple industry of the Colony.

Botanic Station.

Since the opening of the Agricultural School at "Union" in 1901, this Station has been principally of use as a plant nursery and a distributing centre for economic and decorative plants, and as a public garden for the enjoyment of residents and visitors to Castries.

Agricultural School and Experiment Stations.

The average number of boys at the school was twenty. Progress was maintained in the indoor work. Discipline was good, and the health of the boys satisfactory. Increased interest in their individual gardens was reported, and excellent vegetables were produced. Four boys left the school—one being expelled for insubordination, one discharged on special grounds, and two having completed their terms at the school.

Experiments were made at the school in the growth of Sea Island and Upland cotton, yams, cow peas, cacao, rubber, kola, cassava, sweet potatoes, musk okra, papaw, Bhabar grass, Egyptian beans, Egyptian clover, yam bean.

The live stock at the school includes one cow, eleven woolless sheep, and fifteen Belgian hares. There were two colonies of bees, which it was contemplated to increase to a sufficient number to allow of each pupil having one hive under his management.

The experiments in other parts of the Island consisted of manurial and other treatment of established cocoa, some of which was in a diseased condition, planting cotton, pine-apples, limes, and vanilla. Bee-keeping also engaged attention, and the number of colonies in the Island is reported to be 400.

All these experiments have an educational value, and indicate from actual experience the directions in which planters may expect to succeed when embarking in agricultural pursuits in the Island.

The number of plants distributed from all the Stations or imported for distribution was 34,995, of which 2,192 were returned as decorative plants. In addition 714 packets of seeds, 1,373 cuttings, 338 bouquets, and 6 wreaths were disposed of.

The total expenditure on agriculture in the Colony as shown by the auditor's report was:—

	£	s.	d.
From local funds	359	3	4
From Imperial funds	1,220	9	8
	£1,579	13	0

(D.) Crown Lands.

One hundred and twenty-two new applications were received for the purchase of Crown lands of an area totalling 843 acres. In the previous year the number of applications was 58.

No cases were submitted to the Governor-in-Council for alienation during the year, the Commissioner of Crown Lands reporting that it was not possible to put the applications through the various stages.

The revenue of the Crown lands and Survey Department for the year was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey fees	273	15	0
Deposits on account	87	0	0
Instalments	492	17	3
Sundries	47	19	9
Refunds: Sale of lots, "Union"...	224	3	5
,, "Malgré Tout"...	224	2	10
	£1,349	18	3

The expenditure was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Survey fees, private	100	15	6
,, allotments	322	17	4
Roads	254	15	4
Advances, "Union"	111	18	0
,, "Malgré Tout" ...	47	6	10
Refunds of deposits	39	9	0
Miscellaneous	140	10	5
	1,017	12	7
Pay of staff, &c.	642	16	4
	£1,660	8	11

The net result of the operations of the Department during the year was, therefore, an excess expenditure of £310 10*s.* 8*d.* with no work completed.

(E.) Shipping.

The number of steamers which entered Castries (the only port of entry in the Island) was 450 with an aggregate tonnage of 643,437 tons. This is an improvement on 1903 when only 420 steamers of 426,486 tons visited the port. The great majority of these steamers called for coaling purposes, and the export of bunker coal amounted in value to £70,581, an increase of £7,075 over 1903.

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1899	364	525,255	222	6,813	113	101,019	49	4,451
1900	473	751,463	271	9,009	147	154,695	41	6,258
1901	461	770,443	273	9,634	124	148,488	15	4,260
1902	430	682,878	338	11,001	108	141,240	71	3,869
1903	354	542,095	269	7,470	66	84,391	152	5,212
1904	373	544,895	231	7,349	77	98,544	45	2,899

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1899	367	528,883	219	6,450	113	101,019	51	5,463
1900	473	749,172	266	8,530	147	156,988	39	5,480
1901	460	768,110	266	9,788	124	142,488	15	5,509
1902	432	685,282	346	10,994	108	141,240	68	3,579
1903	352	540,122	280	7,664	66	84,391	150	4,564
1904	374	546,795	237	7,537	77	98,544	45	2,869

The large number of steamers which coaled at Castries during the three years 1900-2 has been attributed to the South African war, a large number of transports having called here *en route* from American ports to the Cape. Trade has now resumed its normal level.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were placed on the Statute Book during the year. Of these four were the ordinary Appropriation Ordinances. Ordinance No. 1 prohibited the keeping of carrier pigeons; No. 4 provided for the punishment of persons neglecting to maintain relatives dependent on them; No. 5 amended the Vaccination Ordinance; No. 6 was passed to restrict the introduction of paupers and of criminal and vicious immigrants; No. 7 consolidated and amended the Laws relating to medical and dental practitioners, the practice of midwifery, and the qualifications of chemists and druggists; No. 8 gave effect in this Colony to His Majesty's Order-in-Council with respect to foreign marriages; Nos. 9, 10, 13, and 14 amended the Post Office Ordinance, 1881, the Civil Code, the Coroners Ordinance, 1891, and the Law relating to police pensions and retiring allowances.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Primary.

The general statistics for the year are given in the following table:—

Schools.	No.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.	Government Grant.
					£
Anglican	4	644	340	445	395
Wesleyan	1	320	160	186	119
East Indian Mission ...	1	58	25	25	36
Roman Catholic	37	5,996	3,159	4,197	2,880
Total	43	6,998	3,684	4,853	3,430

The number of children on the rolls was substantially the same as last year, the increase being only 9, and the number of schools the same—43. The actual average attendance, however, fell from 3,845 in 1903 to 3,684. The number examined was 4,853, as against 4,811 in 1903. The estimated population of the Colony is stated as 52,682, and the Inspector of Schools bases on this estimate the following averages, assuming the children of school-age to be about one-fifth of the population:—Children, about 10,000; on rolls, about 70 per cent., or over 13 per cent. of total population; in daily average attendance, about 37 per cent.; presented for examination, rather less than 50 per cent. I am inclined to think that the estimate of population is high, as emigration has not apparently been made a factor in the calculation, but as I believe that the bulk of the people who emigrate are men, the proportion of children to population may be high.

A compulsory Education Ordinance was passed in 1902, but the Inspector reports that it has remained a dead letter, and alleges that there are various causes which make it extremely difficult to enforce it in this Colony. He further reports:—"The Colony does not possess the machinery necessary to force masses of recalcitrant children into school, nor does it possess sufficient school accommodation to receive them." I may observe, that the main difficulty is a financial one, but the irregularity and unpunctuality of attendance seem to indicate considerable apathy on the part of the parents, and I conceive that it would be next door to impossible to make compulsory attendance general throughout the remote country districts without a large expenditure on school officers, who would need

to be provided with horses, and a considerable addition to the business of the District Courts.

The amount of school fees collected was £17 5*s*. 3½*d*. only. The two Anglican schools in Castries are the only primary schools which receive fees.

The Government grant amounted to 18*s*. 8*d*. per unit of average attendance, but the Inspector reports that certain schools had for a time been drawing higher grants than they were entitled to, and an adjustment had to be made which will slightly reduce the average for 1905. The amount of £5 3*s*. 11*d*. was spent on requisites for school gardens.

(B.) Secondary.

Secondary education is provided for boys by the Saint Mary's College, and for girls by the Saint Joseph's Convent. The former school received a Government grant of £400, and the latter one of £50.

There were 51 boys on the roll of the College with 49 in average attendance, the similar figures for Saint Joseph's Convent being 100 and 90, respectively.

The boys are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the girls for those of the London College of Preceptors.

One of the conditions attached to the grant to Saint Mary's College is the right to have 10 Government scholars educated at the College free of charge. Through some misunderstanding, 12 instead of 10 competitors were admitted after the examination in December, 1903. The report on these boys shows work "very good" in 5 cases, "good" in 3, "fair" in 3, "profitless" in 1. In 2 cases the scholarships were withdrawn, but in 1 of these the boy returned as a paying pupil. Two passed the Cambridge Junior and four the Cambridge Preliminary Examinations. Four entered the Government Service.

At the examination in December, 1904, to fill four vacancies, nine candidates presented themselves. The successful ones obtained out of a total of 400 marks 326, 252, 250, 244.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(i.) Hospitals and Asylums.

The following statement tabulates the principal statistics for 1904 relating to the hospitals and asylums of the Colony: —

Institutions.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during 1904.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.		No. of Deaths.
				Cured.	Relieved.	
Victoria Hospital, Castries ...	81	1,262	63	804	319	82
Soufrière Hospital	22	63	7	54	11	18
Vieux-Fort Hospital	11	94	7	79	5	8
Dennery "	7	214	7	160	34	15
Yaws Hospital, Soufrière ...	20	60	20	26	1	11
Poor Asylum " ...	43	94	37	—	73	24

(ii.) Dispensaries.

Out-door medical relief is given through the medium of a dispensary in each district, at which a medical officer attends every week.

The number of patients treated in 1903 and 1904 was as follows:—

Dispensary.	1903.	1904.
Castries	7,637	16,728
Gros-Islet	684	514
Dennery	989	924
Anse-la-Raye	853	384
Soufrière	1,387	1,224
Choiseul	295	198
Vieux-Fort	1,204	1,034
Laborie	325	518
Micoud	627	546
Total	14,001	22,070

Of the 1,971 cases treated in the hospitals and asylums the bulk are traceable to preventable causes. The following list indicates the principal diseases:—

Syphilis	351	
Gonorrhœa	14	
Urinary and generative system	102	
	——	467
Malaria		282
Parasites (Ankylostoma, &c.)		203
Wounds, fractures, burns, &c.		122
Ulcers		100
Yaws		69
Pulmonary tubercle		42

The Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital and Castries Dispensary reports: "7,102 cases were treated at the Castries Dispensary and 9,626 ulcers were dressed. It appears needless to classify the ailments treated, as was done in former years, under the various systems of the body. The type of cases treated presents no difference from the more correct classification afforded by the hospital returns. The prominent features in both are syphilis, malaria, and intestinal parasites."

(iii.) Out-door Relief of Paupers.

The number of persons in receipt of out-door relief on the 31st December, 1904, was 222.

Under the present system of relief each person on the list is seen at least once a month by the Relieving Officer of the district, who issues to each recipient a ticket, and the allowance is paid on the next pay-day by the Pay Officer on the production of this ticket. By this arrangement the Relieving Officer is able to keep himself acquainted with the circumstances of each recipient, particularly those who are only temporarily on the list, and also to ascertain that each allowance reaches its proper destination. The system apparently works satisfactorily.

(iv.) Savings Bank.

The principal bank is in Castries, and there are branches at Soufrière (II. District), and Vieux-Fort (III. District).

The following statement shows the transactions of the bank for the five years ended the 31st December, 1904:—

Year.	Total number of depositors on 31st December of each year.	Total deposits inclusive of Interest.			Total Withdrawals.			Amount on deposit at the end of each year.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1900	1,405	17,487	18	10	16,953	12	4	14,418	16	5
1901	1,467	20,891	5	3	22,022	7	5	13,287	14	3
1902	1,590	20,365	12	6	17,696	8	6	15,956	18	3
1903	1,584	18,338	16	7	17,084	5	11	17,211	8	11
1904	1,642	18,990	15	5	20,568	7	1	15,633	17	3

The decrease in the amount on deposit at the end of the year is attributed by the Manager chiefly to withdrawals for transmission to India of the savings of East Indian immigrants repatriated. On the other hand, it will be observed that the balance at the end of the year rose from £15,957 in 1902 to £17,211 in 1903.

The accounts under £1 numbered 969; £1 and under £5, 262; £5 and under £10, 81; £10 and under £20, 106. It is therefore evident that the class of persons for which the benefits of the institution are primarily intended avails itself of them to a large extent.

Investments to the extent of £14,916 14*s.* 11*d.* were held in England by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Bank.

The working account of the Bank showed a revenue of £664 1*s.* 8*d.*, and an expenditure of £437 8*s.* 1*d.* The excess of revenue, £226 13*s.* 7*d.*, was transferred to General Revenue.

(v.) Friendly Societies.

There are 13 Friendly Societies in the Island with an aggregate number of members on the rolls on the 31st December, 1904, of 1,508, and of balances at the same date of £994 2*s.* 1½*d.*

The disbursements during the year were:—

Sick benefits	£702	0	7
Funeral claims	109	10	2
Working expenses	689	10	4½
Purchase of property	70	16	0
Payments to withdrawing members ...	48	1	9½
	£1,619	18	11

The working expenses appear disproportionate to other disbursements.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The strength of the Force is one officer and 69 non-commissioned officers and men.

Eleven men joined the Force during the year, taking the place of five who resigned, four who were dismissed, and two pensioned.

On 1st January the Police Reward Fund had a credit balance of £1,841 7*s.* 2*d.* The fund was closed in December under authority of Ordinance No. 14 of 1904, and after the repayment to all contributors of the amount each claimant was entitled to receive, the balance of £1,094 4*s.* 11*d.* was transferred to the general revenue of the Colony, from which source police pensions will in future be paid.

There were 1,370 prosecutions by the police during the year, 42 being for indictable offences, and 1,378 for those amenable to summary jurisdiction.

(B.) Prisons.

At the commencement of the year there were 66 prisoners in the Royal Gaol—55 males and 11 females.

The number of committals during the year was 876—615 adult males, 237 adult females, and 24 juveniles.

—	1903.	1904.
For Statutory Offences ...	476	536
„ Non-payment of Road Tax	71	117
„ Military Offences	54	36
„ Safe custody, trial, &c. ...	186	187
	767	976

The daily average number of prisoners in custody was 60·67, not taking into account the long-sentence St. Lucia prisoners who are undergoing their sentences in the Grenada Prison—the daily average of whom was 12·27. The corrected daily average for St. Lucia would be 72·94, as against a similar total of 63·51 in 1903.

One prisoner escaped during the year from a gang employed outside the prison. He was recaptured within a few days by the police.

The labour of the prisoners during the year is valued at £699 13*s.* 3*d.*; the principal item is for quarrying and breaking stones.

The expenditure on the prison was £1,505, of which £191 was for the maintenance of St. Lucia prisoners at Grenada.

The Medical Officer reports the health and sanitary conditions of the prison and its inmates to have been most satisfactory. The daily average on the sick list was 1·1. No death from disease occurred in the prison, but three prisoners were executed.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The following figures summarise the chief items of the criminal statistics for the last four years:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Offences reported to the police ...	2,258	2,790	1,942	2,032
Summary convictions—				
For offences against the person	272	333	255	355
" prædial larceny	21	48	28	29
" offences against property ...	138	133	77	124
" other offences	1,185	1,430	877	1,059
Convictions by the Superior Court—				
For offences against the person	5	6	12	17
" " " property ...	5	17	11	13
" other offences	4	1	2	2

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The estimated total population on the 31st December was 52,682, which shows an increase of 15·4 per thousand during the year, and was composed of 25,240 males and 27,442 females.

The birth-rate of the year was 34·8 per thousand, as compared with 38·2 per thousand in 1903; and the death-rate 19·4 per thousand, compared with 19·6 per thousand in 1903. The number of births was 1,950, and of deaths 1,149.

The population on the 7th April, 1901, according to the Census taken on that date, was 49,883, made up of 23,821 males and 26,062 females. The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths from the date of the Census to the 31st December, 1904, has been, therefore, approximately, 2,801, or about 5 per cent., equivalent to an annual increase for the same period of about 1·87 per cent.

The number of marriages during the year was 332, as against 311 in the previous year.

These figures are obtained from the Report of the Registrar-General, but as no deduction was made of persons leaving the Island, they appear to me to be subject to modification.

A return, compiled by the Chief of Police from figures supplied to him by the agents of passenger steamers and other vessels calling here, shows that 4,407 persons left the Island in 1903 and 4,485 in 1904. The number who arrived was not ascertained.

(B.) Public Health.

No epidemic disease occurred, and the mortality-rate of 19·4 per thousand shows that in spite of the number of cases of preventable diseases which were treated in the hospitals and dispensaries, St. Lucia is a healthy tropical island. The hospital and dispensary returns may be accepted as an almost complete index of the condition of the public health, because, with the exception of a few comparatively well-to-do people, no one pays for medical attendance or medicines, which are supplied freely at Government expense.

(C.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year, as recorded at the Botanic Station in Castries, was 77·72 inches, and it fell on 210 days; but at the Agricultural School at Union, only $1\frac{3}{5}$ miles off in a direct line, the fall recorded was 75·52 inches. At Errard Estate, towards the eastern centre of the Island, 74·86 inches were recorded, and at Soufrière, on the south-western coast, 95·03 inches fell.

The wettest months of the year were January and July to October, whilst the driest were March and December.

The Botanic Station is the only place in the Colony at which continuous meteorological observations of a reliable nature have been made for any length of time, and the following figures are taken from its records: —

Rainfall.

Year.	Inches.
1899	84·64
1900	73·25
1901	99·71
1902	91·43
1903	86·84
Average	87·17
1904	77·72

The absolute maximum temperature registered during 1904 was 95·5° in the month of July, and the absolute minimum temperature 59° in February. The mean maximum and minimum for the year were 85·1° and 70·3°, respectively. The mean barometrical pressure for the year was 30·007 inches at 10 feet above mean sea-level.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(A.) Post Office.

The revenue of the Department was £2,628 14*s.* 3*d.*, of which £2,271 11*s.* 6*d.* was received from letters, post-cards, &c., and £123 5*s.* 11*d.* from sales of stamps to collectors.

The expenditure was £2,068 14*s.* 7*d.*, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure was, therefore, £559 19*s.* 8*d.*

The total number of letters and post-cards dealt with was 360,789, as compared with 327,637 in 1903; newspapers, &c., 139,837, as compared with 119,663 in the previous year; and 4,201 parcels, as compared with 4,029 in 1903. The major portion of the correspondence was with the United Kingdom.

The total value of the money order business was £11,068, the share of the United Kingdom in which was £5,688.

(B.) Telephones.

The length of telephone lines open was 125 miles, and there were 124 subscribers.

The receipts amounted to £608 15*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenses to £997 5*s.* 3*d.*, the amount including a charge of £225 for interest, &c., on the loan raised for the construction of the system.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

I regret that my observations must be of a very fragmentary nature. This report relates to a period which ended ten and a half months before my arrival in the Island, and since I assumed the administration of the Government in November it has not been possible to devote attention to it except at odd moments, as I have been carrying on the current work and considering the Estimates for 1906-7, assisted only by an inadequate staff of two clerks.

The year 1904, though, perhaps, not quite so prosperous as regards imports, exports, public revenue, or the volume of shipping as other recent years which might be selected as records in one or other of these evidences of prosperity, was, nevertheless, on the whole a good year for trade. Imports increased, as compared with 1903, by £19,620, exports by £2,541, and shipping, entered and cleared, by 33,523 tons. The public revenue from ordinary local sources declined to the amount of £2,432, and as this is doubtless entirely due to the stoppage of military works and the Imperial expenditure thereon, the decision to remove the troops was a severe blow to St. Lucia, and swept away at one stroke one of the foundations of its recent prosperity. Speaking after the event, as I only arrived in the Colony a little over a month ago, and, therefore, have no need to prophesy, the revenue continues to decline and may for the future be expected not to recover the high level of recent years until the lands in the interior are opened up and settled and the production of exportable articles increased.

The slight revival in the coal trade of nearly £7,000 more than counterbalanced the decrease of 1,803 bags of cocoa exported.

Nothing was done during the year towards deepening the harbour of Castries, and the question has had to be relegated to the future for want of means to carry through the project.

Action on the report of the Commission on Roads was not perfected till 1905, when a new Ordinance was passed. The matter, therefore, cannot be properly dealt with in this Report.

P. C. Cork,

Administrator.

Government Office,

St. Lucia,

31st December, 1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	1904
455	British Honduras	"
456	Seychelles	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	"
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	"
465	Gold Coast	"
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda Protectorate	"
468	Somaliland Protectorate	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago	"
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas...	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Islands	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 501.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 463.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1906.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN and SONS, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.,
and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

1906.

[Cd. 2684-47.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
Legislation	13
Education	14
Government Institutions	16
Judicial Statistics	18
Vital Statistics	20
Postal and Telephone Services	23
Military Forces and Expenditure	24
General Remarks	24

No. 501.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 463.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
31st August, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1905.

I have, &c.,

R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

1125 Wt 23907 10/06 D & S 5 26020 A 2

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1905.

FINANCIAL.

Financial Position of the Colony.

The financial year 1905-6 was somewhat less satisfactory in its results than its immediate predecessors, and it became necessary during the year to utilise £1,440 of the surplus assets for current expenditure; at 31st March, 1906, the surplus was only £20,968, as compared with £22,408 at the same date of the previous year. This result was due to failure of the revenue from import duties to realise the forecast. In February, 1905, a revised tariff of those duties was passed, and it was anticipated, upon the basis of the average volume of imports, that increased revenue of at least £3,000 per annum should result. At the end of November the Customs revenue was £1,845 in excess of that for the preceding year; thereafter it failed, and at the end of the financial year it was only £827 more than in 1904-5.

2. The cause of this was the unexpected collapse of the crop of the chief staple of the Colony, cocoa, both in quantity and prices. Not only did the crop for the economic year ended 30th September, 1905, fall about 3,000 bags short of the previous year, but that for the current year has been seriously curtailed, the shortage at date of this report being (even as compared with the previous short crop) 9,838 bags. The satisfactory prices ruling in 1904 and early part of 1905 also fell rapidly and heavily, thereby adding to the difficulties of the situation, which at once developed a shrinkage of imports. Every effort was made by the Government to check expenditure, and an estimated outlay of £73,341 for the year was reduced to an actual expenditure of £71,968; but as the estimated revenue of £73,468 fell to £69,954, absorption of a portion of the surplus assets was an unavoidable necessity.

3. The important items of the balance of £20,968 at 31st March, 1906, are:—

Investments in Crown Agents' hands ...	£12,981
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund	5,335
Loans to St. George's and St. Patrick's District Boards for water works ...	1,731
Advances to District Boards for other works	437
	£20,484

The assets and liabilities of the Colony in detail are given in the Appendix (Table A.).

Revenue and Expenditure.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1901–2	70,075	65,490
1902–3	72,802	68,669
1903–4	70,265	70,113
1904–5	68,993	69,509
1905–6	69,954	71,968

4. Comparative statements of the revenue and expenditure in the last two financial years are contained in the Appendix (Tables B. and C.), from which it appears that the revenue of 1905-6 was £961 more than in 1904-5. The heads under which increases chiefly appear are Customs, £827, explained above, and Post Office, £515, due to a new issue of stamps and to the printing on paper with a different watermark of some of the other denominations of stamps; the principal decreases, rents £158, and refund of interest, &c., £326, are due to uncollected arrears. The item land sales is a variable one, and the decrease appearing thereunder is unimportant.

5. The expenditure of 1905-6 is shown to have exceeded that of 1904-5 by £2,459, which was principally due to a larger programme of public works being attempted in view of the anticipated increase of revenue arising from revision of the Customs tariff; other causes are to be found in the expenditure for suppression of an outbreak of mild small-pox in St. Andrew's District (medical, £361) and to the large number of hospital and asylum patients during the year (hospital and asylums, £680). Other increases appearing in the table under Treasury £337, Excise £317, and Carriacou District £546, are mainly due to re-arrangement of departments and creation of an Inland Revenue and a Carriacou Department; the apparent savings under tax collection, £498, police, £245, and water supplies, £146, are thereby largely accounted for, while that under Post Office, £574, is due to the disappearance of the contribution to the Imperial subsidy for carriage of mails.

Changes in Taxation.

6. As has been stated above, the tariff of import duties was revised in February, 1905. The general object of the revision was (*a*) to produce increased revenue of about £3,000 per annum, and (*b*) to make the incidence of this indirect taxation more fair by reducing duties on articles principally consumed by the labouring class, while increasing those on luxuries and articles consumed by the more well-to-do of the community.

The first object has so far not been attained owing to the shrinkage in the quantity of imports, but with improved conditions it is still hoped for, as being a simple and effectual method of raising a portion of the increased public revenue which the Colony absolutely needs at this stage of its growth.

Public Debt.

7. The debt of the Colony is unchanged in its amount, viz., £123,670. It is all held in four per cent. inscribed stock, redeemable between 1917 and 1942, annual contributions of one per cent. being made to a sinking fund which is in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies. At 31st March, 1906, this fund amounted to £17,940.

Finances of District Boards.

8. The Town Boards became merged on 1st October, 1905, in the new District Boards (*see* "Legislation"), and a statement is appended in Table D. of their revenue and expenditure for the last five years. The increased expenditure appearing in the last financial year is due to the new bodies being responsible for upkeep of public by-ways, for which they receive a grant-in-aid from general revenue.

9. The debts of the Boards at 31st March, 1906, were as follows:—

Board.	Amount.
	£
St. George's	5,981
St. John's (Gouyave)	3,250
St. Mark's (Victoria)	1,484
St. Patrick's (Sauteurs)	1,340
St. Andrew's (Grenville)... ...	1,070
Total...	13,125

These were all incurred for public works connected with the towns, and are owed to the Government, repayable either by sinking funds or annual instalments.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

10. The subjoined figures of the trade of the Colony in the last five years show that in 1905 there was a sharp recoil from the satisfactory conditions of 1904.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total volume.
	£	£	£
1901	246,567	303,934	550,501
1902	239,108	310,602	549,710
1903	235,440	283,565	519,005
1904	256,269	321,766	578,035
1905	237,256	283,955	521,211

11. The principal cause of this has been indicated above, and it may be here added that the other important staple products of the Colony, spices and cotton, also yielded diminished values, as will be seen in a subsequent paragraph.

12. The usual tables illustrative of the trade are appended, and from Table E. it will be seen that the shrinkage of imports resulting from the circumscribed purchasing power caused by the crop failure was evidenced chiefly under class 3—manufactured articles. Tracing this further, we gather from Table F. that, while items of food and drink maintained in most cases the values which they reached in 1904 and occasionally even increased, wearing apparel, textiles, boots and shoes, and metal manufactures showed a marked decrease. The growing dependence of the labouring class upon imported foodstuffs is clearly shown from this table, wherein not only do wheaten flour, biscuits, and preserved fish hold their own, but sugar shows a distinct increase, as do "ground provisions."

13. Table G. shows the decrease in the value of the crops of Colonial produce to which reference has been already made, cocoa realising only £243,790 as against £272,226 in 1904. spices £27,992 as against £33,767, and cotton and cotton seed £3,365 as against £8,521.

14. Table H. indicates the direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1901-5, and shows that in the year under review, although the bulk of the trade was, as usual, with the United Kingdom, there is a tendency to its reduction. In 1905 42 per cent. of the imports came from the United Kingdom, 27 per cent. from British Colonies, and 31 per cent. from foreign countries, as compared with 46, 22, and 32 per cent., respectively, in the preceding year. About one-third of the exports now go to foreign countries.

15. Table I. contains a comparative statement of the foreign trade, and from it it appears that the United States of America take the leading position both in regard to imports and exports, about 96 per cent. of the former and 62 per cent. of the latter being tabulated thereunder. France receives about one-third of the exports to foreign countries, the amount shown being nearly all of it cocoa.

16. Returning to Table H. it will be seen that the trade with British Colonies is in a healthy condition, and in the year which we are dealing with that with Canada deserves special mention, having amounted to, imports, £21,353, and exports, £805. The growth of this trade, which has occupied the special attention of the Colonial Government, is shown by the subjoined figures for the last five years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1901	11,263	91
1902	9,140	—
1903	15,686	52
1904	11,811	—
1905	21,353	805

The exports, which form a marked feature of 1905, consisted of 175 cwt. of cocoa and 104 cwt. of nutmegs, an indication of future possibilities in this direction which should not be lost sight of.

17. The nature of the goods imported from the Dominion is shown by the following statement of the values of the principal items in the last three years:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Timber and shingles	10,593	6,948	10,002
Wheaten flour	1,246	1,301	3,209
Butter	882	936	1,033
Salt fish	815	729	5,967
Oats	684	510	22
Ropes and cordage	483	643	331
Pease	171	84	162
Whisky	6	—	51
Carriages	35	48	50

18. The Canadian trade with Grenada is, therefore, steadily on the increase, and if it were nourished by adequate and regular fortnightly steam communication, such as exists with the

United States, it would not fail to develop considerably, to the advantage of both countries. The future development of the consumption of cocoa and nutmegs in the Dominion should be kept steadily in view by Grenadian planters and merchants, to whom new and extended markets for those staples are of paramount importance.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

19. The Colony is entirely dependent upon its agricultural resources, and its leading products are cocoa, spices (chiefly nutmegs), and cotton; the first-mentioned contributes about 85 per cent. of the exports, and the second about 10 per cent. Kola nuts, coffee, and sugar-cane are also cultivated, but there is hardly any export trade in the last two products, which are mostly grown for local consumption; while the value of kola nuts exported only amounts to about £300 per annum.

Cocoa.

20. The cocoa crop for the year ended 30th September, 1905, was only 64,319 bags (of about 180 lbs. average weight), as compared with a record crop in the preceding year of 67,225 bags, and prices also fell towards the close of the year. The shortage was probably due to unequal incidence of rainfall during the year, and the unsatisfactory prices were undoubtedly attributable to the largely-increased influx of West African cocoa into the market, which seriously affected the sale of the lower grades of West Indian cocoa. Fortunately there is no indication of anything like a decrease in consumption, and many countries of the world remain practically undeveloped to the trade.

21. Improved methods of cultivation and curing continue to occupy the close attention of planters, and the introduction of Gordon's drying apparatus on some of the leading estates deserves special mention, as it is probably the best of its kind on the market at present.

Spices.

22. The crop of spices was satisfactory in quantity, if not in pecuniary result. 8,862 cwt. were exported in the calendar year, as compared with 6,915 cwt. in 1904; of this, 7,947 cwt. were nutmegs. The comparison in this case cannot be made by annual crops, owing to the absence of uniformity in the packages in which shipment is made. It is worthy of note that 1,631 cwt. of the nutmegs and 159 cwt. of the other spices went to the United States of America, and 104 cwt. of the nutmegs to Canada.

Cotton.

23. The growth of this product is practically confined to the Carriacou district of the Colony, where it has never ceased to be

cultivated, and where, in view of the present demand for British-grown cotton, there is a hopeful future for it.

24. The steady increase of the output which had obtained up to the end of 1904 was rudely interrupted in 1905, when only 1,899 cwt. of raw cotton and 4,849 cwt. of seed were exported, as compared with 2,807 cwt. and 6,844 cwt., respectively, in the preceding year. Of this the Commissioner of the district reports as follows: "The cotton crop of 1905 was one of the smallest known here for many years, and was due to the abnormally showery weather which prevailed just at the time when the trees were setting the bolls. This, I may add, had been preceded by unfavourable weather during the growing period. Altogether, throughout the year the rainfall was so fitful and scanty that a short crop was only the natural result."

Cultivation of Sea Island cotton was resumed (after many long years' interval) on a moderate scale during the year.

Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme.

25. It will be convenient at this point to review the position and results of the land settlement scheme in the dependency at the end of the year 1905.

26. Active operations in connection with it date from October, 1902, when the survey of the first estate selected (Beau Séjour) commenced. The estate was finally acquired on the 6th May, 1903, and allotment of it to peasant proprietors commenced in June, 1903. A second estate, Harvey Vale, was acquired on the 20th August, 1903, and a third on the 1st June, 1905. A fourth was purchased towards the end of 1905, but the acquisition was not completed and possession taken until the current year, so that it need only be referred to here as having been taken over by Government mainly in connection with forest conservancy. It occupies the crest of the highest elevation in the island ("High North," 980 feet), and it is of importance that the remaining timber on it be preserved.

27. The expenditure in connection with the scheme at 31st December, 1905, was as follows:—

Purchase of estates, cost of surveys, and legal expenses	£6,910
Other expenditure, repair of houses, provision of cotton ginneries, fencing of pasture lands, construction of roads, and pay of officers for the first 15 months	1,130
Total	£8,040
Received in cash up to 31st December, 1905 ...	2,405
Nett disbursement ...	£5,635

28. The number and value of the allotments are:—

—	Number.	Value.
		£
Beau Séjour ...	216	3,831
Harvey Vale ...	77	2,285
Belair	75	1,350
Total ...	368	7,466

The number sold at
31st December, 1905, was 272, value £5,628

leaving 96 lots, „ £1,838

unsold at that date, most of which were the lots on Belair, which were then only just being offered for sale.

29. Of the total value of the lots sold—£5,628—£1,942, or more than one-third, has been already received in cash, the balance due on them—£3,686—being payable in annual instalments, bearing interest.

30. Besides the above, which represents the pecuniary value of the transaction, there have accrued to the Colony valuable reserves of land and other real property, in the shape of residences for public officers, cotton factories, rain-water reservoirs, pastures, building sites, forests, &c., which, assessed even at nominal values, show a total valuation of £2,700; their real value to the community is far in excess of that.

31. It is not too much to claim for the scheme that it has infused new life into Carriacou, which for too many long years had suffered through the absence of proprietors and the collapse of the sugar industry. It has now an assured future, in which the cotton and lime industries are bound to play an important part, and if capital were available to develop some of the larger estates side by side with the peasant proprietors' cultivation, Carriacou might become one of the most prosperous of the minor British possessions in the West Indies.

32. The success of this scheme of land settlement has been so great and its beneficial results are already so marked as to encourage the hope of similar developments in the future, both in Carriacou and elsewhere in these islands.

Botanic Station.

33. On the 1st of October Mr. R. D. Anstead, B.A. (Cantab.), was appointed as Agricultural Superintendent, and Mr. G. F. Branch as Agricultural Instructor. A fresh arrangement was

arrived at between the Colonial Government and the Commissioner of the Imperial Department, whereby the Colony pays the cost of the Botanic Station and the salary of the Agricultural Instructor (not exceeding £500 per annum). while the Department contributes from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid the salary of the Agricultural Superintendent (who is, however, allowed a house, rent free, by the Colony), and the cost of experimental stations, &c., not to exceed £500 per annum altogether. The arrangement, of course, only holds good until the end of the ten years for which the Imperial Grant was given to the West Indies.

34. The officers are under the direction and control of the Imperial Commissioner, and their work is carried on in touch with the local Agricultural and Commercial Society, the Colonial Government being only responsible for discipline.

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

35. A certain quantity of cane sugar of a low class is manufactured locally for consumption, but it is quite insufficient for the wants of even the labouring class. Ice and rum are also made for local consumption. The quantity of rum made and the duty paid on it in 1901-5 are given hereunder:—

Year.	Quantity made.	Excise Duty paid.
	Gallons.	£
1901	53,204	11,669
1902	45,054	11,853
1903	43,314	12,723
1904	46,911	11,812
1905	42,943	11,359

36. The consumption recorded does not keep pace with the increase of population, and the duty received in 1905 is actually slightly less than it was in 1892, when the population was only about 54,000. This is no doubt attributable to smuggling, which is facilitated by the nature of the country and the easiness of access from the sea.

37. With a view to improving the collection of excise duty in the Windward Islands, Mr. John M. Adams, of the Inland Revenue Department of the United Kingdom, has been appointed to be Supervisor of Excise for the three Colonies. In Grenada an Inland Revenue Department was created with Mr. Adams as its head, but it did not come into working order until the 1st January, 1906.

38. There are no mines in the Colony, and no fisheries, properly so called. A quantity of fish is, of course, caught daily around the coasts for consumption.

SHIPPING.

39. The total tonnage of shipping, inwards and outwards, is given below, and the year under review is seen to have the highest record of the period. Table J., appended, contains the details of the shipping in the last two years, comparing it under the heads of nationality, steamers, and sailing vessels; there is nothing therein worthy of special comment.

Year.	Tonnage.	
	Entered.	Cleared.
1901	267,972	275,770
1902	287,000	290,035
1903	280,862	288,328
1904	316,223	316,068
1905	319,499	319,799
Average	294,311	298,000

LEGISLATION.

40. Thirteen Ordinances were enacted in 1905, of which the most important are those relating to—

Import Duties,
Quarantine,
Main Roads and By-ways,
Towns Administration,
District Boards,
Contagious Diseases (Animals), and
Public Health (Diseases Prevention).

41. The revision of the Customs tariff effected by the Import Duties Ordinance has already been dealt with.

42. The Quarantine Ordinance legalises the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention of 1904, which was settled by a representative conference of delegates from the West Indian Colonies sitting at Barbados in April, 1904, and whereby the antiquated system of quarantine hitherto enforced in this part of the British dominions was placed upon a more modern footing. The law was, however, not brought into operation until the 1st January, 1906.

43. The three laws next on the above list can be conveniently referred to together, as they represent the legislation which was required to bring into force on the 1st of October, 1905, a complete change in the administration of certain details of government by local authorities, and to confer on the Colony a system of district municipal self-government. Briefly stated, Boards, half elected by ratepayers and half nominated by Government, were created for each district of the island of Grenada (the Carriacou district being otherwise administered), and under their administration were placed the towns and their water supplies, sanitation, and the upkeep of by-ways. The main roads of the island were at the same time placed in the care of a body of official and unofficial road wardens, directly responsible to the Government and appointed annually. These important measures may be taken as the consolidation of the experience of the Colony in this direction in the last nineteen years, since Parochial Boards were established in 1886 by the wise political foresight of Sir Walter Sendall, and their far-reaching effect on the future of Grenada can best be estimated by those who have witnessed their gradual development.

44. The enactment of a law dealing with contagious diseases of animals was unfortunately rendered necessary by an outbreak of anthrax, a disease hitherto unknown to Grenada, which was imported from a neighbouring island in April, 1905. The measures which this law enabled the Government to take proved successful in checking the further spread of the disease, but much damage and loss were suffered by those whose stock was thus attacked.

45. The Ordinance dealing with the Public Health Administration was a sort of corollary to the Quarantine Ordinance; it makes certain diseases notifiable and provides more effective machinery for dealing with outbreaks of contagious and infectious diseases.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

46. There are two classes of primary schools, viz., Government, entirely supported from Colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the inspector, who is a Government officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of one shilling per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant

being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils; these are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but having only a casting vote.

47. Table K. in the Appendix contains the figures relating to the primary schools in 1905, and compares the total results with those of the preceding year. The numbers on the roll fell off by 450, and the average attendance by 247; in fact, there is a decrease shown under every head except "Government Contributions" and "Expenditure." The system in force is unsuited to the present needs of the Colony, and on the 6th of June, 1905, the Governor laid before the Board of Education a memorandum with proposals for a complete change, which, with modifications, has recently been adopted by that body and by the Legislature; it is hardly probable, however, that the change of system will commence to operate before the 1st of April, 1907, with the commencement of the new financial year.

Secondary.

48. In this case also the present system is unsuited to the Colony's requirements, and there is a pressing necessity for a radical change. This was felt so keenly in the year under review that on the 8th of November the governing bodies of the girls' and boys' schools presented a petition to the Governor, asking that the Government would abolish them, take over the schools, and create one efficient body of control. This has been effectuated by legislation passed early in the current year, but the preliminary measures are still under discussion and the law has not yet been brought into operation.

49. The statistics for 1905 are given in Table L., and, as will be seen therefrom, the results show a decrease in comparison with 1904. It should be added that these remarks do not apply to the Roman Catholic Convent School.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

50. Following, in tabular form, is a statement of the principal statistics of the charitable institutions supported by the public revenue during the year 1905:—

Institution.	Number at 1st January.	Admitted during the year.	Daily Average.	Cured.	Relieved or not improved.	Died.	Remaining at 31st December.	Cost of Institution.
								£
Colony Hospital	66	708	89·70	520	108	62	84	2,131
Yaws "	54	161	62·63	165	—	—	50	761
St. Andrew's "	11	108	11·2	98	5	5	91	581
Carriacou "	16	175	15·1	118	37	4	16	516
Lunatic Asylum	131	25	131	13	5	9	129	1,920
Poor "	40	38	41·37	14	—	23	41	435

51. The improvements at the Colony Hospital, to which reference has been made in previous recent reports, continued, and in the year under review the staff of nurses was placed on an efficient footing and a head nurse appointed; an Analytical Laboratory, which supplies a much-felt want in the Colony, was established; and a Colonial Drug Store, whence all medicines, disinfectants, &c., required by the several institutions are issued at cost prices, was started on the 1st of April. A commencement was also made with a Pathological Museum and a library of medical works of reference, papers, &c. 249 cases of ankylostomiasis were treated during the year, as compared with 150 in 1904. The receipts on account of paying patients amounted to £123.

52. There were more admissions at the Yaws Hospital than in the previous year, and, as will be seen from the above figures, of the 215 cases treated 165 were discharged cured, while there were no deaths. The institution is conducted on an economical scale, the cost per patient per diem being a little under 8*d.*; sea-bathing, personal cleanliness, and regular wholesome food are apparently the factors of success in dealing with this disease.

53. Fewer patients were admitted to the St. Andrew's Hospital than in 1904, while the daily average was higher, showing that cases of a more chronic nature were treated. 8,624 prescriptions were compounded at the District Dispensary, of which only 2,970 were paid for, as compared with 3,570 in the previous year. The dispensary receipts were £150.

54. Similar remarks as to admissions and averages in 1905 apply to the Carriacou District Hospital, and the cause is in

both cases doubtless the same, viz., the number of ulcer cases treated. This institution is also used by patients from the St. Vincent Grenadines, in respect of whom a small charge is payable by the St. Vincent Government.

55. The erection of a fine new hospital was commenced during the year on a site in the centre of the island, about 700 feet above sea-level, which became Government property in connection with the land settlement scheme and is known as Bellevue. Here there were formerly a small fort and military buildings, and these are being utilised for the new structure, a particularly fine rain-water reservoir in an excellent state of preservation deserving special mention. The medical officer's quarters, which also became the property of the Colony at the same time, are on an adjacent hill, within a quarter of a mile as the crow flies.

56. The daily average of patients at the lunatic asylum was 131, *i.e.*, 11 in excess of nominal capacity. Of the 129 patients remaining at the end of the year, 74 were from Grenada, 24 from St. Lucia, and 31 from St. Vincent. The cost per patient per diem is about 9½*d*.

57. Many important improvements were effected at the Poor Asylum in 1905 and were continued in the current year, and the institution now presents a very different appearance to what it did a short time ago. The demand for admission of males continues to be largely in excess of that for females, the daily average being: Males, 28·35; females, 13·12. The cost per patient per diem is only about 7*d*.

Savings Bank.

58. In 1905, while the number of depositors increased, the amount deposited decreased and that withdrawn increased; at the end of the year, however, the amount at credit of depositors was only £400 less than at end of 1904, and of that amount (£12,394) there were held investments, or bank deposits bearing interest, amounting to £12,000. The following are the figures for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance to credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1901	1,355	8,603	8,561	11,211
1902	1,847	9,184	9,378	11,417
1903	1,544	7,480	7,674	11,658
1904	1,465	9,279	8,416	12,790
1905	1,470	8,105	8,773	12,394

59. The comparatively (to the population) small amount of money deposited in the Savings Bank in Grenada is not necessarily an evidence of want of thrift, as has been supposed by some. It is due to the popularity of investment of savings in purchase of real property, and, as this gradually becomes more costly and difficult to obtain, the Savings Bank deposits may be expected to increase. In 1895 the depositors' balances only totalled £6,426 at the 31st December.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

60. The strength of the police force was reduced at the 31st December, 1905, from 74 to 71 rank and file, consequent upon the transfer of the duty of supervising the collection of the excise duty on rum to the newly-formed Inland Revenue Department; it now consists of the chief, the sub-inspector, five sergeants, seven corporals, and 57 privates. The men receive a semi-military training, and are armed with the Martini-Enfield rifle. The Government band is attached to the force for disciplinary purposes, and fire brigade duties in the principal town are entrusted to the headquarters' detachment.

Prisons.

61. The committals in 1905 numbered 210, of which 202 were from local courts, six from St. Lucia, and two from St. Vincent, the Richmond Hill Prison having been utilised since 1900 for long-sentence convicts from the other islands of the Windward Islands Government. The daily average was 69·5, of which only 40·73 were Grenada convicts, while 24·65 were from St. Lucia and 4·12 from St. Vincent; the corresponding figures for 1904 were: Grenada, 50·2; St. Lucia, 11·9; St. Vincent, 1·8; total, 63·9.

62. The marked reduction that has taken place of late years in the number of prisoners from the Grenada Courts is well worth notice, as it coincides with a steady increase of population and with an increase in the statistics of crime in the Colony. In 1894, with an estimated population of 57,692, the daily average of prisoners was 84; in 1905, with a population estimated at 69,530, the daily average was only 41. Without doubt, the marked moderation now exhibited in sentences of the Courts, both Magisterial and Supreme, has had its effect in lowering the average, but the conclusion also seems unavoidable that a large percentage of offences must somehow be escaping punishment. Living in Grenada is by no means easier now than it was years ago, and, with the pressure of population, praedial larceny, to

mention only one offence, is bound to be on the increase; the Colony's statistics relating to crime and prisons do not, however, disclose a sufficient rate of increase to keep pace with the known facts.

63. The Richmond Hill Prison is in a satisfactory condition, and is economically conducted. A prisoner nominally cost the Colony 1*s.* 1*d.* per diem in 1905, of which 3¼*d.* represents the dietary; the cost is said to be "nominal," because the institution has now for many years been practically self-supporting, as the value of the prisoners' work exceeds the prime cost of the prison. To take one item alone—in 1905, 141,437 lb. of bread were baked and issued to the public institutions at cost price, representing a saving to the revenue of £737 as compared with local contract prices. The value of the tailor's work done in making uniforms, clothing, and bedding for the public institutions also totalled £169.

Criminal Statistics.

64. The usual analysis of the criminal statistics of the Colony is appended (Table M.), in which the figures for 1905 are compared with those of the preceding year and with the average for the three years 1901-3; and an increase is apparent under every head. This should not be taken, however, as indicating any very marked increase in criminality. An examination of the nature of offences for which convictions were obtained shows that out of the total of 1,476, 957 were for "other offences," and this item includes no less than 568 summary convictions for offences against laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, such as breaches of the revenue and health laws. "Offences against the person," it is true, compare unfavourably with the record of 1904, and among the cases was one of murder, which is fortunately rare in Grenada; two men were convicted of the offence, and executed. Praedial larceny continues to show a slight upward tendency, and here the actual convictions probably only represent a fraction of the offences committed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

65. According to an estimate based on the natural increase since the Census of the 7th of April, 1901, when 63,438 persons were returned as resident in the Colony, the population at the 31st of December, 1905, amounted to 69,530—males 33,089, females 36,441—the increase on the Census population being 9·6 per cent. The birth-rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 41·56, and the death-rate 23·02 for the year. The former is up to the average rate, and the latter in excess of it, the new Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, which commenced to operate on the 1st of January, 1905, having, as was anticipated, resulted in an improvement of the death records.

Public Health.

66. The year under review was the seventh in which a fairly accurate classification of the causes of death under medical certificates was secured, so that it is possible to compare its record with a six years' average, and the result, as regards the principal causes, is shown hereunder:—

Disease.	Average for 6 years 1899–1904.	1905.
Diarrhœa	124	203
Dysentery	122	69
Fevers	92	110
Enteritis	81	157
Phthisis	64	63
Bronchitis	30	34
Pneumonia	24	28
Influenza	12	12
Whooping cough ...	22	—
Cardiac disease	46	79

A noticeable feature of the table is the number of deaths recorded as due to enteritis, which have steadily increased from 33 cases in 1899 to nearly five times that number in 1905. As usual diarrhœa and dysentery take easy precedence of other causes of death, and a comparison of the record of 1905 in this

respect with the preceding six years' average is instituted, by districts, in the following table:—

District.	Diarrhœa.		Dysentery.	
	Average for 6 years 1899–1904.	1905.	Average for 6 years 1899–1904.	1905.
St. George's	49	55	31	17
St. John's	9	1	22	26
St. Mark's	6	33	5	1
St. Patrick's	14	27	12	8
St. Andrew's...	31	50	40	14
St. David's	8	29	11	1
Carriacou	7	8	1	2
	124	203	122	69

As heretofore, Carriacou maintains its comparative immunity from dysentery.

67. No serious disease was epidemic during the year, but an outbreak in the St. Andrew's district of the eruptive disease, now generally recognised as a very mild and unusual type of small-pox, which commenced on 29th December, 1904, continued on through the first half of the year, the last case being discharged from the Isolation Station on the 15th of July, after 81 cases had been dealt with therein. The local health authority, medical officers, and police deserve much credit for their successful fight with this disease.

Climate.

68. The principal meteorological statistics of the years are as follows:—

Rainfall:

North of Island	89·89 inches
Centre of Island	151·90 ,,
South of Island	77·89 ,,
Carriacou	40·04 ,,
Relative Humidity (mean)	77·4
Mean Temperature (maximum)	89·4°
,, ,, (minimum)	68·0°
Mean Pressure	29·980
Days of Rain	244

69. In the south of the island the rainfall was of average quantity, but in the centre it was 25 inches, in the north 15½ inches, and in Carriacou 16½ inches less than in 1904. The rainy season commenced on the 16th of May, and a severe drought began in November and lasted for six months.

70. The following analysis of the rainfall returns at the Richmond Hill Station, in the south of the island, for the 15 years 1891-1905, being the period in which a continuous record has been kept, may be of interest and serve for future reference:—

Month.	Average rainfall for each month in 15 years.	Year.	Total rainfall in each year.
	Inches.		Inches.
January	4·39	1891	56·69
February	2·78	1892	105·89
March	3·05	1893	84·52
April	2·70	1894	67·88
May	4·58	1895	78·47
June	7·80	1896	99·94
July	9·22	1897	83·64
August	9·59	1898	81·77
September	8·14	1899	64·29
October	5·98	1900	63·45
November	3·39	1901	92·15
December	7·92	1902	70·19
		1903	78·93
		1904	69·41
		1905	77·89

Average annual rainfall in the 15 years	78·34 inches.
Minimum rainfall in one month ...	·49 inch in May, 1899.
" " " " year... ...	56·69 inches in 1891.
Maximum " " " month ...	29·90 inches in November, 1896.
" " " " year	105·89 inches in 1902.

71. Four shocks of earthquake were felt during the year, and between 3 p.m. on the 5th and noon on the 7th of March a series of earth-tremors were experienced in the extreme north of the island. Volcanic dust from the Montagne Pelée, in Martinique, fell on several days, and distant explosions were heard on the 5th of June and 12th of July.

Sanitation.

72. Sanitary measures are under the control of a Central Board of Health, comprised of the Governor and the members of the Executive Council, and of local health authorities, which are the District Boards in the main island, and a small board in the Carriacou district, of which the Commissioner is the

Chairman. A medical officer has a seat on each such authority. The general revenue is responsible for expenditure on sanitation in the rural districts, and in towns it is borne by the rates.

73. An important public work of sanitation was commenced by the Government in 1905, having for its object the drainage of a large area of marshy land on the eastern boundary of the principal town, known as the Tanteen Swamp, which has doubtless been responsible for the malarial fever which prevails in its vicinity. If, as is hoped, the operation is successful, an important residential suburb (now impracticable on account of its unhealthiness) will be added to the town, and the expenditure, estimated at about £1,000 to be spread over three years, should be amply recouped, as the land is Crown property.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

74. The following is a comparison of the Post Office statistics for the last two years:—

—	1904.	1905.
Letters and post cards...	530,231	509,990
Newspapers, books, &c.	169,806	166,751
Parcels	9,323	8,140
Registered Articles	—	8,379
	£	£
Money orders issued and paid ...	20,390	19,652
British Postal Orders ditto	75	1,250

75. The system of remittances by British postal orders, introduced on the 1st October, 1904, was found to be so useful and popular that their sale, which had at first been limited experimentally to values not exceeding 10*s.* 6*d.*, was extended to include all of the values up to and including 21*s.*; the result is shown above.

76. A district post office was established at Petit Martinique, one of the Grenadines now included in the Carriacou district, and an issue of postage stamps was made. The values were ½*d.*, 1*d.*, 2*d.*, and 2½*d.*; they have the Colony's new badge, and are of the prescribed Postal Union colours.

TELEPHONES.

77. The receipts for this service amounted in 1905 to £1,459, as compared with £1,430 in 1904, and the ordinary expenditure for maintenance of the system to £1,054, against £1,111 in that year. Besides this, £226, as annually customary, was repaid to the Colonial Revenue for charges on the original construction loan, and £245 was expended on reconstruction work. The service was satisfactorily conducted during the year, and at its close Mr. E. Drayton resigned the office of manager of the Department, thus severing a connection which dates from the inception of the system in 1891. The control of the Department is now vested in the Public Works Department, which was strengthened on the 1st of October by the appointment of district road surveyors, and has consequently adequate means for supervising the work in the out-districts, hitherto dependent upon such supervision as could be given from headquarters.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

78. There is no military force, either volunteer or regular, in the Colony. As has been explained above, the police constables are kept on a semi-military footing, and provision has been made by legislation for the formation of a volunteer force and of volunteer reserve corps. For these, as well as for the police, a supply of Martini-Enfield rifles has been given by the Imperial Government, and a good rifle range has been established at Queen's Park, near to the principal town, which was used by the police for the first time in the current year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

79. Mr. C. J. Tarring retired, on pension, from the office of Chief Justice on 31st October, and Mr. John Bayldon Walker, the Chief Justice of St. Lucia, succeeded him.

80. The only other event of importance that has not been already referred to was the publication in the Government Gazette of the 12th September of a notice to the effect that His Majesty's Government considered the union of Grenada and St. Vincent into one Colony desirable, and wished for an expression of public opinion thereon. The question was temperately discussed in the public press and by the District Boards of this Colony, but did not reach the stage of debate in the Legislative Council, as it was evident that the general feeling was opposed to union with St. Vincent alone, while it

tended strongly in the direction of a fusion of the Colony with that of Trinidad and Tobago, with which Grenada has many ties, historic and commercial, and before which, it is fully recognised, that an important future lies, with which this Colony desires to be associated.

81. Most persons who have the requisite experience of the British West Indies, and who look ahead, are prepared to admit that consolidation of their more important interests is a vital necessity to a successful future for them, and that unity and uniformity in regard to the higher administrative and judicial offices and in the general body of legislation can be with advantage attained, provided that full autonomy in local municipal details is at the same time accorded to each Colony.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,

27th August, 1906.

TABLE

STATEMENT of the ASSETS and

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits as follows :–						
Savings Bank	11,382	5	3			
Post Office	980	15	10			
Supreme Court	7,542	2	10			
St. George's District Fund	136	9	0			
St. Andrew's " "	11	9	4			
St. Patrick's " "	85	14	9			
St. John's " "	25	1	1			
St. Mark's " "	5	0	2			
Grenville Water Supply	121	5	7			
Governor-in-Chief's Office Fund ...	12	11	8			
Other Deposits	236	18	11			
				20,539	14	5
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Botanic Station				65	5	0
Crown Agents for the Colonies Current Account.				905	16	4
Drafts and Remittances...				87	10	0
Total Liabilities ...				21,598	5	9
Surplus Assets				20,968	5	11
Total				42,566	11	8

A.

LIABILITIES at 31st MARCH, 1906.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				293	7	8
„ Colonial Bank on Current Account.				3,221	11	0
Colony's Reserve Fund—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...				12,980	19	3
Savings Bank—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...	9,000	0	0			
„ in British Guiana Bonds	500	0	0			
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	2,500	0	0			
				12,000	0	0
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
Remittances in transit				3,000	0	0
Imprest Balances				259	5	0
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony—						
Loans to Dist. Boards from General Revenue.	436	13	3			
Government of St. Vincent ...	191	17	1			
„ „ St. Lucia	539	1	7			
„ „ Trinidad and Tobago.	4	7	2			
Other Advances	933	1	5			
				2,105	0	6
St. George's Waterworks Extension Loan.				1,675	13	11
Sauteurs „ „				55	8	11
Gouyave Water Supply Advance ...				1,345	0	10
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund ...				5,334	19	7
Arrears of Revenue—						
Interest on Loans to District Boards.	216	0	0			
Sinking Funds „ „ „	79	5	0			
				295	5	0
Total Assets				42,566	11	8

TABLE B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE for the Years ended 31st MARCH, 1905 and 1906.

Head of Revenue.	1904–5.	1905–6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	34,929	35,756	827	—
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	26,864	27,006	142	—
Fees of Office, &c.	1,753	1,662	—	91
Post Office	1,397	1,912	515	—
Telephones	1,430	1,459	29	—
Water Supplies	222	260	38	—
Rent of Government Property...	602	444	—	158
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	1,006	680	—	326
Miscellaneous Receipts	135	303	168	—
Land Sales	245	42	—	203
Total Local Revenue ...	68,583	69,524	1,719	778
Imperial Grant in aid of Agricultural Department.	410	430	20	—
Total Revenue	68,993	69,954	1,739	778

TABLE C.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE for the Years ended 31st MARCH, 1905 and 1906.

Head of Expenditure.	1904–5.	1905–6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	6,198	6,198	—	—
Pensions	2,864	2,917	53	—
The Governor	1,916	1,930	14	—
Colonial Secretary	1,577	1,641	64	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	—	183	183	—
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank.	4,394	4,731	337	—
Excise Department	—	317	317	—
Post Office Department... ...	2,432	1,858	—	574
Land and House Tax Collection	498	—	—	498

TABLE C—*cont.*

Head of Expenditure.	1904–5.	1905–6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Audit Department	554	561	7	—
Legal Departments	4,842	4,823	—	19
Police Department	5,176	4,931	—	245
Prisons	1,104	1,029	—	75
Medical Department	3,591	3,952	361	—
Hospitals and Asylums	4,699	5,379	680	—
Education...	7,154	7,176	22	—
Ditto Special Expenditure...	300	30	—	270
Ecclesiastical	444	444	—	—
Charitable	470	559	89	—
Telephone Department	1,337	1,280	—	57
Ditto Special Expenditure	202	245	43	—
Carriacou District	317	863	546	—
Water Supplies	395	249	—	146
Miscellaneous Services	5,261	4,916	—	345
Agricultural Department ...	156	413	257	—
Public Works Department ...	918	1,208	290	—
Public Works Recurrent (including upkeep of Roads).	10,389	10,843	454	—
Public Works Extraordinary ...	1,877	2,908	1,031	—
Total Expenditure from Colonial Funds	69,065	71,584	4,748	2,229
Agricultural Department (paid from Imperial Funds).	444	384	—	60
Total Expenditure ...	69,509	71,968	4,748	2,289

TABLE D.

Revenue and Expenditure of the Town (now District) Authorities for the last Five Years.

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	2,848	3,189	3,152	3,296	3,435	3,114	2,861	3,251	3,282	3,380
Grenville (St. Andrew's) ..	909	944	1,053	990	1,235	860	889	871	1,175	1,348
Sauteurs (St. Patrick's) ..	601	738	619	600	619	507	650	471	752	615
Victoria (St. Mark's).. ..	331	307	309	359	339	244	344	307	318	502
Gouyave (St. John's).. ..	579*	680	599	596	771	655*	548	514	741	829
St. David's	—	—	—	—	237	—	—	—	—	267
Hillsborough	109	124	85	83	28	173	97	82	105	87

* For the calendar year 1901.

TABLE E.

Classified Return of Trade Statistics for the last Five Years.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	106,696	110,627	100,825	119,178	116,892	295,390	298,974	266,595	309,776	276,312
II. Raw materials	22,842	23,887	23,328	22,391	20,204	5,989	6,591	8,518	10,389	4,642
III. Manufactured articles	110,882	104,241	109,381	110,861	93,714	1,955	2,027	1,985	1,601	2,052
IV Coin and bullion	6,147	353	1,906	3,839	6,446	—	3,010	6,467	—	950
Totals	246,567	239,108	235,440	256,269	237,256	303,934	310,602	283,565	321,766	283,955

TABLE F.

Comparative Statement of Chief Imports in the last Two Years.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Live animals	2,062	2,612
Bread of all kinds (*i.e.*, biscuits)	3,942	3,937
Butter	1,945	2,003
Cheese	1,176	1,114
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel).	15,159	15,868
Flour (wheaten)	32,002	31,558
Lard	1,438	1,385
Malt liquor	1,840	1,439
Meal (corn)	538	726
Meat (salted or preserved)	9,506	9,132
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,847	3,427
Oats	3,879	3,699
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	3,286	2,699
Oleomargarine, &c.	4,279	3,573
Rice	6,215	6,311
Spirits	5,082	4,333
Sugar (refined)	2,961	3,147
Do. (muscovado)	3,827	4,768
Wines	1,593	1,285
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	3,410	2,830
Fresh vegetables ("ground provisions")... ...	843	1,167
Class II.—		
Coal	2,327	842
Leather	922	840
Manures	3,828	3,796
Petroleum oil...	3,121	3,431
Timber and shingles	11,220	10,799
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	9,414	6,494
Textiles	48,083	44,658
Rope and cordage	1,690	1,081
Metal manufactures	16,779	13,109
Books	1,029	1,002
Soap	4,355	3,867
Stationery	1,193	950
Cement	1,287	870
Earthen- and glass ware	3,350	2,445
Furniture	1,897	1,733
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	5,494	3,374
Other	2,741	2,398

TABLE G.

Comparative Statement of Principal Articles of Colonial Produce Exported in the last Five Years.

Produce Exported.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	265,979	268,211	230,957	272,226	243,790
Spices	26,714	25,522	31,583	33,767	27,992
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,905	4,069	5,345	8,521	3,365
Live stock	1,147	1,082	1,186	1,356	1,319
Firewood	428	249	285	400	221
Fruit	326	713	249	430	304
Poultry	262	665	560	443	409
Turtle and turtle shell ...	351	152	235	381	343
Kola nuts	331	231	210	367	329
Coffee	126	25	238	65	3
Rum	9	70	—	2	32
Wool	23	113	22	51	15
Ice	—	—	399	260	304
Logwood	48	30	8	—	45

TABLE H.

Direction of Trade in the last Five Years.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1901.	1902.	1903	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	113,953	105,425	112,138	117,292	100,082	226,715	265,936	201,799	209,310	181,970
British Colonies	58,949	50,835	43,860	57,855	64,557	4,535	10,528	12,244	5,316	7,049
Foreign Countries	73,665	82,843	79,442	81,122	72,617	72,685	34,137	69,522	107,140	94,936
Totals	246,567	239,103	235,440	256,269	237,256	303,935	310,601	283,565	321,766	283,955

TABLE I.

Trade with Foreign Countries in the last Five Years.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	71,228	80,317	76,763	76,081	69,526	38,894	26,451	51,971	61,126	58,995
France and French Colonies	650	549	478	1,146	422	32,909	6,356	16,819	44,906	33,804
Holland and Dutch Colonies	1,256	1,248	931	2,297	1,155	402	437	61	527	1,984
Denmark and Danish Colonies	35	41	43	54	69	—	18	—	13	5
Venezuela	9	416	296	784	933	481	876	671	475	143
Germany	347	226	757	667	390	—	—	—	—	4
Other Countries	138	51	174	93	121	—	—	—	93	—
Totals	73,663	82,848	79,442	81,122	72,616	72,686	34,138	69,522	107,140	94,935

TABLE J.

Details of Shipping in the last Two Years.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1904.			1905.			1904.			1905.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	302,820	11,211	314,031	308,577	9,796	318,373	302,820	11,052	313,872	308,577	10,096	318,673
Foreign	384	1,808	2,192	—	1,126	1,126	384	1,812	2,196	—	1,126	1,126
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	384	—	384	—	—	—	384	—	384	—	—	—
Holland	—	1,514	1,514	—	562	562	—	1,481	1,481	—	562	562
Venezuela	—	294	294	—	480	480	—	331	331	—	480	480
France	—	—	—	—	84	84	—	—	—	—	84	84

TABLE K.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools ..	9	1,187	1,050	2,237	1,139	83	1,332	—	1,415
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Roman Catholic ..	21	2,308	2,524	4,832	2,365	89	2,480	—	2,570
Anglican	9	1,057	956	2,013	1,069	106	1,192	—	1,298
Wesleyan	4	592	486	1,078	628	65	680	—	745
Church of Scotland..	2	175	125	300	154	6	163	—	169
Totals for 1905 ..	45	5,319	5,141	10,460	5,405	349	5,847	—	6,197
Totals for 1904 ..	45	5,582	5,328	10,910	5,652	441	5,705	—	6,146
Increase in 1905..	—	—	—	—	—	—	142	—	51
Decrease in 1905..	—	263	187	450	247	92	—	—	—

TABLE L.

Secondary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
					£	£	£	£
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—								
Grenada Grammar School	37	—	37	28	149	263	—	513
Victoria Girls' High School	—	28	28	26	120	55	61	215
St. Joseph's Convent School (Girls) ..	15	56	71	—	141	100	65	297
Totals for 1905	52	84	136	54	410	418	126	1,025
Totals for 1904	61	88	149	121	443	571	97	1,028
Increase in 1905	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	—
Decrease in 1905	9	4	13	67	33	153	—	3

TABLE M.

Criminal Statistics.

—	Average 1901–1903.	1904.	1905.
Magistrates' Courts—			
Convictions...	1,204	1,346	1,452
Acquittals	317	310	352
Discharged	514	632	752
Committed for trial at Supreme Court...	46	36	42
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrates.	2,081	2,324	2,598
Supreme Court—			
Convictions	26	29	24
Acquittals	8	7	15
Not prosecuted	5	12	12
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	39	48	51
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained—			
Offences against the person	328	271	339
Prædial larceny	66	76	79
Other offences against property	98	78	101
Other offences	738	950	957
	1,230	1,375	1,476

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c	Year.
472	British Central Africa	1904–1905
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena...	"
487	Weihaiwei...	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles...	"
490	Falkland Islands...	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
496	Bahamas	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	"
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon...	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 505.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 482.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1906.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1906.

[Cd. 2684-51.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

I. Financial 4

II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries 12

III. Legislation 24

IV. Education 24

V. Government Institutions 26

VI. Judicial Statistics 29

VII. Vital Statistics 31

VIII. Postal and Telephone Services 32

IX. General Observations 34

No. 505.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 482.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
29th August, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book for 1905.

I have, &c.,

P. C. CORK,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir Robert B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

1125 Wt 23907 10/06 D & S 5 26094 A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1905.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) Revenue.

The general revenue for the year 1905-6 amounted to:—

Ordinary Revenue	£59,307	16	9
Part Proceeds of Reclaimed Lands Fund carried to Revenue	1,342	0	1
Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture	1,227	8	1
	£61,877	4	11

The ordinary revenue was less than the estimate by £2,438 18*s.* 10*d.*, and less than the previous year's collections by £2,586 0*s.* 1*d.* The total revenue was £3,596 18*s.* 9*d.* under the estimate.

The following table shows the revenue of the Colony for the past five years:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901–2	67,365
1902–3	72,193*
1903–4	66,008
1904–5	69,273†
1905–6	61,877

* Including Imperial Grant of £3,000 in aid of the sugar industry.
† Including refund by Imperial Government of £3,085 12*s.* 3*d.*, being the cost of coal shed.

The principal decreases were in the receipts of Customs duties, which were £3,624 11*s.* 9*d.* less than in 1904-5, and in Excise duties on rum and in road taxes, but an increase of port and harbour dues partly compensated for this loss. There were small decreases under three other heads, and increases under four. Moreover, the special receipts credited were £4,808 less than in the previous year.

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1906.

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate for 1905–6.	Actual Revenue to 31st March, 1906.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	29,500 0 0	26,762 2 1	30,386 13 10	—	3,624 11 9
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	4,500 0 0	5,670 7 0	4,696 8 3	973 18 9	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	19,620 0 0	18,172 10 1	17,977 6 3	195 3 10	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in Aid	3,319 10 0	3,502 9 11	3,404 16 5	97 13 6	—
5. Post Office	1,117 0 0	1,324 2 3	1,300 19 8	23 2 7	—
6. Telephone	595 0 0	551 5 0	608 15 5	—	57 10 5
7. Rent of Government Property	823 0 0	826 18 7	949 15 10	—	122 17 3
8. Miscellaneous	170 0 0	350 18 3	452 11 9	—	101 13 6
9. Interest	1,713 15 7	1,758 13 7	1,727 19 5	30 14 2	—
10. Repayment of Loans	388 10 0	388 10 0	388 10 0	—	—
	61,746 15 7	59,307 16 9	61,893 16 10	1,320 12 10	3,906 12 11
Part proceeds of Sale of Reclaimed Lands	2,500 0 0	1,342 0 1	2,002 10 6	—	660 10 5
Re-imbursement of Expenditure on Admiralty Coal Shed	—	—	3,085 12 3	—	3,085 12 3
Net Balance transferred from Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund ...	—	—	1,094 4 11	—	1,094 4 11
Imperial Department of Agriculture—Grant-in-Aid	1,227 8 1	1,227 8 1	1,196 10 0	30 18 1	—
Total	65,474 3 8	61,877 4 11	69,272 14 6	1,351 10 11	8,747 0 6

(B.) Expenditure.

The expenditure was £62,521 8*s.* 4*d.*, of which £1,197 17*s.* 11*d.* was paid out of the Imperial Grant for Agriculture, and £1,342 0*s.* 1*d.* from the Reclaimed Lands Fund for further reclamation works. Thus, the revenue from ordinary sources and the ordinary expenditure for carrying on the Government were:—

Ordinary Revenue ...	...	£59,307 16 9
„ Expenditure	...	59,408 10 5

—showing an excess expenditure over the revenue for the year of £100 13*s.* 8*d.*

Towards the end of 1905, when the falling off in revenue had become apparent, orders were issued to restrict expenditure as much as possible, and the net saving on the total original estimates was £2,361 3*s.* 8*d.*, in spite of a few unavoidable excesses under different heads.

The total expenditure was less than in any of the preceding four years:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901–2	67,486
1902–3	69,408
1903–4	70,691
1904–5	65,508
1905–6	62,521

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1906.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1905–6 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1906.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	11,420 19 6	11,434 5 9	11,443 3 7	—	8 17 10
2. Pensions	2,096 19 11	1,885 14 4	1,798 18 5	86 15 11	—
3. Governor and Legislature	2,979 18 5	2,941 2 10	2,942 18 1	—	1 15 3
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department.	3,521 12 10	3,244 18 8	3,090 0 8	154 18 0	—
5. Post Office	1,540 16 0	1,196 18 9	1,854 3 10	—	657 5 1
6. Port and Marine	873 12 0	846 8 3	898 16 4	—	52 8 1
7. Audit	574 16 0	531 19 7	554 13 1	—	22 13 6
8. Legal	4,798 15 0	4,490 0 10	5,103 0 9	—	612 19 11
9. Police	4,450 16 0	4,311 3 3	4,530 15 11	—	219 12 8
10. Prisons	1,422 6 0	1,438 5 6	1,482 14 1	—	44 8 7
11. Medical	2,942 16 0	2,669 7 6	2,912 6 3	—	242 18 9
12. Hospitals and Asylums	3,202 6 4	3,037 5 4	3,190 6 1	—	153 0 9
13. Charitable	725 0 0	585 1 11	707 6 3	—	122 4 4
— Immigration	—	—	30 10 0	—	30 10 0
14. Education	4,364 16 0	4,349 1 10	4,275 12 11	73 8 11	—
15. Ecclesiastical	1,600 0 0	1,600 0 0	1,600 0 0	—	—
16. Telephone	1,531 6 0	1,567 10 7	997 5 3	570 5 4	—
17. Agriculture (from local funds)	440 12 8	437 7 9	359 3 4	78 4 5	—
18. Miscellaneous...	4,191 6 5	4,565 9 5	5,503 17 1	—	938 7 8

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony—*cont.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1905–6 and Supplementary Votes.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1906.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
19. Public Works Department	1,165 1 0	1,255 4 7	1,099 17 1	155 7 6	—
20. Survey and Crown Lands Department ...	767 0 0	573 6 4	659 3 1	—	85 16 9
21. Public Works Recurrent	7,797 6 11	6,447 17 5	6,690 11 6	—	242 14 1
	62,408 3 0	59,408 10 5	61,725 3 7	1,119 0 1	3,435 13 3
22. Public Works Extraordinary	3,234 9 2	1,915 0 0	2,562 1 10	—	647 1 10
	65,642 12 2	61,323 10 5	64,287 5 5	1,119 0 1	4,082 15 1
17A. Imperial Department of Agriculture—Grant-in-Aid	1,255 11 10	1,197 17 11	1,220 9 8	—	22 11 9
Total	66,898 4 0	62,521 8 4	65,507 15 1	1,119 0 1	4,105 6 10

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The surplus at the 1st April, 1905, was £23,189 5*s.* 3*d.*, and although the expenditure was, as shown above, slightly in excess of the revenue, it had been augmented by accretions of interest to £23,314 10*s.* 5*d.* on the 31st March, 1906.

To this should be added a sum of £1,909 12*s.* 5*d.*, set aside as a fire insurance fund on public buildings. This appears to me to be a portion of the true surplus, hypothecated to a particular purpose.

(D.) Surplus Funds.

The investments held on 31st March, nominally on this account, amounted to £24,123 14*s.* 10*d.*, being in excess of the actual surplus by £809 4*s.* 5*d.* The difference represents the balance of an amount realized by the sale of work-yard lots, which is earmarked for expenditure on reclamation of land in Castries, and which was invested pending its being required for the purpose stated.

(E.) Public Debt.

The public debt has been further reduced during the year, and now stands at £161,179 11*s.* 0*d.*, with accumulated sinking fund amounting to £12,421 10*s.* 2*d.* available, making the net liability £148,758 0*s.* 10*d.* as yet unprovided for. This debt is apportioned as follows:—

Colony's Share.

Public Works Loan under Ordinance No. 19 of 1892	£50,579	11	0
Central Factory	13,300	0	0
Immigration	10,400	0	0
Harbour Works	57,900	0	0
Water Works	12,000	0	0
	£144,179	11	0
Castries Town Board's Share	17,000	0	0
	£161,179	11	0

I find an amount of £2,304 14*s.* 8*d.* not included in the schedule of debts and for which no debentures or scrip have been issued, but on which 4 per cent. interest is being paid, namely, the Baron Trust Fund. This represents the value of

buildings taken over by the Government from the Trust and used for public purposes, and is therefore an undischarged debt. As, however, the proceeds are intended for charitable purposes, it has been arranged that an annuity of £92 a year, representing approximately interest at the above rate, should be paid subject to the reservation that the debt may be paid off at the will of the Government.

(F.) Towns and Villages.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the towns and villages of the Colony, and their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1906:—

Town or Village.	1901–2.		1902–3.		1903–4.		1904–5.		1905–6.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1906.	Balance at 31st March, 1906.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries ...	7,371	8,192	6,151	5,316	5,885	6,137	5,758	6,036	5,936	5,683	19,366	+ 681
Soufrière ...	298	180	232 7*	2,612*	370	329	486	559	513	550	2,000*	+ 79
Vieux Fort ...	137	116	161	164	158	120	154	123	150	152	—	+ 75
Laborie ...	57	43	60	57	63	60	63	55	61	55	—	+ 37
Canaries ...	23	35	35	50	33	35	34	14	30	25	—	+ 113
Dennery ...	94	323	118	99	120	97	121	159	119	106	—	+ 214
Gros Islet ...	98	52	92	91	99	51	96	70	104	58	—	+ 175
Anse-la-Raye ...	52	122	56	47	56	47	58	57	67	98	—	+ 60
Choiseul ...	34	62	38	23	37	24	42	18	38	27	—	+ 53
Micoud	48	54	61	64	64	74	72	66	72	40	—	+ 31

* For a Water Supply. The Loan was made from Savings Bank Funds, and is repayable in 27 years from the 1st July, 1902.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1905 was £285,987, and of the exports £211,654, including bunker coal supplied to steamers to the value of £102,626.

The imports and exports for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports		Total.
		General.	Bunker Coal.	
	£	£	£	£
1901	382,652	77,871	110,196	188,067
1902	326,324	73,458	84,295	157,753
1903	351,086	105,983	63,506	169,489
1904	370,706	101,449	70,581	172,030
1905	285,987	109,028	102,626	211,654

The values of the chief articles imported in 1905 are given below, as also those for the previous year:—

Articles.	1904.	1905.
Class 1.	£	£
Live animals—		
Cattle	5,867	4,332
Horses and Mules	672	918
Sheep	1,835	1,125
Food and Drink Supplies—		
Ale, Beer, &c.	3,586	3,297
Bacon and Hams	1,523	688
Beef and Pork ; salted, canned, etc. ...	3,804	2,646
Biscuits (common and fancy)	1,350	1,781
Butter	3,512	2,294
Oleomargarine	1,589	1,500
Cheese	980	919
Cocoa	910	124
Coffee	1,739	1,972
Confectionery	949	822
Corn and Maize	501	525
Fish (salted and dried)	10,076	11,358
Flour of Wheat	19,029	20,153
Fruits and Vegetables	1,969	1,888
Hay and Straw	893	355
Ice	513	357

Chief Articles of Import as compared with last year—cont.

Articles.	1904.	1905.
Class I—*continued.*	£	£
Food and Drink Supplies—*continued.*		
Lard	1,380	982
Medicines	2,331	1,675
Oats	2,133	1,377
Oil, Lard, Olive and other	980	842
Pease and Beans	1,128	1,303
Preserves	2,110	1,017
Rice	2,560	3,613
Spirits: Whisky, Gin, Brandy, etc. ...	2,785	2,392
Sugar	689	2,333
Wines	3,570	2,765
Narcotics—		
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes	3,409	3,399
Class II.		
Raw Materials—		
Coal	63,199	97,261
Manure	5,055	5,820
Oil (Cotton Seed)	3,379	2,789
Oil (Engine & Paint)	623	243
Oil (Petroleum)	2,838	2,508
Wood (Pitch Pine)	4,647	1,111
Wood (White Pine)	4,686	858
Class III.		
Textile Manufactures—		
Bags (empty)	1,381	1,281
Cottons and Woollens	21,346	20,958
Rope and Cordage	624	394
Silks and Satins	601	93
Metal Manufactures—		
Hardware	6,945	3,106
Iron (galvanized)...	1,431	940
Machinery for industrial purposes ...	3,034	4,998
Manufactured articles other than above—		
Books, Printed	749	419
Boots and Shoes	6,102	3,363
Cement	765	1,007
Earthenware	1,141	795
Furniture	2,090	2,025
Glassware	1,224	650
Haberdashery	20,432	13,924
Hats and Bonnets	2,074	1,643
Matches	535	608
Musical Instruments	634	198
Paints, Dyes, and Varnish	1,024	718
Perfumery...	927	634
Soap (common)	2,510	2,529
Stationery...	1,114	684

Of the imports in 1905, goods to the value of £95,087 came from the United Kingdom, £56,891 from British Colonies, and £134,008 from foreign countries.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

There are no mines of any description in operation. The proposal to work the sulphur mine at Soufrière fell through.

A fairly large number of boats is engaged in fishing around the coast of the Island, but solely for the purpose of supplying the local market, and no attempt is made at preserving for export purposes.

In addition to the quantity exported, the sugar and rum consumed in the Colony are largely the produce of the local factories and distilleries.

(C.) Agricultural Industries.

Sugar and cocoa continue to be the principal products grown for exportation, and native foodstuffs for local consumption. The price of sugar in 1905, as declared for exportation, was £1 per ton less than in 1904, and the total value exported was £45,163, as against £53,799 in 1904. A temporary rise in price had occurred, but unfortunately it had fallen before the sugar was put on the market, and the anticipation of large profits was not realised. The quantity of cocoa exported was larger than in any previous year, being 9,468 bags of 200 lbs., valued at £38,041, as against 6,679 bags, valued at £29,008 in 1904. The evidence seems to point to a moderate but steady increase of the area under cultivation in recent years, and it is the most hopeful sign for the future prosperity of the Island which I have observed. Many of the plots have, however, a neglected appearance, indicating a want of proper cultivation and pruning, and the reports of the Agricultural Instructor show that in cases where the Department of Agriculture has taken over patches of cocoa in bad order for experimental purposes and devoted proper attention to them, the yield speedily increased and satisfactory returns were obtained. If the people could be induced to assimilate the lessons taught by these experiments, the exports would probably be doubled in two or three years. The community, however, appears to be intensely conservative and somewhat suspicious of suggestions, and it may take some time to convince them generally of the truth of the results established by the experiments conducted under the direction of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture. Some progress has nevertheless been made, and after consultation with Sir D. Morris it has been agreed that the Agricultural Instructor should arrange for a series of meetings at which lectures should

be delivered. The Roman Catholic body is much the most numerous in the Colony, and the Archbishop, Vicar-General, and Priests are cordially lending their assistance in organizing these meetings. I trust that with the co-operation of the other religious bodies and of the Press it may generally become possible to arouse greater interest in the subject so as to reach all persons engaged in the cultivation of the soil, and to impress upon them the material benefit to be derived from an intelligent application of the teachings of experience to the cultivation and preparation of their crops.

From the returns made by proprietors under the Minor Products Protection Ordinance, 1899, it would appear that there are in the Island 1,315 persons who cultivate cocoa, of whom 505 have from one to two acres; 177, from two to three acres; 293, from three to five acres; 212, from five to 10 acres; 51, from 10 to 15 acres; 20, from 15 to 20 acres; 31, from 20 to 30 acres; 12, from 30 to 40 acres; six, from 40 to 50 acres; and eight, over 50 acres under cultivation—the total acreage being 6,161 acres. It is possible that these returns are in some cases suspectible of modification, but they afford the most reliable information available to me, and on these it is necessary to base my calculations of the condition and progress of the industry. From the passing of the Ordinance in 1899 to 1901, the number of proprietors from whom returns were received was 876 and the acreage 4,496, or an average of 5⅛ acres each; from 1902 to May, 1906, there were 439 additional proprietors with 1,665 acres, or an average of a little over 3¾ acres each, indicating an increase of small proprietors. I have been informed that some of these latter represent properties which have changed hands, as the reports are not corrected from year to year, as they should be, through lack of information, and when sales are effected the same property, though remaining on the old register, is re-entered under the name of the new purchaser. While it is quite possible that there are some discrepancies of this nature, it has been ascertained that out of 761 plots of Crown lands which have been sold since the commencement of the scheme for settling the people on the land, only 135 of the names of the purchasers appear on the register, and I apprehend that, unless the record is incorrect, the people are not making the use of the land which was anticipated. The Agricultural Instructor thinks that the acreage in cocoa is fairly correct, the two opposing factors balancing each other. The export of cocoa for the year was 1,893,600 lbs., showing an average return of 307 lbs. per acre, which, taking into consideration young plantations yielding nothing, he believes to be a fair average. He adds: "The comparatively low average is due here, as elsewhere, to neglect of cultivation on the part of the uneducated peasant proprietors, who as a class probably do not obtain more than 2 cwt. per acre, while the more intelligent planter may get an average of 5 to 6 cwt.

The latter yield is distinctly good as an average over a large area, though it is not unusual for certain favoured cocoa spots to yield 12 cwt. or more."

The maturity of the young plantations now in existence, coupled with more intensive cultivation, might reasonably be expected to bring about the increase of production which I have above indicated as possible, but the difficulty of persuading the people to abandon unthrifty methods and to adopt thrifty ones will probably militate against entire success, unless the Government obtains the cordial support of all classes in the endeavour to overcome it.

Agricultural Department.

The agency through which efforts are being made to improve tropical agriculture has its headquarters in Barbados, under the direction of Sir Daniel Morris, Commissioner of Agriculture, and is supported by the Imperial Government. Locally there is a Botanic Station, and an Agricultural School, and from time to time plots of cacao or sugar cane are singled out on plantations and taken under the care of the Department to be worked up as demonstrations of how the yield can be increased by improved methods of cultivation and treatment. The station is situated in Castries, and is an ornamental garden with a nursery attached for the propagation of economic and ornamental plants, and is used as the distributing centre.

The total number of growing plants distributed from this centre and from the nursery at the Agricultural School was 25,675, of seeds 563 packets and 400 countable seeds, bulbils 25, cuttings of potatoes, cassava, &c., 2,241, a few cacao pods, and 437 bouquets. Included in the foregoing are 385 plants, 218 packets, and 5 lbs. of seeds, which were distributed free to school gardens. The greatest demand was for lime plants, of which 11,834 were supplied, cacao 7,738, nutmeg 1,211, rubber 531, banana (Chinese) 872, and strawberry 550.

Nine Central American rubber trees (Castilloa elastica) of various sizes, growing at the station, were tapped in August, September, and November; also a number growing in the cacao fields at the Errard estate. Samples of the prepared rubber were submitted to experts in London for valuation and report. The best samples in biscuit form were valued at 5*s.* per lb., a second quality not sufficiently dried at 4*s.* 6*d.*, and the scrap was classed as "good black" and valued at 3*s.* 9*d.* per lb. Mr. Moore, the agricultural superintendent who conducted the operations, states that as the result of the experiments it is estimated that well-grown trees of about 12 years of age will yield 2 lbs. of cured rubber per tree.

Four experimental plots of cacao maintained on private estates by the Department during the year were given up on

the 31st March, 1906. The records of two of these plots which have received attention for five years are as follows:—

Plot 1, area 1 acre, taken in charge January, 1901, trees about 7 years old, diseased and failing.

Yield	1900-1	Nil.			
,,	1901-2	217	lbs.	cured	cacao.
,,	1902-3	236	,,	,,	,,
,,	1903-4	343	,,	,,	,,
,,	1904-5	717	,,	,,	,,
,,	1905-6	1,081	,,	,,	,,

Within 15 months of being taken in hand it yielded sufficient to cover expenses; last year the expense, including manures, was £2 19*s.*, the gross return £27 0*s.* 6*d.*, leaving net profit for the year of £24 1*s.* 6*d.*

Plot 2, area 1 acre, taken in charge January, 1901, in dying condition. Age of trees not stated.

Yield	1900-1	Nil.			
,,	1901-2	260	lbs.	cured	cacao.
,,	1902-3	650	,,	,,	,,
,,	1903-4	765	,,	,,	,,
,,	1904-5	580	,,	,,	,,
,,	1905-6	450	,,	,,	,,

Cacao in the vicinity reported as suffering badly from deplodia—a fungoid disease. This plot yielded quicker to treatment than Plot 1, but the return last year was less. The working expenses for the five years have been £30 17*s.* 5*d.*, while the gross return has been £70 5*s.*, leaving a net profit of £39 7*s.* 7*d.* When it is noted that these cultivations were in a diseased or dying condition, yielding no return when taken over, and have been brought back to health and vigour and have in the process yielded good profit, the value of the experiments as indicating what intelligent cultivation and treatment can accomplish is manifest, and the example should spur planters to closer study and to the practice of good husbandry.

Agricultural School.

This school was opened in 1901, with an experiment station attached, at an estate named Union, about four miles from Castries, purchased by the local government.

The average number of pupils maintained in the school was 20·6. Nine of the senior pupils, who had gone through the whole course of training, were discharged between October and December last. Of these five secured employment on estates, two on their parents' land, and two left the Island. These are

the first youths of the Island who have ever undergone a course of agricultural education, and that they, and those who are to follow them, may be able by their example to assist in bringing about improved methods of cultivation, and thus of contributing to the welfare of their country, will undoubtedly be the hope of all persons interested in St. Lucia.

The practical agricultural instruction at the school occupies 3½ hours daily, and includes root grubbing, cutlassing, forking, draining, cultivating, weeding, sowing, transplanting, cultage, pruning, budding, grafting, preparation and application of fungicides and insecticides, manuring, harvesting, and preparing crops for market, management of the apiary, sheep, hares, and poultry, land measuring, &c.

The usual half-yearly examinations were held in June and December, and embraced the following subjects:—Essay, dictation, arithmetic, geography, agriculture, botany, and agricultural chemistry. In the December term elementary practical geometry and surveying were added to the work of the senior class. In June the average percentage of marks obtained was 62·9, ranging from 73·3 to 46·6 per cent. of possible marks. In December the average percentage of marks was 54·5, ranging from 74·2 to 41 per cent.

Cricket, quoits, and several indoor games are provided for the pupils, and when the troops were leaving the Island the garrison, through the officer commanding, made to the school a very welcome contribution of 60 books for the library.

Discipline has been satisfactorily maintained, and the health of the pupils has been excellent.

The experimental plots annexed to the school embrace bananas, yams, cacao, rubber (Castilloa Elastica and Funtumia Elastica), oranges, corn (maize), cabbages, grasses (such as sour grass, Japanese millet, doura, Kaffir corn, broom corn, teosinte), sunflowers, Japanese buckwheat, and limes; and onions, pulse, and other foodstuffs were grown in quantities sufficient to supply the needs of the school or to afford instruction as to their proper method of cultivation.

The pupils are permitted during recreation hours to cultivate small gardens, the product of which they sell for pocket money.

The total expenditure on agriculture in the Colony, as shown in the auditor's report, was:—

From Local Funds	...	...	£437 7 9
From Imperial Funds	...	...	1.197 17 11
			£1.635 5 8

(D.) Crown Lands and Surveys.

A change was made in the management of this Department during the year, and the Colonial Engineer was appointed Commissioner of Crown Lands on the amalgamation of the Public Works and Lands Departments. On his assumption of the duties on the 1st October last, the work was found to be very much in arrear, there being 324 grants for lands sold which had not been prepared, and 140 applications for the purchase of land which had not received the requisite attention. This mass of arrears will take a long time to wipe out, but it is anticipated that better results will immediately be apparent in consequence of the more energetic control.

The transactions for the year 1905 were:—149 applications for the purchase of 1,626 acres 2 roods 9 perches of Crown lands were filed, of which six were for less than 5 acres, 111 for areas exceeding 5 acres and not exceeding 10 acres, and 20 exceeding 10 acres. The area applied for was more by 783 acres than that applied for in 1904. There were in addition 12 applications for village lots.

Four estates were escheated, namely:—In the quarter of D'Ennery—Bois Jolie, Desbrosses Dumouliere, and Moyer l'Anse. In the quarter of Dauphin—Theotiste or Raymond Dampiere.

Nine Crown grants were issued.

The Land Sales Fund transactions were as follows:—

Balance on 31st December, 1904 ...	£556	11	7
Revenue, 1905	1,162	19	2
	£1,719	10	9
Expenditure, 1905	865	4	3
Balance on 31st December, 1905 ...	£854	6	6

Salaries and departmental expenses are not charged to the fund. These amounted to £600 6*s.* 3*d.*, so that the total expenditure for the year was £1,465 10*s.* 6*d.*, or £302 11*s.* 4*d.* more than the receipts, while the work finally disposed of was, as above stated, four estates escheated and nine Crown grants issued.

(E.) Public Works.

The public works of the Colony have hitherto received but passing notice in the annual Blue Book Reports, but I apprehend that they are of sufficient importance to merit a chapter

of description and explanation, as the future prosperity of the Island largely depends on the prudent application of all available means to public works of various kinds.

An indication of the policy adopted in the past may be gathered from a perusal of the statistics relating to the public debt. These statistics show that when sugar, the dominant interest, began to decrease in price some years ago, the Government came to its rescue and invested large sums of borrowed money in the Cul de Sac Sugar Factory and in East Indian immigration, to provide labour for the growth and manufacture of sugar. The only tramways in the Island—those at Cul de Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery—are private undertakings, but most of the good roads were constructed by Government for the conveyance of sugar. The Cul de Sac factory did not pay, and the money invested in it by Government has been lost, the factory passing into other hands. There is amongst the evidence tendered to the West India Royal Commission in 1897 a list of 86 sugar estates which formerly manufactured muscovado. Sixty-three of these appear to have been abandoned, one converted into a rum manufactory, and the others absorbed into the factories to which they were adjacent. Four have, however, recently re-started work. The public roads which served these estates remain in existence, principally in the southern portion of the Island, but the amount of produce carried over them is relatively very small, as the land has not in many instances been used for growing other crops. The produce of the factories is carried by tramway. In place of the sugar lands which are near the coast the tendency of the population in recent years has been to take up virgin lands in the interior, on which to plant cacao and other foodstuffs, but these are only very indifferently supplied with bridle-paths or foot-paths, and the problem of the immediate future is to provide suitable roads to enable the produce grown to be brought to market and to encourage more systematic settlement and improved cultivation and preparation of the crops. As the result of a report made by Mr. Wrightson, Superintendent of Public Works of Trinidad, who was appointed to advise on the road system, a Public Works and Roads Ordinance was passed during the year abolishing the office of Superintendent of Public Works and the Road Boards and creating the office of Colonial Engineer, under whose management the "public highways" are placed, and constituting District Road Boards for the control of "public byways." At the same time a new Road Tax Ordinance was passed, imposing a small graduated tax on incomes exceeding £30, and continuing the tax of 6*s*. per annum on persons with small incomes. Only males above the age of 18 years are liable, and persons 60 years old, whose incomes do not amount to £100, newcomers, and certain others are exempt. The yield of the tax has so far been disappointing, but a final decision

on the subject cannot be arrived at until adequate measures of collection have been in force for at least a year. In the meantime the current revenue is insufficient to enable the Government to grapple fully with the road question, and it is under consideration to withdraw £5,000 from the surplus funds to be expended on the most urgent work.

In 1885 an important scheme for the improvement of the harbour of Castries was embarked on, and a loan of £70,000 raised. In 1888 a further sum of £14,000 was raised under the Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1887, for the same purpose. This was over-expended by £700, and the following amounts were also disbursed under Ordinance 19 of 1892:—

Western Wharf	£4,952	8	2
Dredging Central Shoal	1,698	5	0
Harbour Improvement	1,471	8	1
Maintenance of Dredger	1,812	18	2
Fenders, Northern Wharf	408	13	2
	£10,343	12	7

—making the total expenditure out of loan moneys £95,044. Certain construction work, such as piling the Prince Alfred Basin at a cost of £913, and putting up wharf railings and barriers £700, were paid for out of current revenue.

A solid concrete wharf was built and dredging done to a depth of 27 feet at low water alongside. The business of the port as a coaling depôt rapidly increased, and during the past year 551 steamships, with a total tonnage of 904,340 tons, entered, in addition to 245 sailing vessels, with a total tonnage of 11,109 tons. Within recent years an urgent demand has been made for increased wharf accommodation, and for extensive dredging operations to enlarge the navigable portion of the harbour for deep draught ships by the removal of shoals. Motives of prudence prompted delay when the decision of the Imperial Government to abandon Castries as a fortified port became known, and no further addition has been made to the public debt. A great deal of work has, however, been done in the nature of piling the foreshore and reclaiming swampy land to the east of the concrete wharf. This work is estimated to cost £4,513, and what has been accomplished has been paid for out of funds derived from the sale of reclaimed land. The present wharf accommodation consists of 646·9 lineal feet, constructed of cement concrete with 27 feet of water, 362 feet of hard-wood piling with 18 feet of water and 1,157 feet of lesser depth for small craft.

In 1888 a debt of £3,300 was incurred under the authority of the Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1888, for erecting a lunatic asylum, but the money was diverted to other purposes, and in 1894 inscribed stock to the amount of £66,479 11*s.* was issued for converting £17,300 of the above debt, £5,900 for immigration, and the balance for the undermentioned works:—

Building Government House	£8,800
Constructing Government House Road ...	1,690
Police Barracks (Castries)	1,564
Construction of Telephones	4,521
Roads	5,174
Water Works	1,311
Yaws Hospital	1,894
Police Barracks (Soufrière)	700
Loan to Castries Town Board for Water Works and Market	10,000

—besides a few minor works.

As regards the operations of the past year, the changes in the staff and in the system of conducting work hardly afford sufficient time to indicate with accuracy what results will be attained. The new officers have had to study pre-existing conditions, and seek to improve the system and organize labour gangs and teach them their work, so that the measure of success attained has been in spite of the difficulties inseparable from attempts at reform and increased efficiency. I have on more than one occasion been told that the high class of road work being performed was in advance of the needs of the Island, and therefore wasteful, but inspection of the new work and comparison with the old shows the new work to be of a better and more lasting description, and the following comparative statement shows a reduction of expenditure in place of the waste of money which my informants warned me to expect:—

—	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Public buildings recurrent	753	364
Roads and bridges	5,291	3,875
Jetties	259	210
Harbour works	725	558
Miscellaneous works	343	440
Reclamation piling	1,138	1,811
Public buildings extraordinary ...	111	378
Other works	383	301
Roads and bridges (from land sales fund)	270	406

So much work remains to be done in the direction of providing or improving public buildings, in improving the existing roads and in making new ones, and the country through which the roads run is so broken and difficult, that much more money will be needed to bring matters into a satisfactory condition, but I am impressed with the belief that no improvident expenditure is taking place and that persistence in present methods will result in the highways being brought into a much better state than formerly.

The mileage of roadway in the Colony is approximately:—

	Miles.
Main Roads	115
Byways	117
Unclassified	33
Total ...	265

(F.) Shipping.

The number of steamers which entered Castries (the only port of entry in the Island) was 551, with an aggregate tonnage of 904,340 tons. This is an improvement on 1904, when 450 steamers of 643,437 tons visited the port. The great majority of these steamers called for coaling purposes, and the export of bunker coal amounted in value to £102,626, an increase of £32,045 over 1904.

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1900	473	751,463	271	9,009	147	154,695	41	6,258
1901	461	770,443	273	9,634	124	148,488	15	4,260
1902	430	682,878	338	11,001	108	141,240	71	3,869
1903	354	542,095	269	7,470	66	84,391	152	5,212
1904	373	544,895	231	7,349	77	98,544	45	2,899
1905	452	748,494	207	6,941	99	155,846	43	4,774

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1900	473	749,172	266	8,530	147	156,988	39	5,480
1901	460	768,110	266	9,788	124	142,488	15	5,509
1902	432	685,282	346	10,994	108	141,240	68	3,579
1903	352	540,122	280	7,664	66	84,391	150	4,564
1904	374	546,795	237	7,537	77	98,544	45	2,869
1905	452	748,494	207	6,941	98	153,905	43	4,774

The shipping business of 1905 was nearly equal to that of 1900 or 1901, in which years the South African war was in progress.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed during 1905, the most important of which relate to public works and roads, road tax, quarantine, and lands (acquisition for public purposes). The ordinances relating to the St. Lucia Library, the Criminal Code, Customs, the Post Office, and the District Courts were amended, and two Appropriation Ordinances were placed on the Statute Book.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Primary.

The general statistics for the year are given in the following table:—

Schools.	No.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.	Government Grant.
					£
Anglican	3	476	313	382	322
Wesleyan	1	310	153	165	137
East Indian Mission ...	1	43	25	30	24
Roman Catholic	41	6,427	3,341	4,480	2,856
Total	46	7,256	3,832	5,057	3,339
The figures for 1904 were	43	6,998	3,684	4,853	3,430

There has been a satisfactory increase of the number of pupils on the rolls, of those in average attendance, and of the number examined, and three more schools have been recognized.

The Inspector of Schools states that in addition "some hundreds of children are receiving instruction not only in the secondary schools of Castries, St. Mary's College, and St. Joseph's Convent, and in the Agricultural School at Union, but also in a large number of schools of different types, paying schools in the towns regarded as more select than assisted primary schools, and "bush" schools scattered all over the country. No exact figures with regard to these schools can be given as Government has no right of control or inspection."

The amount of school fees collected was £18 6*s*. 9*d*. only. The two Anglican schools in Castries are the only primary schools which receive fees.

The Government grant amounted to 17*s*. 5*d*. per unit of average attendance, but the Inspector reports that certain schools had, for a time, been drawing higher grants than they were entitled to in 1904, and an adjustment had to be made by deductions from the grants in 1905.

(B.) Secondary.

Secondary education is provided for boys by the St. Mary's College, and for girls by the St. Joseph's Convent. The former school received a Government grant of £400, and the latter one of £50. The total expenditure on these schools was £699 and £650, respectively, the school fees collected being £194 and £240.

There were 59 boys on the roll of the College, with 56 in average attendance, the figures for St. Joseph's Convent for girls being 85 and 80, respectively.

The boys are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the girls for those of the London College of Preceptors.

One of the conditions attached to the grant of St. Mary's College is the right to have 10 Government scholars educated at the college free of charge. The report on these boys shows work and conduct "very good" in four cases, "good" in two, "very fair" in three, "fair" in one. Two passed the Cambridge junior and two the Cambridge preliminary examinations in December, 1905.

At the examination in December, 1905, to fill two vacancies, eight candidates presented themselves. The best candidates obtained, out of a total of 75 marks, 63·5, 62, 61, 58, 50, but one was disqualified, being a few days over age.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(i.) Hospitals and Asylums.

The following statement tabulates the principal statistics for 1904, relating to the hospitals and asylums of the Colony:—

Institutions.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during 1905.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.		No. of Deaths.
				Cured.	Relieved.	
Victoria Hospital, Castries ...	57	1,269	65	845	319	92
Soufrière Hospital	2	29	2·3	23	1	1
Vieux-Fort Hospital	13	115	10	82	18	7
Dennery "	12	155	11	126	25	15
Yaws Hospital, Soufrière ...	42	61	41	56	6	7
Poor Asylum " ...	40	104	44·7	—	59	42
Lunatic Asylum " ...	8	16	11	2	—	3

(ii.) Dispensaries.

Out-door medical relief is given through the medium of a dispensary in each district, at which a medical officer attends every week.

The number of patients treated during the past three years was as follows:—

Dispensary.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Castries	7,637	16,728	7,399
Gros-Islet	684	514	619
Dennery	989	924	1,067
Anse-la-Raye	853	384	724
Soufrière	1,387	1,224	887
Choiseul	295	198	171
Vieux-Fort	1,204	1,034	1,193
Laborie	325	518	693
Micoud	627	546	610
Total	14,001	22,070	13,363

Of the 1,923 cases treated in the hospitals and asylums, the bulk are traceable to preventable causes. The following list indicates the principal diseases:—

Syphilis and gonorrhœa	320	
Urinary and generative system ...	112	
	——	432
Malaria		239
Parasites (ankylostoma, &c.)		298
Wounds, fractures, burns, &c.		80
Ulcers		61
Yaws		83
Tubercle		69

A curious circumstance connected with the Victoria hospital is that for years past the benefits of the institution have been principally enjoyed by natives of other countries. For the first time the St. Lucian patients predominate, in 1905. The figures for the past three years show the following admissions:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.
Natives of St Lucia	364	553	797
Natives of other countries including India	1,275	709	472
Total	1,639	1,262	1,269

Of the strangers treated, 10 were from Europe or the United States, and were probably sailors. Excluding these, it would appear that the Government maintained 1,913 patients in the hospitals and asylums, and provided medical aid for 13,363 at the dispensaries, a total of 15,276, or nearly one-third of the whole estimated population of the Island.

(iii.) Out-door Relief of Paupers.

The number of persons in receipt of out-door relief on the 31st December, 1905, was 190.

Under the present system of relief each person on the list is seen at least once a month by the Relieving Officer of the district, who issues to each recipient a ticket, and the allowance is paid on the next pay-day by the Pay Officer on the production of this ticket. By this arrangement the Relieving Officer is able to keep himself acquainted with the circumstances of each recipient, particularly those who are only

temporarily on the list, and also to ascertain that each allowance reaches its proper destination. The system apparently works satisfactorily.

(iv.) Savings Bank.

The principal bank is in Castries, and there have been branches at Soufrière (II district), and Vieux Fort (III district) for some years. Two new branches were started during 1905, at Dennery and Gros Islet.

The following statement shows the transactions of the bank for the five years ended the 31st December, 1905:—

Year.	Total number of depositors on 31st December of each year.	Total deposits inclusive of Interest.			Total Withdrawals.			Amount on deposit at the end of each year.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1901	1,467	20,891	5	3	22,022	7	5	13,287	14	3
1902	1,590	20,365	12	6	17,696	8	6	15,956	18	3
1903	1,584	18,338	16	7	17,084	5	11	17,211	8	11
1904	1,642	18,990	15	5	20,568	7	1	15,633	17	3
1905	1,231	15 025	16	3	16,285	13	7	14,373	19	11

The decrease in the amount on deposit, and the number of depositors at the end of the year, is attributed by the manager to a number of depositors who had been employed on military works having, on the cessation of the works, closed their accounts, and gone elsewhere in quest of employment.

Investments to the extent of £13,416 14*s.* 11*d.* were held in England by the Crown Agents on behalf of the bank.

The working account of the bank showed a revenue of £481 14*s.* 2*d.*, and an expenditure of £392 9*s.* 2*d.* The excess of revenue, £89 5*s.*, was transferred to general revenue.

(v.) Friendly Societies.

There are 12 Friendly Societies in the Island, with an aggregate number of members on the rolls on the 31st December, 1905, of 1,247, and of balances at the same date of £935 1*s.* 10*d.*

Four hundred and eighty-four members seceded, and 22 died during 1905, and one new society was registered—the net decrease of membership being 351.

The disbursements during the year were:—

Sick benefits	£790	6	8½
Funeral claims	157	19	2
Working expenses	555	1	1
Purchase of property	74	8	0
Payments to withdrawing members...	145	14	2½
Payments to travelling and distressed members	37	13	2
Loans received and disbursed... ...	3	10	0
Loans written off	14	0	0
	£1,778	12	4

The working expenses represent 31 per cent. of the disbursements. The auditors' reports show several small discrepancies in the books.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The strength of the force is one officer and 71 non-commissioned officers and men.

Ten men joined the force during the year, while four resigned, two were dismissed, and one pensioned.

There were 920 cases taken up by the police during the year, of which 639 were summarily convicted, and 55 for indictable offences were sent on to the higher court, 91 being withdrawn and 116 dismissed.

(B.) Prisons.

At the commencement of the year there were 51 prisoners in the royal gaol—39 males and 12 females.

The number of committals during the year was 394, 241 adult males, including 13 military prisoners, 79 adult females, and 43 males and 31 females under 21 years of age.

—	1904.	1905.
For Statutory Offences ...	536	301
„ Non-payment of Road Tax	117	80
„ Military Offences	36	13
„ Safe custody, trial, &c. ...	187	166
	976	560

The daily average number of prisoners in custody was 51·11, not taking into account the long-sentence St. Lucia prisoners, who are undergoing their sentences in the Grenada prison, the daily average of whom was 24·54. The corrected daily average for St. Lucia would be 75·65, as against a similar total of 72·94 in 1904. This is apparently the highest average ever attained, but it is due to longer sentences, the number of committals having decreased very considerably.

The labour of the prisoners during the year is valued at £531 14*s.* 3*d.*; the principal item is for quarrying and breaking stones.

The expenditure on the prison was £1,514, of which £307 was for the maintenance of St. Lucia prisoners at Grenada.

The daily average on the sick list was 1·1, being the same as that for the previous year. No death occurred in the prison.

A feature of the St. Lucia prison returns which merits comment is that while by the last census the natives of the Island stood in relation to the natives of other places residing here as 5·15 to 1, only 41·47 per cent. of the prisoners sentenced in 1905 were St. Lucians, the natives of other places, of which Barbados supplies the bulk of the criminal element, contributing 58·53 per cent.

I have already commented, under the head of hospitals and asylums, on the number of strangers who benefit by the Victoria hospital. It appears that a good many roughs and bad characters from other Colonies made this their temporary home, and a proportion of them spent their time between the hospital and gaol at the expense of the Government. No doubt a good many left when the garrison was removed, but the prison records bear evidence that a sufficient number remain to affect the statistics.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The following figures summarise the chief items of the criminal statistics for the last five years:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Offences reported	2,258	2,790	1,942	2,032	1,595
Summary convictions—					
For offences against the person	272	333	255	355	405
„ prædial larceny	21	48	28	29	60
„ offences against property ...	138	133	77	124	226
„ other offences	1,185	1,430	877	1,059	904
Convictions by the Superior Court—					
Child murder	—	—	—	—	1
For offences against the person	5	6	12	17	3
„ „ „ property ...	5	17	11	13	23
„ other offences	4	1	2	2	5

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The estimated total population on the 31st December was 53,389, which shows an increase of 13·4 per thousand during the year, and was composed of 25,619 males and 27,770 females.

The birth-rate of the year was 35·2 per thousand, as compared with 34·8 per thousand in 1904; and the death-rate 21·8 per thousand, compared with 19·4 per thousand in 1904. The number of births was 1,856, and of deaths, 1,149.

The population on the 7th April, 1901, according to the census taken on that date, was 49,883, made up of 23,821 males and 26,062 females. The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths from the date of the census to the 31st December, 1905, has been, therefore, approximately 3,506, or about 7 per cent., equivalent to an annual increase for the same period of about 1·75 per cent.

The number of marriages during the year was 340, as against 332 in the previous year.

These figures are obtained from the report of the Registrar-General, but as no deduction was made of persons leaving the Island, the estimate of population appears to me to be subject to modification.

(B.) Public Health.

No epidemic disease occurred, and the public health statistics indicate no unusual conditions during the year.

(C.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year, as recorded at the Botanic station in Castries, was 72·64 inches, and it fell on 243 days; but at the Agricultural School at Union, only 13 miles off in a direct line, the fall recorded was 78·83 inches.

The wettest month of the year was August, with 10·01 inches, whilst the driest was February, with 1·71 inches.

The Botanic station is the only place in the Colony at which continuous meteorological observations of a reliable nature have been made for any length of time, and the following figures are taken from its records:—

Rainfall.

Year.	Inches.
1900	73·25
1901	99·71
1902	91·43
1903	86·84
1904	77·72
1905	72·64

The average rainfall for the past 16 years is 94·07 inches or 21·43 inches above that of 1905.

The absolute maximum temperature registered during 1905 was 94·5° in the month of June, and the absolute minimum temperature 56·5° in January. The mean monthly temperature for the year was 78·3. The mean barometrical pressure for the year was 30·002 inches at 10 feet above mean sea-level.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(A.) Post Office.

The revenue of the Department was £2,018 8*s.* 10*d.*, of which £1,345 12*s.* 4*d.* was received from letters, post-cards, &c., £499 9*s.* 5*d.* from sales of stamps to collectors, and £173 7*s.* 1*d.* from commissions on postal and money orders.

The expenditure was £1,356 4*s.* 2*d.*, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure was, therefore, £662 4*s.* 8*d.*

The total number of letters and post-cards dealt with was—	Number.	Total.
Foreign sent	133,720	
Foreign received	122,262	
		255,982
Inland	...	85,378
		341,360
The number last year was	...	360,789
A net decrease of	...	19,429
Newspapers and book packets sent	8,379	
Newspapers and book packets received... ...	98,326	
		106,705
Inland	...	17,257
		123,962
The number last year was	...	139,837
A net decrease of	...	15,875
Parcels sent	608	
Parcels received	2,838	
		3,446
The number last year was	...	4,201
A net decrease of	...	755

The decrease in foreign mails amounted to 39,314 letters and postcards, 16,081 newspapers and book packets, and 755 parcels, while the increase of inland mails was 18,884 letters, &c., and 206 newspapers and book packets.

The number of registered letters dealt with was 6,747 and 3,613 letters passed into the dead letter office, of which 1,565 were returned to the countries of origin, and 2,048 to the writers.

The money order business amounted to £6,074 11*s.* 9*d.* against £11,068 last year, but £973 0*s.* 7*d.* in imperial postal orders were issued, and £238 2*s.* 5*d.* paid—this method of transmitting money having been adopted during the year.

The inland postal orders issued only amounted to £35 8*s.* 10*d.*

The contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for the carriage of mails expired on the 30th June, 1905, and since then there has been no subsidized mail service, letters and parcels being paid for at fixed rates by number or weight.

One branch post office was opened during the year at the village of Anse la Raye.

(B.) Telephones.

A committee which had been appointed in August, 1904, to enquire into the working of the telephone department submitted its report in January, 1905, recommending various alterations and improvements. The department has been placed under the control of the Colonial Engineer, the telephone supervisor has been replaced, and a new operator appointed at Castries. The village of Canaries was connected with the system, a police station having been established at that village during the year. A sum of £132 6*s.* 9*d.* was expended on reconstruction, and £115 15*s.* 6*d.* on maintenance, the Colonial Government also purchasing the War Department telephone system and stores at a cost of £500, and connecting the quarantine station at Rat Island with the mainland by a submarine cable.

The system now consists of 112½ miles of trunk line, and 53⅛ miles of branch lines, a total of 165⅝ miles.

On the 31st December there were 111 subscribers.

The receipts were £551 5*s.*, being £43 15*s.* less than in 1904, and the expenditure £1,567 10*s.* 7*d.*, or £1,016 5*s.* 7*d.* in excess of the revenue.

The line, which is alleged to have been badly constructed in the first instance, was, it appears, falling into a condition of great inefficiency, and it had become necessary to rescue it from this state, hence the large outlay. Unfortunately, at the

close of the year much remained to be done on it, and the expenditure for improvement and upkeep will continue high for two or three years longer. As the revenue from the rental of private telephones is only about £400 a year, the balance being made up of charges against the different Departments of Government, there is not much chance of the system paying for itself for a long time to come.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Towards the end of the year Castries was definitely abandoned as a fortified port, and the troops were withdrawn by the Imperial Government. Naturally this exerted a depressing influence on the revenues, although the year was a good one for trade, as the business of coaling was very brisk, and the general exports were in excess of what they had been for several years past. As was to be anticipated, a great falling off in imports occurred. Compared with 1904 the decline was £84,719, or nearly 23 per cent., and it is to be doubted whether the downward tendency has yet been arrested. The Colony has been suddenly thrown on its own resources by the discontinuance of large annual imperial expenditure, and the income of the people has *pro tanto* been decreased.

The prices returned for the two principal items of export were less than in 1904; sugar by £1 per ton, and cacao by 3*s*. per cwt.; the producers' profits were, therefore, diminished.

The decline in revenue from ordinary sources during the past two years is shown below:—

Ordinary Revenue.	Amount.	Decline.
	£	£
1903–4	64,326	—
1904–5	61,894	2,432
1905–6	59,308	2,586
		5,018
		Or nearly 8 per cent.

There seems no doubt that the future prosperity of the Island depends on the coal business and on agriculture. The former fluctuates very considerably, and is apparently governed by the volume of trade between North and South America, the ships carrying the traffic finding St. Lucia a convenient stopping place to replenish their stocks of coal. As regards agriculture, the Colony's struggle to maintain the sugar

industry was more plucky than well advised, and resulted in its being hampered with a load of debt which has since crippled its resources. The area of cane land in the immediate vicinity of the factories is not of such extent as to admit of a sufficiently large quantity of sugar cane being produced to enable the manufacture of sugar to be carried on on as large a scale as in Cuba, Demerara, and other places, where efforts have been made to cheapen production by large operations. At present experiments are being made with seedling canes in order to endeavour to produce a larger quantity of sugar from the same area. The estimated area in canes in 1905 was:—

Factory canes	2,667 acres
Muscovado estates	360 ,,
	3,027 ,,

Had St. Lucia made roads and planted cacao and spices as Grenada did, her prosperity would have long since been more assured. Some years ago a praiseworthy scheme was conceived of settling the peasantry on the land, and 761 lots have been disposed of, with very few exceptions, to small proprietors. Hardly more than half this number had received their titles up to the end of 1905, and the Lands Department, under the new management, is greatly hampered in its work in the endeavour to wipe off arrears. This blot on a good scheme has prevented entire success, and detracted from its usefulness. I consider also that the best results would have been secured by encouraging at the same time a number of more intelligent and experienced agriculturists with capital to settle on the land with the object of furnishing examples for the small proprietors to follow, and also of providing them with centres at which their spare time could be employed in working for wages while their own crops were maturing.

A Committee of the Agricultural Society is preparing a handbook of information for this class of agriculturist in the hope of attracting colonists to the Island, and a scheme of roads to give access to the land is now awaiting the report of a general committee, acquainted with the different districts, appointed to advise on the question.

A matter which merits, and should receive, early attention is the question of lessening the enormous amount of suffering to individuals which is entailed by the almost general disregard of measures to prevent diseases from which recent research shows that persons living in the tropics can be protected, and incidentally of diminishing the Government's heavy medical bill entailed by disregard of proper precautions

in this direction. The initial expense would be a good and lasting investment, but so far it has not been found possible to provide the money out of current revenue.

The three main lines on which it appears to me that most beneficial results will accrue to the inhabitants if consistently followed are the adoption of measures to prevent tropical diseases, the general spread of knowledge of agriculture, so as to prevent wasteful methods of cultivation and induce prosperity, and the general brightening of intelligence by sound utilitarian education.

P. C. Cork,
Administrator.

Government Office,
St. Lucia,
28th August, 1906.

---

andronicus publishi

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
496	Bahamas...	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	"
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

g company, inc.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1906.

andronicus publishing co
666 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N

mpany, inc.
10019 · (212) 245-8498

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 510.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1905-6.

(For Report for 1904–5, *see* No. 464.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1906.

LONDON.
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1906.

[Cd. 2684–56.] *Price 2d.*

CONTENTS.

		PAGE.
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industry	12
III.	Legislation	19
IV.	Education	20
V.	Government Institutions	21
VI.	Judicial Statistics	23
VII.	Vital Statistics	24
VIII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	26
IX.	Military Forces and Expenditure	26
X.	General Observations	26

No. 510.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1904–5, *see* No. 464.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR to THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
13th September, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for transmission to the Secretary of State my report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1905-6.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir R. B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

1125 Wt 23907 11/06 D & S 5 26200

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1905-6.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of revenue and expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads, for the years 1904-5 and 1905-6, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years, 1901-2 to 1905-6:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1905-6 *and* 1904-5.

Heads of Revenue.	1905-6.	1904-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs:—				
Import	9,771 11 9	10,333 15 0	—	562 3 3
Export	619 5 11	639 16 10	—	20 10 11
2. Port and Harbour Dues:—				
Tonnage..	562 8 6	607 18 6	—	45 10 0
Port	128 19 0	131 19 0	—	3 0 0
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:—				
Licences—Liquor	409 10 0	325 5 0	84 5 0	—
Do. Other	1,271 13 9	1,161 17 3	109 16 6	—
Excise	3,806 18 0	2,664 0 0	1,142 18 0	—
Land and House Tax	3,131 18 10	1,975 0 4	1,156 18 6	—
Income Tax	506 1 11	509 5 10	—	3 3 11
Other Internal Revenue	730 1 8	625 9 2	104 12 6	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,362 16 6	696 4 9	666 11 9	—
5. Post Office..	1,090 14 3	905 18 1	184 16 2	—
6. Telephones	414 16 10	455 7 4	—	40 10 6
7. Rent of Government Property ..	25 0 0	30 0 0	—	5 0 0
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans ..	614 2 6	783 5 4	—	172 2 10
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	37 14 9	71 7 8	—	33 12 11
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands..	444 4 8	528 7 3	—	84 2 7
Total Local Revenue ..	24,927 18 10	22,447 17 4	3,445 18 5	969 16 11
Parliamentary Grants—				
In aid of Agricultural Department	1,222 0 0	1,318 0 0	—	96 0 0
In aid of deficit	750 0 0	4,500 0 0	—	3,750 0 0
Total General Revenue	26,899 18 10	28,265 17 4	3,445 18 5	4,815 16 11

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1905–6 *and* 1904–5.

Heads of Expenditure.	1905-6.	1904-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	630 0 0	983 15 0	—	353 15 0
2. Pensions	1,684 17 8	2,172 4 6	—	487 6 10
3. The Governor	901 6 8	941 2 10	—	39 16 2
4. Government Office	1,305 0 6	2,283 1 4	467 8 6	—
5. Treasury, Customs and Excise ..	1,425 9 4			
6. Audit Department	309 5 0	349 4 8	—	39 19 8
7. Legal Departments	1,859 12 9	1,877 18 1	—	18 5 4
8. Police and Prisons	2,916 16 10	3,277 15 4	—	360 18 6
9. Medical Department	1,613 10 9	1,663 10 1	—	49 19 4
10. Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,824 19 5	2,778 0 2	46 19 3	—
11. Poor Relief	792 16 6	934 15 8	—	141 19 2
12. Education	1,484 11 11	1,560 7 8	—	75 15 9
13. Post Office..	718 13 4	973 8 6	—	254 15 2
14. Telephone Department	333 8 4	341 8 1	—	7 19 9
15. Miscellaneous	1,532 0 7	1,214 1 5	217 19 2	—
16. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	607 0 10	600 18 11	6 1 11	—
17. Public Works Department	546 18 5	535 15 11	11 2 6	—
18. Do. do. Recurrent	2,455 14 8	1,898 19 4	556 15 4	—
19. Do. do. Extraordinary ..	398 2 1	624 0 10	—	225 18 9
20. Agricultural Department	285 2 6	237 12 5	47 10 1	—
Total Local Expenditure ..	24,625 8 1	25,228 0 9	1,353 16 9	2,056 9 5
Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds).	1,285 17 0	1,286 16 11	—	0 19 11
Total General Expenditure..	25,911 5 1	26,514 17 8	1,353 16 9	2,057 9 4

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1901–2 *to* 1905–6.

Year.	Revenue. —		Revenue. Total.	Expenditure. —		Expenditure. Total.
		£	£		£	£
1901-2.	Local	23,705		Local	26,149	
	Imperial Grant	2,907	26,612	Imperial Grant	3,423	29,572
1902–3.	Local	25,931		Local	25,758	
	Imperial Grant	3,361	29,292	Imperial Grant	2,632	28,390
1903–4.	Local	20,944		Local	26,657	
	Imperial Grant	5,572	26,516	Imperial Grant	1,458	28,115
1904–5.	Local	22,448		Local	25,228	
	Imperial Grant	5,818	28,266	Imperial Grant	1,287	26,515
1905–6.	Local	24,928		Local	24,625	
	Imperial Grant	1,972	26,900	Imperial Grant	1,286	25,911

The total local revenue of the Colony for the year 1905-6 was £24,928, being £756 more than the estimate and £2,480 in excess of the receipts of the previous year.

The gross excess of receipts over estimate was £2,206, of which £1,710 was under the head of "Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue," and the gross deficiency on estimated receipts was £1,450, of which £1,309 was under "Customs," the result being a net increase of £756, as above stated.

On a comparison of the revenue details of 1905-6 with those of the previous year, it is seen that the three main factors contributing to the very substantial rise in the revenue are excise, land and house tax, and reimbursements-in-aid, the increases under which are respectively £1,143, £1,157, and £667. The first is due to continued police activity, which has gradually almost killed out illicit distillation; the second is the result of the new ordinance passed at the end of 1904 imposing a tax on houses and enlarging the scope of the land tax; while the third arises from the passing to general revenue of £750, interest on the invested balance of the Eruption Fund, which is now used to assist the Colony in defraying its heavy poor relief bill.

There was, unfortunately, however, again a fall in Customs receipts of £583.

Other minor fluctuations contribute to the net result of £2,480 increase—the figure already given.

The gross revenue, including Parliamentary grants of £750 in aid of the anticipated deficit and £1,222 on account of the annual grant for Botanic station and Agricultural School, was £26,900.

In reviewing this revenue result it should be borne in mind that the local revenue figure of 1904-5, as shown in my last report, represented an increase of £1,504 over that of the year previous. The two increases together constitute a somewhat notable revenual improvement, and especially when considered with the co-existing reduction in expenditure referred to in the next and following paragraphs.

The expenditure of the Colony for the same period was £24,625, as against an estimate of £26,444, and a further amount of £1,286 was spent on upkeep of the agricultural institutions.

The corresponding figures of expenditure in 1904-5 were £25,228 and £1,287.

Comparison shows a decreased expenditure of £354 on account of public debt, the liability on which is lessening annually, £487 on pensions, £361 on police and prisons, £142 on poor relief (following on £174 decrease in 1904-5), £255 on post office, and other minor reductions.

There is a net increase of £236 under the two Public Works Heads 18 and 19, due to the obligation assumed by the

Government, coincident with the passing of the new Land and House Tax Ordinance to take over the cost of the repair of by-roads.

An increase of £218 under "Miscellaneous" is consequent on the Government having paid off, or rather remitted and charged to this head, a sum of £425, due to it for advances made to the towns of Georgetown and Chateaubelair in years gone by which those towns could never repay. Under Heads 4 and 5, Government Office and Treasury, Customs, and Excise (now separately estimated for), the increase of £467 is due to the removal of excise expenditure from the Police Vote to the Treasury Head, to the cost of inauguration of the new Land and House Tax Ordinance, and to certain other minor necessities.

The net result of the year's working is therefore:—

Actual local revenue	£24,928
Actual local expenditure	24,625
Surplus ...	£303

—as against an estimated deficit of £2,272.

The reduction of local expenditure effected between 1903-4 and 1905-6 amounts to the appreciable sum of £2,032. Add to this £3,984, the increase in local revenue within the same period, and the result is a total financial betterment of over £6,000.

(B.) Taxation.

During 1905-6 the new Land and House Tax Ordinance, passed in December, 1904, came into effect. This imposes a graduated tax from 1*s.* on houses of an assessed annual rental of £1 10*s.* and under, to 15*s.* on houses of between £15 and £20, and 4 per cent. of rental on houses over £20. This tax is altogether new. With regard to land tax, there is no change from the old rate or 1*s.* an acre, but the same 1*s.* is made payable on fractional parts of an acre, thus bringing in a large number of small holdings which formerly were untaxed. The increase to the revenue produced by this law is about £1,200, from which, however, the expenses of assessment and collection, which are considerable, must be deducted.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

An examination of the statement subjoined shows an excess of assets of £1,744.

At 31st March, 1905, the account showed an excess of assets of £688.

(Table

Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DEPOSITS:						
Savings Bank	11,877	5	10			
Police Reward Fund	35	3	1			
Georgetown Town Fund	9	3	1			
Calliaqua Town Fund	21	1	4			
Barrouallie Town Fund	14	3	0			
Bequia Town Fund	6	8	3			
Hurricane Loan "Special Fund" ...	2,235	11	7			
Roads and Land Settlement Fund ...	5,231	16	1			
Permanent Investment (Eruption Fund).	25,000	0	0			
Restoration and Improvement Current Account (Eruption Fund).	5,109	1	4			
Alexander Fund...	1,063	19	11			
Graham Fund	622	14	9			
Cotton Cultivation Fund	26	6	7			
Stock Improvement Fund	153	0	10			
Cotton Factory—Working Account ...	29	9	7			
Cotton Factory—Seed Account ...	20	15	9			
The Imperial Agricultural Department	152	1	10			
Other Deposits	101	12	4			
				51,709	15	2
INTER-COLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of St. Lucia	23	12	11			
" " Grenada	191	17	1			
				215	10	0
Post Office Account				364	2	11
Total Liabilities*				52,289	8	1
Excess of Assets				1,743	16	11
				£54,033	5	0

* The Public Debt is £4,650. The Colony is also responsible for the Treasury, which is at date £14,469 6*s.* 0*d.*

Examined and found correct,

WM. CUDDEFORD,
Auditor.

27th May, 1906.

3.)

Colony of Saint Vincent at 31st March, 1906.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				532	1	2
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				2,406	3	4
INVESTMENTS:						
Savings Bank Funds	11,498	13	8			
Hurricane Loan "Special Fund" ...	1,624	3	1			
Roads and Land Settlement Fund ...	4,683	1	3			
Permanent Investment (Eruption Fund.)	25,000	0	0			
Restoration and Improvement Current Account (Eruption Fund).	4,088	7	4			
Alexander Fund...	1,021	0	9			
Graham Fund	598	7	10			
				48,513	13	11
ADVANCES:						
Kingstown Town Fund	295	15	1			
Layou Town Fund	7	5	7			
Chateaubelair Town Fund	2	4	5			
Other Advances	252	12	1			
				557	17	2
Drafts and Remittances				299	14	6
Crown Agents, Current Account ...	223	14	11			
" " Deposit Account ...	1,500	0	0			
				1,723	14	11
				£54,033	5	0

unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial

Treasury, St. Vincent,
18th May, 1906.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Treasurer.

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1906, stood at £4,650, as against £5,050 at the end of the previous financial year.

Of the above sum, however, the amount for which Colonial revenue is actually liable is £1,000 only.

The remainder, though guaranteed by the Colony, is repayable from the municipal funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown.

(E.) Currency.

Gold, American, and British, notes of the Colonial Bank and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management and control of the affairs of the town of Kingstown are vested in a Board, half of whom are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by wardens, annually appointed by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,805	1,495	1,873*	1,657	1,664
Georgetown	194	179	90	164	137
Chateaubelair	38	31	27	23	32
Calliaqua	33	40	36	31	38
Barrouallie	42	33	38	29	33
Layou	18	22	28	16	19
Bequia	8	6	6	15	11

* Inclusive of £201 1902 revenue not passed to account till 3rd January, 1903.

Expenditure.

Town.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,759	1,637	1,609	1,650	1,472
Georgetown	175	204	137	120	103
Chateaubelair	35	33	31	26	24
Calliaqua	36	27	33	40	24
Barrouallie	40	60	20	27	20
Layou	15	17	23	34	19
Bequia	12	5	7	4	10

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at 31st March, 1906, are as follows:—

Kingstown water supply ...	... £2,900	
Kingstown town improvement ...	350	
		£3,250
Georgetown water supply		400
		£3,650

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown water supply loan is being repaid at the rate of £200 per annum, the town improvement loan at the rate of £50 per annum, and the Georgetown loan by annual instalments of £50.

The indebtedness of the town of Georgetown to general revenue for advances made in previous years for certain specific purposes in the sum of £389, which has been alluded to in previous reports, has now been wiped out by the Government having written off the amount and charged it under the head of miscellaneous expenditure.

The same applies to the £36 due by the town of Chateaubelair.

These towns are thus relieved from a burden which was too heavy for them, and should not again be allowed to become encumbered.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statement gives the value of the chief articles of import in 1905-6 and the previous two years:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.		
	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
	£	£	£
Class I.—			
Beef, salted or cured	482	605	448
Biscuits	1,412	1,780	2,042
Butter	1,568	1,688	1,518
Coffee	287	201	315
Fish, salted, &c....	4,754	5,671	4,875
Flour, wheaten	8,840	7,951	7,864
Flour, other kinds	477	445	513
Oilmeal and cake	323	362	368
Pork, salted	1,847	2,056	1,922
Rice	1,866	2,399	2,179
Salt	445	458	426
Spirits	758	908	826
Sugar, muscovado	128	54	333
Sugar, refined	309	436	508
Wine	581	601	623
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated ...	1,079	1,092	986
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	894	949	971
Class II.—			
Manure	51	12	181
Petroleum oil	1,116	1,179	1,211
Timber and shingles	6,815	4,158	2,595
Class III.—			
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	15,717	16,262	15,185
Metal, manufactured	5,295	4,385	4,822
Boots and shoes	869	855	740
Cement	462	498	398
Rope, cordage, and canvas	935	1,326	745
Soap	1,467	1,498	1,375
Articles unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures.	6,049	4,200	2,822

The figures given in the annual report of the Supervisor of Customs show a decrease in value of imports of £5,141, compared with the figures of 1904-5, the distribution being as follows:—

Value of Imports.

Decrease from United Kingdom ...	... £3,346
Decrease from foreign countries ...	... 2,924
	£6,270
Increase from British Colonies ...	... 1,129
Net decrease	... £5,141

The items in which there is a marked falling off are pork and lumber and unenumerated miscellaneous articles, but generally trade has been dull and money scarce throughout the year.

The decrease from the United Kingdom is distributed among a number of heads, the chief items being £1,483 under textiles and £1,571 under unenumerated manufactured articles other than textile and metal.

The figure of increase from British Colonies merely denotes the entry of provisions and goods from the United States, viâ Barbados, instead of direct, as explained in my last report.

The value of the principal exports is given in the annexed table:—

Exports.

Articles.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.
	£	£	£
Cassava starch	921	1,379	1,531
Whale oil	1,150	437	254
Turtle shell	472	341	551
Firewood	588	627	685
Cotton and cotton seed	900	4,857	8,280
Vegetables	1,329	2,340	3,545
Manure	137	97	57
Syrup	382	648	344
Sugar, muscovado	2,298	9,777	3,793
Pease	550	458	379
Molasses...	198	652	895
Rum	28	204	431
Ground-nuts	926	1,258	2,444
Live stock	2,682	3,993	5,076
Fresh fruit	52	227	75
Farine	80	343	378
Arrowroot	21,686	20,674	20,522
Cocoa	2,155	2,255	2,426

There is again a marked increase in cassava starch, fruit, vegetables, and ground-nuts, all products shipped mainly by the peasantry. The increase in live stock is also really due to the brisk trade in small stock, pigs, goats, &c., carried on with Trinidad by sailing vessels, and the figure is the more remarkable as in consequence of the anthrax trouble, shipment of cattle from St. Vincent has practically ceased for nearly a twelvemonth. Fortunately the Colony of Trinidad has not deemed it necessary to extend the prohibition to cover small stock.

The value of the cotton export has nearly doubled, and with the very satisfactory prices that have obtained (higher than for the product of any other island) further encouragement has been given to planters to extend their operations in connection with this industry, on which St. Vincent's hopes for the future are at present centred.

Sugar is again down, and little can be hoped for from this source under the existing conditions and prices.

The total imports and exports for the five years 1901 to 1905-6 are given below:—

Imports.

Classes.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	31,828	37,861	31,643	32,534	31,575
II. Raw materials... ...	7,980	11,292	10,076	8,628	6,566
III. Manufactured articles	35,111	29,970	36,134	33,076	30,956
Totals	74,919	79,123	77,853	74,238	69,097

Exports.

Classes.	1901.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	47,243	38,781	33,023	43,374	40,935
II. Raw materials... ...	2,651	3,201	3,572	6,648	10,289
III. Manufactured articles	2,093	2,112	1,579	1,880	1,854
Totals	51,987	44,094	38,174	51,902	53,078

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1901 to 1905-6 are shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

—	1901.	1902.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	31,733	24,579	31,146	28,816	25,471
British Colonies	26,756	25,107	26,162	29,562	30,691
Foreign Countries	16,430	29,437	20,545	15,860	12,935
Totals	74,919	79,123	77,853	74,238	69,097

Exports.

—	1901.	1902.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	28,306	22,333	19,204	22,192	24,405
British Colonies	12,983	15,146	16,470	26,881	27,920
Foreign Countries	10,698	6,615	2,499	2,829	753
Totals	51,987	44,094	38,173	51,902	53,078

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The Grenadines Whale Fishery was, I regret, again somewhat of a failure, though there appeared to be more than the usual number of whales on the usual fishing ground during the season. It would seem that the islanders are either less active than formerly or that the younger generation are less expert than their forbears. Few whales were actually caught, and the export of whale oil was only 6,482 gallons, valued at £254, as against 10,326 gallons of the value of £437 in 1904-5 and an average of 33,046 gallons of the value of £1,163 for the three years previous.

The cotton ginnery erected in 1903-4 was again successfully worked by the officers of the Imperial Agricultural Department, and the high price obtained for the St. Vincent lint is testimony to the care and attention bestowed on the ginning and preparation for export.

The disintegrator for crushing cotton seed, referred to in my last report, was not much used. A certain amount of seed from St. Vincent is sent to Barbados and returned crushed by the factory there, which offers special facilities and turns out a finer meal, but the use of cotton-seed meal for feeding to the local stock has not as yet been adopted to any great extent, though strongly advocated by the Department.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

The advance made under this head noted in last year's report has been continued.

The Agricultural Department distributed a large number of economic plants, chiefly cacao and nutmegs, but there was also a small demand for rubber plants (Castilloa) for planting through cacao cultivations, and a larger demand is anticipated during the coming season. Many parts of the island of St. Vincent are adapted to the cultivation of this rubber.

The export of cacao is slowly increasing. The number of bags shipped was 789, as against 742 in 1904-5, and 443 in 1900. There is also considerable local consumption of this product.

A distinct advance was made in the cultivation of Sea Island cotton. The total acreage planted was about 790 acres, which was actually less than in the previous year, but the land was more judiciously selected and the cultivation more cared for, with the result of a correspondingly better yield. Diseases did little damage.

The crop of Sea Island cotton amounted to 338 bales, of an estimated weight of 121,680 lbs., of which amount 121,174 lbs. were ginned at the Central Cotton Factory by the Agricultural Department.

The prices realised were very satisfactory, a large number of the bales being sold at the rate of 20*d.* per lb., the highest figure as yet realised by West Indian cotton. The value of cotton and cotton-seed exported amounted to £8,282, and it thus now takes the second place in importance among St. Vincent exports.

The encouragement afforded by this result has, I am glad to say, led to an appreciable further development of this valuable industry in the present year.

The sugar industry continues in an unsatisfactory condition, owing to the low price of muscovado sugar, such as is manufactured here, and a further decrease in the area planted may be looked for. In some cases cotton has been put in as a "catch-crop" on cane lands to assist in keeping down losses.

The export of sugar shows a further decline, only 786,293 lbs. of an estimated value of £3,794 being shipped, as against 6,411,564 lbs. valued at £25,592 in 1897, the year before the hurricane.

The large areas of cane land devastated by the eruptions of the Soufrière in 1902-3 are still uncultivated to any extent, a few small parcels of land only being taken up by the peasantry for ground-provision crops.

On two estates which were not completely devastated the cultivation of cotton has been tried, and good quality cotton has been produced, but the yield was not very high. The trial serves to show, however, that certain parts of the land will soon be capable of producing average crops, provided a system of deep cultivation and manuring is carried out.

The continuous occurrence of "sporadic" cases of anthrax, and the consequent prohibition of the importation of cattle from St. Vincent into neighbouring Colonies, caused some inconvenience and loss. Energetic measures were adopted by the Government to keep down the disease, and no outbreak in epidemic form made its appearance, although cases were diagnosed in all districts. Cattle were, however, accepted from the St. Vincent Grenadines by Barbados under certificate, and the Colony of Trinidad happily placed no prohibition on small stock (pigs, goats, &c.), in which a very brisk trade is now carried on by the peasantry, which is a great assistance to them in meeting rent and taxes.

The appointment of a veterinary surgeon to deal specially with the serious anthrax trouble has recently been approved.

On the land settlement estates progress continued to be made in the cultivation of the lands.

The Agricultural Department, by direction of the Government, insisted on the preparation of compost-heaps and manure, and a considerable amount of good work was done. To those allottees who carried out instructions satisfactorily, a small supply of artificial manures was given free and was applied to the different crops under the supervision of the Agricultural Instructor.

The number of economic plants—cacao, nutmegs, coffee, &c.—distributed free was 11,770, of which a proportion was raised in nurseries newly formed in the Linley and Cumberland valleys.

Prizes were offered for the best cultivated allotment during the year. By the encouragement of the competitive spirit among allottees it is hoped that further good will be done.

The further opening up and improvement of roads through the estates, coupled with a satisfactory system of up-keep of both old and new, has been a great help in the matter of access to allotments and the bringing out of produce.

The third annual Agricultural Show held under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural and Commercial Society was successfully held on March 7th. The exhibits of produce were again better in every way than those shown in previous years, but the stock was disappointing. A large number of visitors of all classes were present.

An Agricultural and Commercial Society in connection with the Cotton Growers' Association was formed. All the chief planters and merchants are members. A body such as this has long been a desideratum, and should be capable of doing much good. The demand for the advice and assistance of the officers of the Agricultural Department in connection with various industries was frequent, and various visits were paid by them to estates.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The price of ordinary Crown land is £1 an acre, cash, and £2 if paid in instalments. A certain area is rented out in small lots at 6*s*. 3*d*. an acre.

The law governing the disposition and administration of these lands, which was in great need of revision, has now been consolidated and simplified.

The amount of Crown land proper granted during 1905-6 was 320 acres, the number of grants issued being 47, while of eruption lands (the latter being the estates acquired from the Eruption Fund in 1902 for location of refugees, on which, however, there were numerous tenants found, many of whom have since acquired their holdings) grants were issued to 289 persons, to the amount approximately of 411 acres and 165 house-spots.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands, not including eruption estates, was £444.

(E.) Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1904-5 and 1905-6 is annexed, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping for the last five years. These figures do not include ships-of-war, of which two British, one German, one United States, and a Venezuelan armed transport, visited the Colony during the year:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1904-5.				1905-6.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	434	8,811	431	8,785	460	10,151	452	10,419
United States ...	4	530	3	484	1	756	1	756
Venezuelan ...	3	60	3	60	8	227	6	172
Dutch	3	237	3	237	4	244	4	244
French	1	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	445	9,661	440	9,566	473	11,378	463	11,591

Steamers.

Nationality.	1904-5.				1905-6.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons
British	179	239,680	179	239,680	166	222,477	166	222,477
Norwegian ...	—	—	—	—	1	1,298	1	1,298
Totals ...	179	239,680	179	239,680	167	223,775	167	223,775

Total Shipping for last Five Years.

—	1901.	1902.	January, 1903, to March, 1904.	1904-5.	1905-6.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	181,185	190,211	217,601	249,341	235,153
Outwards	180,282	190,348	217,876	249,246	235,366
Totals	361,467	380,559	435,477	498,587	470,519

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twelve Ordinances were passed during the year 1905, the only one of noticeable importance being No. 1 of 1905, "The Quarantine Ordinance, 1905," which provides for the adoption of the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention and the Regulations agreed upon by the representatives of the various Colonies at the Barbados Quarantine Conference.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1904-5 and 1905-6 compare as follows:—

—	1904-5.	1905-6.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number on Roll	5,244*	4,945*
Average Attendance ...	2,535*	2,488*
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid ...	1,361	1,308

* During the March quarter of the year in each case.

An examination of the schools was held from May to July, by the Inspector of Schools, Grenada, on whom this duty now devolves annually.

The Inspector's report shows that the teachers have been doing fair work, but, as stated in previous reports, one cannot look for much actual progress without expenditure on a somewhat more generous scale than the present and without any educational officer resident in the Colony.

(B.) Secondary Education.

The grant in aid of this was withdrawn, owing to financial stress at the close of the previous financial year.

(C.) Industrial, Technical, and Agricultural Schools.

Twenty-one pupils were on the books of the Agricultural School on March 31st last, seven left during the year, and their places were filled with new boys.

Several boys found useful employment on estates in the Island and others in neighbouring Colonies.

The work of the school showed much progress during the year.

A stock farm for small stock is established at the school, and useful work has been done. New buildings were erected in the school grounds for the accommodation of a horse stallion, a donkey stallion, and one or more bulls, the cost being defrayed from the Eruption Fund, with the approval of the Secretary of State.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

During the year there were 741 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 794 cases treated. This is a slightly larger figure than that of the previous year.

The daily average was 55·8, as against 55 and 65 in the previous two years.

The death-rate was 6·2 of the total cases. Six deaths, however, took place within twenty-four hours of admission.

Operations totalled the large number of 294, which figure includes no minor matters, such as teeth extractions and the like, and the classification attached to the medical officer's report shows important work performed.

The expenditure of the institution continues to be carefully and economically supervised, there being again an appreciable saving on the figures of the estimate.

The Medical Officer-in-Charge is greatly facilitated in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association, whose services are of the greatest value.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is available for detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies; other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the pauper asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is sent to the asylum at Grenada, but sometimes that institution has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were 21 cases under treatment during the year (11 being new admissions) of whom nine were discharged cured, one died, and five were transferred to the Grenada Asylum.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 35, at a cost to the Colony of £599 13*s.* 7*d.*

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1905, was nine; two cases were admitted and there was one death, leaving ten at the commencement of the new year.

There is no compulsory segregation.

(C.) Poor Houses.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, on a considerable elevation, commanding the town of Kingstown.

There were 106 inmates on 31st March, 1905, and the admissions and discharges in 1905-6 were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions ...	34	34	68
Discharged ...	14	11	25
Died	15	26	41
	29	37	66

leaving 108 on 31st March, 1906.

The total expenditure in 1905-6 was £1,090 on the institutions, including lepers, and lunatics kept locally, as against £1,033 in 1904-5.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stage of their lives.

(D.) Reformatories.

Nil.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the work of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1901	907	6,108*†	6,015	10,687
1902	992	8,781	6,501	11,975
1903	987	6,587	6,171	12,653
1904	976	5,012	5,467	12,465
1905	933	4,883	5,276	12,232

* Includes £1,200 under Land Settlement Ordinance.
† Includes Interest.

Up to 1900 the bank was established at Kingstown only, but in that year branches were opened at the small towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown.

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

—	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Kingstown	11,323	11,258
Georgetown	545	488
Chateaubelair	597	486
Totals	12,465	12,232

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £118 18*s.* 2*d.*

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1905, £11,499.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The St. Vincent police force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth and late of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 48 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. Owing to the necessity for retrenchment, the numbers were during the year under review reduced by five. In addition to their ordinary police work they are charged with many duties in connection with all the details of administration, such as excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges.

They are also drilled and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles. In Kingstown they form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Town Board.

During the year an appreciable increase of work was thrown on the police in the carrying out of the regulations in respect to anthrax, which required blood-specimens to be taken from all stock reported dead throughout the island, necessitating a large amount of extra travelling.

(B.) Prisons.

277 persons were commited to prison in the year—142 men, 69 women, and 16 juveniles. The daily average was 17·7, against 16·6 in the previous year.

Prisoners with sentences of over two years were sent to serve their time in the Penitentiary at Grenada.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1905-6 was 893, against 909 in 1904.

Of the offences reported in 1905-6, 225 were for offences against the person, 74 were for praedial larceny, 122 were for offences against property other than praedial larceny, 472 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Court in 1905-6 was 601, against 622 in 1904.

These convictions are classed as follows:—132 for offences against the person, four for malicious injuries to property, 55 for praedial larceny, 76 for offences against property other than praedial larceny, 109 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., 225 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—Three for offences against the person, five for offences against property.

The acquittals were as follows:—In the Inferior Court, 107; in the Supreme Court, 2.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1906, was 50,170. This figure, however, as explained in previous reports, is generally considered to be unreliable, as it takes no account of the flow of emigration. Probably about 44,000 is a more correct total.

The births registered in 1905-6 were 1,709, 860 male and 849 female—as against 1,788 in 1904-5. Of these, 935, or 54·71 per cent., were illegitimate.

Still-births were 103—31 legitimate and 72 illegitimate—the figures for the previous year having been 33 and 97 respectively.

Marriages were 196, a decrease of six on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table:—

Denomination.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.
Church of England ...	79	82	84
Roman Catholic... ...	26	24	10
Wesleyan...	125	83	96
Church of Scotland ...	11	13	6

The total registered deaths were 775, as against 876 in 1904-5, being 15·44 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 169, being 21·80 per cent. of the whole. The similar figures in 1904-5 were 191, 21·80.

(B.) Public Health.

The year 1905-6 was a very healthy one, the number of deaths registered being 775, as against 876 and 875 in the two previous ones.

A table of the causes of death, properly classified and stated, has been prepared under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Kingstown, Dr. C. W. Branch, and it may be interesting to quote in an abridged form the information it gives:—

Causes of Death.

General diseases (includes syphilis 119, tubercle 66, tetanus 37, malarial fevers 18)	294
Diseases of nervous system	32
„ „ circulatory system	32
„ „ respiratory system	38
„ „ digestive system	81
Parasites	30
Age	90
Still-born	103
Other diseases	75
	775

(C.) Sanitation.

There is nothing special under this head to which to call attention. In the villages of the peasantry, the ideas and methods in sanitary matters are elementary in the extreme. In the towns things are passable, but could be much improved if there were money to lay out. On the whole, however, there are no glaring evils.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year 1905-6 was 90·40 inches, as against 97·74 inches in 1904-5.

Rain fell on 280 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in one day was 4·35 inches, on 15th November.

November was the wettest month, with 16·07 inches, and February the driest, with only 2·56 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 78·4° F. Maximum for the year, 88·5° F., in October; minimum, 62° F., in January.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The contract of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company with the Imperial Government expired at the end of June, 1905. Mails to and from the United Kingdom continued, however, to be conveyed by the inter-colonial and ocean steamers of this company as ship-letter mails, and a further service by the Direct Line steamers at Barbados, with an inter-colonial connection four times a month, was available for the greater part of the year.

Both these channels of connection with the ocean steamers at Barbados are, however, at the time of writing closed, and an irregular conveyance by small sailing craft has now to be relied on.

The saving, however, to the Colony by the cessation of its proportionate contribution to the cost of the contract was £246.

The Pickford and Black Line from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, and occasional calls were made at the port of Kingstown by steamers of other lines.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward District of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward District daily and the Grenadines weekly.

The postal order system introduced in the previous year gained in popularity, and there was a large increase in the numbers issued.

Generally, the volume of the post office business was normal.

The revenue of the telephone department was £415, including £175 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £333. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair on the Leeward side of the Island, and to Mesopotamia and Georgetown on the Windward side, about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Circumstances conspired to check any practical advance in the movement referred to in my last report towards the establishment of a volunteer reserve force, and this matter was throughout the year in abeyance.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony in May and November, 1905, for periods of ten and four days respectively.

In my last report, dated August, 1905, I wrote that there appeared to be some hope of the Colony ere long freeing itself from annual dependence on the Imperial Treasury. This hope

has, I am glad to say, been realised. The financial year under review closed leaving St. Vincent with a satisfactory little surplus, and in the estimates for the current year the expected revenue from local sources suffices to cover the probable sum to be expended.

One of the chief contributing factors to this result is the much increased revenue from Excise, owing to the suppression of illicit distillation referred to in last year's report, the collections of 1905-6 being more than double that of 1903-4, and in excess of any for the past 12 years.

The year 1905-6 was also the first of the working of the new Land and House Tax Ordinance passed in December, 1904, which entailed a very considerable increase of work on the small official staff. The actual net increase of revenue is about £800, but this is practically absorbed by the additional road expenditure which the Government assumed responsibility for when passing the measure.

The cotton industry has now taken firm hold in the island. The results of last year's crop were very encouraging, and a considerably larger area of land has this year been placed under cultivation. The labour question would appear to be the main difficulty to be surmounted in this connection.

Conditions on the Carib Country Estates are, unfortunately, unchanged, and no attempt to restore cultivation has been made by the owner of these properties, which are still lying deserted.

The road from Overland to Fancy, which was destroyed by the eruption of the Soufrière, has now been re-made, and a good many of the former occupants of land at Sandy Bay and Owia have resumed residence there.

A proposal by His Majesty's Government to unite the two Colonies of Grenada and St. Vincent into a single Colony with a common Executive and Legislature and a common purse was announced by Order in the local Gazette in September, and caused considerable feeling and excitement, which lasted for some months.

In view, however, of the pronounced disfavour with which the proposed scheme was received it was ultimately decided to take no further action in the matter at the present time.

In concluding this—my sixth—annual report from St. Vincent, I am glad to note that the prospects of the Colony are certainly appreciably brighter than they have been for many years past. Administration here is, however, bound to be a very uphill task for a considerable time to come, calling for the exercise of much painstaking care and patience, but the tide of adversity has, I hope, at last turned.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

24th July, 1906.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1904–1905
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
496	Bahamas	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	"
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
500	Colonial Survey Committee	1905–1906
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlement	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"
508	Somaliland Protectorate	1905–1906
509	Fiji	1905

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis...	Sugar.
36	West India	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 546.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905–6, *see* No. 501.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1907.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1907.

[Cd. 3729-10.] *Price 2d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
Legislation	11
Education	12
Government Institutions	13
Judicial Statistics	15
Vital Statistics	16
Postal and Telephone Services	18
Military Forces and Expenditure	19
General Remarks	19
Appendices	20

No. 546.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1905–6, *see* No. 501.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Vincent,
18th September, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1906-7, together with a report thereon by Mr. Drayton, the Colonial Secretary of Grenada.

I have, &c.,

RALPH WILLIAMS,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 24282 10/07 D & S 5 30100

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1906.

FINANCIAL.

Financial Position of the Colony.

The pecuniary assets of the Colony at 31st March, 1907 (*see* Table A in Appendix), amounted to £40,880, and the liabilities to £18,558, showing a surplus of assets of £22,328, as compared with £20,968 at 31st March, 1906. The loss which had occurred on the transactions of the financial year 1905–6 was thus made good during 1906–7, a result obtained by close control of expenditure combined with a slight improvement in revenue returns.

2. The revenue, expenditure, and surplus assets in the last five financial years were as follows :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
	£	£	£
1902–3	72,802	68,669	22,199
1903–4	70,260	70,101	22,649
1904–5	68,993	69,510	22,408
1905–6	69,954	71,968	20,968
1906–7	71,786	70,379	22,322

Revenue.

3. The revenue of 1906–7 was £71,786, or £1,832 in excess of the previous year (*see* Table B). A tendency to increase is shown under several heads, Customs receipts being £463 in excess of 1905–6, fees of office, &c. £591, and land sales £531 ; this last was due to the sale of valuable escheated property.

Expenditure.

4. The expenditure (*see* Table C) was £70,379, or £1,589 less than in 1905–6, the gross decrease being £4,391, and the gross increase £2,802, under the several heads. The increase under the head "Governor" is due to the emoluments of the new staff officer for the Windward Islands being brought on charge for the first time. Those under "Excise" and "Port and Marine" are partly accounted for by savings under "Treasury" and "Police." "Education" shows a large decrease upon the high figures of the preceding year, in consequence of the unsettled state of matters educational during the year, to which reference will be made in its proper place. The increase of special expenditure of the Telephone Department was caused by the purchase of the premises

in St. George's used as the Central Exchange, for which rent had previously been paid. A decrease of £1,423 altogether is shown under Public Works, outlay in this direction being necessarily restricted during the year. The Imperial Grant to the Agricultural Department exhibits an increase of £175, consequent upon the new arrangement adopted during 1906 being in force during the whole financial year, and also because of the Windward Islands' Agricultural Scholarships being now held by a Grenadian.

Changes in Taxation.

5. There was a slight alteration in the land tax during the year, land in the small islets surrounding the island being taxed at the lower rate of three pence an acre, instead of one shilling as heretofore, and the exemption of holdings used solely for pasturing of stock being abolished. The effect either way on the revenue of the Colony is unimportant.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt stands at £123,670 in four per cent. inscribed stock, redeemable between 1917 and 1942 from a sinking fund in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, as Trustees, to which annual contributions of one per cent. on the nominal value of the stock are made, and which amounted at 31st March, 1907, to £19,807.

District Boards' Finances.

7. A statement of the revenue and expenditure of the local authorities, either as town, or, as at present, district boards, is included in the Appendix (Table D) for the five financial years ended 31st March, 1907. The increases shown in the last two years are due to the fact that the town authorities were absorbed in the district boards on the 1st October, 1905, and that these latter bodies received grants from Colonial revenue for upkeep of public by-ways. In St. David's District there is no town, and Hillsborough, Carriacou, remains in charge of a town authority only.

8. The loan debt of the district boards at 31st March, 1907, amounted to £17,024, the details being as follows :—

Board.	Amount.
	£
St. George's	9,981
St. John's	3,274
St. Mark's	1,469
St. Patrick's	1,250
St. Andrew's	1,050
Total...	17,024

9. The debt of the St. George's Board was increased by £4,000 during the year by a loan from surplus assets of the Colony for the extension and improvement of the water supply of the town; it bears interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, and is repayable by a sinking fund to which annual contributions of 1½ per cent. on the amount of the loan are to be made. A great improvement of the water supply has been effected by this expenditure, but a further loan of £1,000 has been found necessary to satisfactorily complete the whole scheme, and is being advanced by Government this year.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

10. As will be seen from the following figures, the trade of the Colony continued on the down grade during the year 1906 :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total volume.
	£	£	£
1902	239,108	310,602	549,710
1903	235,440	283,565	519,005
1904	256,269	321,766	578,035
1905	237,256	283,955	521,211
1906	223,448	210,149	433,597

11. Two short cocoa crops following each other, the last being nearly 10,000 bags less than its already diminished predecessor, could not fail to produce this effect, and had it not been for the rise in prices of the staple product during the year, to which reference will be made later on, a more serious result would have ensued.

12. Table E, appended, classifies the trade of the last five years under the usual four statistical heads, and in Table F details of the principal items imported in the last two years are given. From this latter table it will be observed that the reduced purchasing power of the lower classes caused a diminution last year of imported food stuffs other than fresh vegetables, the urgent necessity for importing which still continues. The value of the imports of these has risen from £309 in 1903 to £2,538 in 1906.

13. Table G gives striking evidence of the shrinkage of exports of Colonial produce, cocoa appearing therein in 1906 as valued at only £166,538, compared with £272,226 in 1904, and spices as £24,941, against £33,767 in 1904. Fortunately cotton regained its former good position, and shows a value of £8,003.

14. The direction of the Colony's trade in the period 1902-6 is shown by Table H. This, as regards imports, can best be summarised here by tabulating the percentages of the totals as follows :—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Per cent.	Per cent	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	44	48	46	42	39
British Colonies ...	21	18	22	27	30
Foreign Countries ...	35	34	32	31	31

The tendency, therefore, to diminution of the import trade with the United Kingdom, which was commented upon in last year's report, continues, but the displacement appears to be in favour of British Colonies and not of foreign countries. Of the exports in 1906, 57 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 39 per cent. to foreign countries, and 4 per cent. to British Colonies.

15. The trade with Canada in 1906 showed a reduction, consequent upon the subsidised steamship line ceasing to call at Grenada. Following are the figures of the trade in the last five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1902	9,140	91
1903	15,686	—
1904	11,811	52
1905	21,353	805
1906	15,257	469

16. Of the trade with foreign countries the United States of America, as usual, absorbed (*see* Table I.) the greater part, but neither in exports nor imports did it amount to as much as in any of the three preceding years. Compared with 1905 the imports thence were valued last year at £66,897 (90 per cent. of total) against £69,526 (96 per cent. of total), and the exports at £44,680 (54 per cent. of total) against £58,995 (62 per cent. of total).

Agricultural Industries.

17. The staple product of the Colony is cocoa, spices (chiefly nutmegs) coming next in importance, and cotton third.

Cocoa.

18. Throughout the British West Indies (except perhaps Jamaica) the year under review seems to have been a bad one

for cocoa, and a decreased importation therefrom into London alone of 2½ million pounds was recorded. Grenada shared in this bad season, her crop for the year ended 30th September, 1906, only amounting to 54,381 bags, against 64,319 in 1905 and 67,225 in 1904. Fortunately there was a remarkable rise in prices during the year, commencing about August, so that whereas the year opened with prices at 46*s.* to 52*s.* per cwt., it closed at 75*s.* to 82*s.* Another promising feature of the statistics of the year 1906 for a cocoa-producing colony is the steady increase shown in the world's consumption of the article. Reliable estimates show that since 1902 the quantity consumed has increased by about 40 per cent., and that in that period the United States of America and Germany have each nearly doubled the amount they consume. It may here be noted that the phenomenal rise in prices has continued up to the date of this report, when cocoa stands at 108*s.* per cwt. in the London market, the highest figure it has ever reached.

Spices.

19. The exports of spices in the last three years were as follows:—

Year.	Cwt.	£
1904 ...	6,915 (5,908 nutmegs) ...	33,767
1905 ...	8,862 (7,947 „) ...	27,992
1906 ...	8,166 (7,263 „) ...	24,941

Neither in quantities nor values was the year, therefore, a satisfactory one. 1,781 cwt. of the exports of the year went to the United States of America, with which country the trade in this product unfortunately shows no tendency at present to increase.

Cotton.

20. The cotton and cotton seed exported are the product of the Colony's principal dependency, Carriacou,* where it has never ceased to be cultivated. The crop for 1906 was satisfactory as compared with the average, and 2,779 cwt. of cotton and 7,526 cwt. of seed were exported, worth £8,003, as compared with 1,899 cwt. of cotton and 4,849 cwt. of seed, worth £3,365 in 1905, when the crop failed in consequence of abnormally showery weather prevailing when the trees were setting the bolls. Another satisfactory feature of the output of 1906 was that a marked proportion of it consisted for the first time of Sea Island cotton, the acreage of which under cultivation in the dependency is steadily increasing year by year as the peasants come to realise

* Population, 1906, 7,430.

its value. At the Government Cotton Ginnery in Hillsborough, which is run so as to gin the peasant settlers' cotton at cost price, 33 bales of Sea Island and 136 bales of Marie Galante cotton were ginned during the year.

Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme.

21. Continued successful progress may again this year be recorded of this scheme. A fourth estate, Bellevue North, was acquired during 1906, but not so much for allotment (as very few holdings can be sold from it) as for conservation of the forest on the highest elevation in the island (980 feet), the crest of which it covers to the extent of 115 acres.

22. The following brief statement will show the pecuniary working of the scheme :—

		£
Total expenditure for purchase of estates, surveys, legal expenses, &c., up to 31st December, 1906		8,405
Cash returns up to 31st December, 1906 ...		3,295
Net disbursement		£5,110
Lots surveyed for sale on the first three estates	368 lots, value	7,466
Lots sold...	346 „ „	6,977
Lots not yet sold	22 „ „	£489
Approximate (nominal) value of reserves and other property resulting from the acquisition of the estates, as improved in some cases by expenditure		£3,642

23. The Commissioner of the district remarks as follows in his report for the year 1906 :—

"It is again my pleasing duty to record the marked improvement displayed by many of the allottees in the care and cultivation of their holdings. At no period was this more observable than during the terrible drought which prevailed at Carriacou from December, 1905, to June, 1906. Throughout this trying time one could not help noticing the marked contrast between the condition of the lands in the hands of industrious allottees and those gardens held under the metayer or share system. On the one hand there was always a show of something green, on the other the greatest picture of vegetative desolation imaginable. It is also gratifying to mention that the cultivation of Sea Island cotton may now be regarded as assured among peasant cultivators. Hitherto, although desirous of embarking on an industry

which, from the satisfactory results obtained by the few pioneers of 1905, and for pecuniary reasons, seemed specially attractive, the Carriacou peasant clung hard (and with good reason) to his catch crops of peas and corn, and was somewhat sceptical as to whether the cultivation of Sea Island cotton might not interfere with these, or entail a greater expenditure of care and labour than he was prepared to outlay. The experience of 1906 has, however, convinced the doubting ones that good results are obtained with Sea Island even under local conditions of culture, and further, that in the peculiarly adapted soil of Carriacou, Sea Island cotton is quite as hardy as its Marie Galante *confrere*."

24. Mention should also be made of a highly successful Cottagers' Show, the first ever attempted in the little island, which was held on 26th January. The Governor, accompanied by a large and representative party from Grenada, attended, opened the show, and distributed the prizes at its close. The Commissioner and his assistants and the peasant exhibitors all deserve credit for the encouraging results which attended this effort, which was praiseworthy from every point of view.

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

25. Cane sugar of a low grade, rum, and ice are manufactured for local consumption. No returns of the quantity of sugar and ice made are available, but the sugar is quite insufficient for the wants of the labouring population, and large quantities have to be imported. As an excise duty is levied on rum made, the subjoined results in the last five years can be given :—

Year.	Quantity made.	Excise Duty paid.
	Gallons.	£
1902	45,054	11,853
1903	43,314	12,723
1904	46,911	11,812
1905	42,943	11,359
1906	35,978	10,555

26. It will be seen that both the quantity made and the amount of duty paid are diminishing. In the year under review two factors contributed to this result, viz., the reduced purchasing power of the lower classes consequent upon failure of the staple crop, and the large exodus of male labourers to the Canal Zone of the Panama Isthmus, but it is well known that, notwithstanding all efforts to combat it, smuggling of spirits is taking place, and this is proved by occasional important seizures made by the officers.

27. Fourteen distilleries of rum were at work in 1906, and there were altogether 160 premises licensed for the sale of spirits, which may be classified as follows :—

Wholesale licences	17
Retail licences	143
Revenue therefrom	£3,455

28. On the 1st of January, 1906, an Inland Revenue Department was established, with Mr. John M. Adams, of the Inland Revenue Department of the United Kingdom, at its head, and a steady improvement in methods of control and management was effected during the year.

SHIPPING.

29. As was to be expected from the general shrinkage of trade during the year, the shipping tonnage entering and clearing in 1906 fell below the results of the immediately preceding years, and below the average of the five years 1902–6, as will be seen from the following figures :—

Year.	Tonnage.	
	Entered.	Cleared.
1902	287,000	290,035
1903	280,862	288,328
1904	316,223	316,068
1905	319,499	319,799
1906	297,725	297,809
Average	300,262	302,408

30. In Table J in the Appendix shipping details for the last two years are given and compared, but there is nothing therein of more than passing interest.

LEGISLATION.

31. Fifteen ordinances were passed by the Legislature in 1906, but three of them have not yet been brought into operation, viz.:—

The Primary Education Ordinance,
The Secondary Education Ordinance,
The Forestry Ordinance.

To the first two reference will be made under the proper head, the third has for its object the protection and conservation of the forests and water sources of the colony other than those on

the block of Crown lands in the centre of the island, for the conservation of which effectual provision was made by another ordinance of the year. This Forestry Ordinance has not yet commenced to operate because it was passed before arrangements for the executive officers thereunder were complete.

32. Of the ordinances of the year which were brought into operation the most important were :—

The Grand Etang Forest Reserve (alluded to in the preceding paragraph),
The Plant Protection Ordinance,
The Licences Ordinance.

The Plant Protection Ordinance aims at preventing the introduction into this colony of diseases of plants, and was passed upon the recommendation of, and in consultation with, the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies. The Licences Ordinance effected a much needed amendment of the law relating to licences, other than liquor or distillation licences or those for purchase of cocoa and nutmegs, the last law on the subject, passed in 1884, being both defective and out of date.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

33. A definite attempt was made during 1906 to amend the system of primary education, which was last revised in 1895, and which is admittedly unsuited to the real wants of the colony. During 1904–5 a committee of the Board of Education sat to consider a change of system, but its report was not actually taken into consideration for action, because the Governor on the 6th of June, 1905, laid a memorandum before the Board in which he made certain proposals for a more complete change than was contemplated by the Committee's report. These proposals found favour locally, and early in 1906 the Governor introduced into the Board a Bill to carry out his proposals. This Bill, after much discussion and extensive alteration, was then presented to the Legislative Council, and finally passed that body in June, the date of its commencement to operate being, however, postponed to the 1st of April, 1907. Its subsequent history is not, therefore, matter for review in connection with the year 1906, but it may be remarked that it has been found necessary in the current year to suspend its operation, and that, at the date of this report, another Bill is before the Legislative Council for consideration.

34. In Table K appended, the usual statistical details for 1906 are given and compared with those of the preceding year.

As will be seen from the decrease under every head, the transition state of affairs which obtained during 1906 had an undoubted effect upon the educational results of the year.

SECONDARY.

35. The system of secondary education may also be described as having been in the transitional stage during 1906. A Select Committee of the Legislative Council, which had been appointed in 1905, to consider the question, reported in December of that year that the existing governing bodies of the boys' and girls' schools in St. George's should be dissolved, and the management of secondary education in future controlled by Government, and conducted, in detail, by a board to be called the "Board of Directors of Secondary Education," to consist of 12 members. To give effect to their recommendations the Committee prepared and presented a Bill, which was passed by the Council on February 12th, 1906, but was not brought into operation, and is not yet in force, largely on account of difficulties connected with the provision of proper premises for the boys' school. In these circumstances no useful comment can be made on the usual statistics contained in Table L, except it be that the St. Joseph's Convent School, which is not affected by the new law or its suspension, continues to prosper.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

36. Some of the more important figures relating to the public charitable institutions in the year 1906 are tabulated hereunder :—

Institution.	Number at 1st January.	Admitted during the year.	Daily Average.	Cured.	Relieved or not improved.	Died.	Remaining at 31st December.	Cost of Institution.
								£
Colony Hospital	84	874	94·09	655	153	64	86	2,309
Yaws "	50	199	58·4	165	—	2	82	687
St. Andrew's "	11	133	10·3	115	5	5	9	545
Carriacou "	16	152	13	128	25	3	12	542
Lunatic Asylum	129	53	135	24	8	22	128	1,973
Poor "	41	44	47·63	7	—	21	57	498

37. At the Colony Hospital 874 patients were admitted as compared with 708 in 1905, the cause being the abnormal prevalence of malarial fever in August—November. Two

hundred and sixty cases of it were admitted to the hospital, and treated by Dr. Leonard, the House Surgeon, by hypodermic injection of quinine with great success, only 9 deaths occurring out of 252 cases of the malignant sub-tertian variety of the disease, and in each case of death the patient was admitted practically moribund and only survived admission for a few hours.

38. The out-patients' department of the hospital work has increased enormously since its inception a few years ago, and in 1906 there were no less than 2,182 attendances recorded. The house surgeon attends to this department between the hours of 8 and 10 a.m. on week-days. Fifty-six paying patients were admitted to hospital during the year, and paid £107 altogether for their treatmeut. The cost of a patient at this institution per diem in 1906 was about 1*s.* 3*d.* The Colony Drug Store, opened on 1st April, 1905, for the supply of drugs at cost price to Government institutions, worked most successfully, and enabled considerable savings to be effected under this item of expenditure.

39. The Yaws Hospital, which is practically a detached ward of the Colony Hospital, also showed good results for the year, and the buildings were thoroughly repaired and improvements effected both in them and in the grounds. A patient costs about 8*d.* a day.

40. There were 133 admissions to the St. Andrew's Hospital as compared with 108 in 1905, and the daily cost of a patient was 2*s.* 2½*d.*, which is much higher than in any other institution of the Colony. 8,438 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, of which 2,768 were for "labourers," and paid for at the shilling rate. Structural alterations in the dispensary, effecting much needed improvement, were carried out.

41. At the Carriacou Hospital 152 cases were admitted, and the daily cost of a patient was 1*s.* 8½*d.* 3,575 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, of which 938 were paid for. Work on the new Bellevue Hospital proceeded, and the new buildings, which are perhaps the best ever provided for a district hospital in the West Indies, will be occupied in the current year.

42. There were 53 admissions to the lunatic asylum in 1906, of whom 10 were from St. Lucia and three from St. Vincent, and the daily average was 135, which is in excess of the accommodation, but during the year space for 10 beds was added by converting two small store-rooms into a ward. Of the 128 patients remaining on at the end of the year 76 were from Grenada, 27 from St. Lucia, and 25 from St. Vincent.

43. Continued improvement was effected at the Poor Asylum (or Home for Incurables), and, owing to the continuous greater demand for accommodation for males, eight extra beds for them were provided, the capacity of the building being now

for 38 males and 20 females, and it is always full. There were 44 admissions in the year, and the cost per head per diem was about 7*d*.

Savings Bank.

44. Financial conditions in the Colony in 1906 are clearly illustrated by the savings bank operations during the year, as shown in the subjoined tabular statement for the last five years. As will be seen, the number of depositors and the balance to their credit at the close of the year remained practically stationary, deposits and withdrawals, both of diminished amount, balancing each other, and merely representing a temporary movement of the money in the bank.

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance to Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1902	1,847	9,184	9,378	11,417
1903	1,544	7,480	7,674	11,658
1904	1,465	9,279	8,416	12,790
1905	1,470	8,105	8,773	12,394
1906	1,475	7,875	7,889	12,379

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

45. The police force consists of two officers (a chief and a sub-inspector), six sergeants, five corporals, and 58 privates. It receives a semi-military training, and is armed with the Martini-Enfield rifle. In 1906 musketry training, which had been suspended, was resumed at a new and fairly satisfactory range on the Queen's Park, near the principal town, which had just been completed, and good results were obtained. The force at headquarters was inspected on 25th April by Brigadier-General Caulfeild, commanding the troops in Jamaica.

Prisons.

46. The committals in 1906 were 209 in number, or only one more than in 1905, and of these 199 were from Grenada courts, seven from St. Lucia, and three from St. Vincent. The daily average was 61 (56 males, 4·3 females, and ·7 juveniles), of which 34·3 were Grenada convicts, 19·8 St. Lucia, and 6·9

St. Vincent. The reduction of prisoners from Grenada, which has been commented upon in previous reports, therefore, continues, as the following daily averages in past years will show :—

1894 (the record year)...	84
19 4 (ten years later)	50
1905	41
1906	34

47. The Richmond Hill Prison is a most satisfactory institution, and credit is due to the Superintendent, Mr. Heels, for his untiring efforts to keep it in that condition. Its gross cost in 1906 was £1,342, against which should be set the payments from St. Lucia and St. Vincent for maintenance of their convicts at the rate of £1 per month per head, amounting altogether to £308. The official estimate of the nominal value of the work done by the prisoners during the year is £1,328, and the average cost of a prisoner for the last ten years is £22 15*s.* per annum, of which food contributes £5 2*s.* 6*d.* per annum.

Criminal Statistics.

48. The Attorney-General reports of the statistics relating to crime in 1906 that they were "exceptionally satisfactory, for on the one hand they prove that a larger mass than usual of petty charges and minor offences was subjected to magisterial enquiry and correction, whilst on the other hand they clearly show that crime in general had diminished very considerably." The usual comparative statement is inserted in the Appendix, Table M.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

49. For the first time since an official record of vital statistics has been kept in the colony, it becomes necessary in respect of the year 1906 to take notice of emigration. Of permanent emigrants from Grenada there have hitherto been so few that it was not worth while to keep a record of them, but the commencement of activity on the Panama Canal under the United States Government has proved a strong attraction to the labourers of the Colony, who are beginning to feel the increased stringency of local conditions under the pressure of population and the now restricted area of cultivable lands.

50. During 1905 a few individuals left for the Canal Zone, but it was not until the 4th of January, 1906, that the first body of labourers departed, and steps were at once taken by the Government to establish a record of those going and returning. Up to 31st December, 1,534 had left and 813 returned, making a net deduction of 721 from the population. Many of those who have not returned have died or may die, but it may be expected that only a few of those who survive will eventually remain away

from the Colony altogether, the ruling idea of those who leave being to acquire as much money as possible on the Isthmus,* and return with it to Grenada. The effect on the Colony's population will not, therefore, be a very large permanent reduction.

51. Allowing for this unwonted emigration, the estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1906, was 69,784, being an increase of 6,346 since the Census of 1901. The death rate per thousand was 24·53, which, as in last year, was above the average of the preceding ten years (21·33), a result largely attributable to improved registration of deaths since January, 1905; and the birth-rate was only 38·54, the preceding ten years' average being 41·52. This is perhaps due to the large exodus of male labourers to Panama.

Public Health.

52. The year was remarkable for the abnormal prevalence of malarial fever, and it must be recorded with regret that some of the returning emigrants from Panama brought back with them a far more severe type of malarial fever than has hitherto prevailed in this Colony, and this naturally spread in those low-lying districts on the sea-board where the *anopheles* mosquito is found. Diarrhœa, dysentery, and enteritis were also very troublesome, as the subjoined statement of the principal causes of death in 1906 compared with the preceding six years' average, shows :—

Disease.	Average for 6 years 1900–1905.	1906.
Diarrhœa	135	204
Dysentery	126	135
Fevers	98	175
Enteritis	102	190
Phthisis	66	73
Bronchitis	32	44
Pneumonia	26	36
Influenza	14	12
Whooping cough ...	16	—
Cardiac disease	104	90

53. There was an outbreak in the St. John's district of the usual type of mild small-pox, which first appeared in the Colony in 1903, and it became necessary to open an Isolation Station there in June, which was closed in October. Fifty cases of the disease altogether occurred in this district, and there were also two cases in St. Andrew's, which did not spread. There were, of course, no deaths from this cause, as the disease is quite innocuous.

* Between 27th July, 1906, when a money order system with the Canal Zone commenced to operate, and 31st December, the sum of £2,228 was remitted to the Colony by emigrants in post office orders alone; large sums also came in greenbacks and bank orders, but of these there is no record.

Climate.

54. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are as follows :—

Rainfall :	
North of Island	116·92
Centre of Island	169·45
South of Island	83·27
Carriacou	68·40
Relative Humidity* (mean)	76·2
Mean Temperature* (maximum)	91·5
" " (minimum)	69·0
Mean Pressure*	29·979
Days of Rain*	234

55. The average rainfall in the south of the Island for the preceding 15 years was 78·34, so that 1906 yielded about 5 inches above average. In the north 27 inches more than in 1905 were recorded, and in the centre, 18 inches more, while at Carriacou the abnormal quantity of 28½ inches in excess of 1905 was recorded. This heavy rainfall succeeded an exceptional drought which commenced in November, 1905, and lasted until May, 1906, a fact which of itself accounts for much of the high death record of the year.

Sanitation.

56. Work on the drainage of the Tanteen Swamp, to the east of the principal town, begun in 1905, was proceeded with, and the main drain was completed, but much yet remains to be done before completion of this desirable improvement.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

57. The business of the Post Office shows an apparent falling off in 1906 according to the figures below, but the Postmaster attributes this to the fact that in July, the month for taking the statistics, the mails were abnormally small, owing to the cessation in June of the call of the Canadian steamers as well as of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's contract for the inter-colonial service. As will be seen, those items of the statistics below which are taken from actual and not estimated figures show an increase.

—	1905.	1906.
Letters and post cards...	509,990	446,927
Newspapers, books, &c.	166,751	142,710
Parcels	8,140	6,950
Registered Articles	8,379	11,020
	£	£
Money orders issued and paid ...	19,652	20,287
British Postal Orders issued and paid	1,250	2,442

* These are for the south of the island.

As the rapidly increasing amount used gives evidence, the British Postal Order system is much appreciated, and in July a further reduction of the local poundage paid for them was effected.

TELEPHONES.

58. On the 1st January the Telephone Department became a sub-department of the Public Works Department, and the service was satisfactorily maintained during the year under review. An improvement, affecting other details of administration than the telephone service, was made by affixing metal numbers to the poles on the main roads, so that any spot thereon can now be indicated with facility by reference to the number of the nearest pole.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

59. There is no military force in the Colony, Legislative provision exists for the establishment of a volunteer force and of volunteer reserve corps, and the Imperial Government has considerately provided the rifles for such forces, but none has yet been started. The Police Force is maintained on a semi-military footing, and a good rifle range was provided in 1906 close to the principal town.

GENERAL REMARKS.

60. Two old and respected public servants, who had recently retired on pension, died during the year—Dr. P. F. Macleod, I.S.O., late Medical Superintendent of the Asylums, and Dr. Paulin Orgias, late Colonial Surgeon.

61. On the 4th of August the appointment of Mr. Ralph C. Williams, C.M.G., Resident Commissioner of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, to be Governor of the Windward Islands was announced, but His Excellency did not assume the office until January, 1907. On the 15th of October Sir Robert Llewelyn left the Colony on leave of absence, and retired on pension in December. The Windward Islands Government was administered *ad interim* from St. Lucia by Mr. P. C. Cork, C.M.G., the Administrator of that Colony.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

Grenada,
31st August, 1907.

TABLE

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits as follows :—						
Savings Bank	13,634	4	7			
Post Office	277	3	4			
Supreme Court	1,739	7	8			
St. George's District Fund	340	13	9			
St. John's " "	80	3	2			
St. Mark's " "	37	1	2			
St. Patrick's " "	25	8	9			
St. Andrew's " "	241	0	6			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund ...	109	17	6			
Grenville Water Supply	121	5	7			
Other Deposits	194	0	10			
				16,800	6	10
Crown Agents for the Colonies Advance Account.				1,600	0	0
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Botanic Station				81	12	10
Drafts and Remittances...				76	5	0
Total Liabilities ...				18,558	4	8
Surplus Assets				22,321	17	10
Total				40,880	2	6

Public Debt at 31st March, 1907 ... ... £123,670 0 0
Accumulated Sinking Fund at 31st March, 1907 19,807 1 8

Examined and found correct.

WM. CUDDEFORD,
Auditor

2nd July, 1907.

A.

of the COLONY at 31st MARCH, 1907.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				426	2	0
" Colonial Bank on Current Account				3,758	8	5
Colony's Reserve Fund—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...				5,242	11	9
Savings Bank—						
Invested by Crown Agents ...	9,000	0	0			
" in British Guiana Bonds	500	0	0			
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	2,500	0	0			
				12,000	0	0
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
On Current Account	301	0	1			
Remittances in transit	5,011	4	1			
				5,312	4	2
Imprest Balances				163	8	8
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony—						
Loans to Dist. Boards from General Revenue.	359	0	0			
Government of St. Vincent ...	239	17	11			
" " St. Lucia	454	4	6			
Governor-in-Chief's Office Fund ...	0	12	3			
Other Advances	1,106	4	10			
				2,159	19	6
St. George's Waterworks Extension Loan.				4,000	0	0
Gouyave Water Supply Advance ...				1,342	10	8
Sauteurs Waterworks Loan				162	13	8
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund ...				5,038	16	9
Carriacou Jetty Advance				928	16	4
Suspense Account				86	13	4
Arrears of Revenue—						
Interest on Loans to District Boards.	211	10	1			
Sinking Funds " " "	46	6	9			
				257	16	10
Total Assets				40,880	2	6

Treasury, Grenada,
19th June, 1907.

N. LOCKHART,
Treasurer.

TABLE B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE for the Years ended 31st MARCH, 1906 and 1907.

Head of Revenue.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	35,756	36,219	463	—
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	27,006	26,587	—	419
Fees of Office, &c.	1,662	2,253	591	—
Post Office	1,912	2,123	211	—
Telephones	1,459	1,513	54	—
Water Supplies	260	201	—	59
Rent of Government Property...	444	620	176	—
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	680	1,007	327	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	303	115	—	188
Land Sales	42	573	531	—
Total Local Revenue ...	69,524	71,211	2,353	666
Imperial Grant in aid of Agricultural Department.	430	575	145	—
Total Revenue	69,954	71,786	2,498	666

TABLE C.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE for the Years ended 31st MARCH, 1906 and 1907.

Head of Expenditure.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charges on Account of Public Debt.	6,198	6,197	—	1
Pensions	2,917	2,546	—	371
The Governor	1,930	2,080	150	—
Colonial Secretary	1,641	1,685	44	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	183	57	—	126
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank.	4,731	4,213	—	518
Inland Revenue Department ...	317	1,298	981	—
Post Office	1,858	1,710	—	148
Audit Department	561	597	36	—

TABLE C—*cont.*

Head of Expenditure.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Port and Marine...	—	273	273	—
Legal Departments	4,823	4,460	—	363
Police Department	4,931	4,783	—	148
Prisons	1,029	967	—	62
Medical Department	3,952	3,602	—	350
Hospitals and Asylums	5,379	5,449	70	—
Education...	7,176	6,450	—	726
Ditto Special Expenditure...	30	190	160	—
Ecclesiastical	444	444	—	—
Charitable	559	631	72	—
Telephone Department	1,280	1,360	80	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	245	547	302	—
Carriacou District	863	920	57	—
Water Supplies	249	295	46	—
Miscellaneous Services	4,916	4,761	—	155
Agricultural Department ...	413	474	61	—
Public Works Department ...	1,208	1,370	162	—
Public Works Recurrent :—				
(1) Roads and Bridges ...	8,888	9,021	133	—
(2) Other Recurrent Works...	1,955	1,724	—	231
Public Works Extraordinary ...	2,908	1,716	—	1,192
Total Expenditure from Colonial Funds.	71,584	69,820	2,627	4,391
Agricultural Department (paid from Imperial Funds).	384	559	175	—
Total Expenditure ...	71,968	70,379	2,802	4,391

TABLE D.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the TOWN (now District*) AUTHORITIES for the last FIVE YEARS.

—	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	3,189	3,152	3,296	3,435	3,812	2,861	3,251	3,282	3,380	3,608
Grenville (St. Andrew's) ..	944	1,053	990	1,235	2,396	889	871	1,175	1,348	2,166
Sauteurs (St. Patrick's) ..	738	619	600	619	1,484	650	471	752	615	1,545
Victoria (St. Mark's).. ..	307	309	359	339	626	344	307	318	502	594
Gouyave (St. John's).. ..	680	599	596	771	1,380	548	514	741	829	1,325
St. David's	—	—	—	267	765	—	—	—	267	765
Hillsborough	124	85	83	28	89	97	82	105	87	92

* Since October, 1905.

TABLE E.

Classified Return of Trade Statistics for the last Five Years.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	110,627	100,825	119,178	116,892	107,635	298,974	266,595	309,776	276,312	195,239
II. Raw materials	23,887	23,328	22,391	20,204	16,264	6,591	8,518	10,389	4,642	9,969
III. Manufactured articles	104,241	109,381	110,861	93,714	92,423	2,027	1,985	1,601	2,052	2,614
IV. Coin and bullion	353	1,906	3,839	6,446	7,126	3,010	6,467	—	950	2,327
Totals	239,108	235,440	256,269	237,256	223,448	310,602	283,565	321,766	283,955	210,149

TABLE F.

Comparative Statement of Chief Imports in the last Two Years.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1905.	1906.
Class I.—	£	£
Live animals	2,612	814
Bread of all kinds (*i.e.*, biscuits)	3,937	3,412
Butter	2,003	2,026
Cheese	1,114	948
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel).	15,868	12,362
Flour (wheaten)	31,558	28,928
Lard	1,385	1,713
Malt liquor	1,439	1,333
Meal (corn)	726	945
Meat (salted or preserved), including bacon and hams.	9,132	8,609
Medicinal extracts and preparations	3,427	2,732
Oats	3,699	3,999
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	2,699	3,302
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,573	3,467
Rice	6,311	6,513
Spirits	4,333	3,581
Sugar (refined)	3,147	2,489
Do. (muscovado)	4,768	4,603
Wines	1,285	1,000
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	2,830	2,769
Fresh vegetables ("ground provisions")... ...	1,167	2,538
Stockfeed	1,680	1,523
Pease	1,275	1,330
Class II.—		
Coal	842	1,382
Leather	840	225
Manures	3,796	2,611
Petroleum oil...	3,431	3,465
Timber and shingles	10,799	8,239
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	6,494	10,567
Textiles	44,608	51,403
Rope and cordage	1,081	1,817
Metal manufactures	13,109	13,991
Books	1,002	858
Soap	3,867	3,174
Stationery	950	1,267
Cement	870	1,000
Earthen- and glass-ware	2,445	2,265
Furniture	1,733	1,934
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	3,374	4,393
Other	2,398	3,779

TABLE G.

Comparative Statement of Principal Articles of Colonial Produce Exported in the last Five Years.

Produce Exported.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	268,211	230,957	272,226	243,790	166,538
Spices	25,522	31,583	33,767	27,992	24,941
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,069	5,345	8,521	3,365	8,003
Live stock	1,082	1,186	1,356	1,319	1,524
Firewood	249	285	400	221	156
Fruit	713	249	430	304	265
Poultry	665	560	443	409	289
Turtle and turtle shell ...	152	235	381	343	306
Kola nuts	231	210	367	329	358
Coffee	25	238	65	3	4
Rum	70	—	2	32	1
Wool	113	22	51	15	31
Ice	—	399	260	304	113
Logwood	30	8	—	45	—

TABLE H.

Direction of Trade in the last Five Years.

—	Imports.					Exports.				
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	105,425	112,138	117,292	100,082	86,631	265,936	201,799	209,310	181,970	119,902
British Colonies	50,835	43,860	57,855	64,557	67,242	10,528	12,244	5,316	7,049	7,245
Foreign Countries	82,843	79,442	81,122	72,617	69,575	34,137	69,522	107,140	94,936	83,002
Totals	239,103	235,440	256,269	237,256	223,448	310,601	283,565	321,766	283,955	210,149

TABLE I.

Trade with Foreign Countries in the last Five Years.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America	80,317	76,763	76,081	69,526	66,897	26,451	51,971	61,126	58,995	44,680
France and French Colonies	549	478	1,146	422	796	6,356	16,819	44,906	33,804	35,859
Holland and Dutch Colonies	1,248	981	2,297	1,155	1,059	437	61	527	1,984	1,547
Denmark and Danish Colonies	41	43	54	69	75	18	—	13	5	3
Venezuela	416	296	784	933	354	876	671	475	143	800
Germany	226	757	667	390	379	—	—	—	4	107
Other Countries	51	174	93	121	15	—	—	93	—	6
Totals	82,848	79,442	81,122	72,616	69,575	34,138	69,522	107,140	94,935	83,002

TABLE J.

Details of Shipping in the last Two Years.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1905.			1906.			1905.			1906.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	308,577	9,796	318,373	284,385	10,299	294,684	308,577	10,096	318,673	294,394	10,482	294,876
Foreign	—	1,126	1,126	1,331	1,710	3,041	—	1,126	1,126	1,331	1,602	2,933
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	—	—	—	1,278	—	1,278	—	—	—	1,278	—	1,278
Holland	—	562	562	—	922	922	—	562	562	—	922	922
Venezuela	—	480	480	—	788	788	—	480	480	—	680	680
France	—	84	84	53	—	53	—	84	84	53	—	53

TABLE K.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
						£	£	£	£
Government Schools ..	9	1,147	1,031	2,178	1,006	74	1,219	—	1,292
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Roman Catholic ..	21	2,182	2,466	4,648	2,141	73	2,336	—	2,409
Anglican	9	956	858	1,814	984	108	1,082	—	1,189
Wesleyan	4	581	474	1,055	570	45	622	—	668
Church of Scotland..	2	222	180	402	186	9	166	—	176
Totals for 1906 ..	45	5,088	5,009	10,097	4,867	309	5,425	—	5,734
Totals for 1905 ..	45	5,319	5,141	10,460	5,405	349	5,847	—	6,197
Increase in 1906..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease in 1906..	—	231	132	363	538	40	422	—	463

TABLE L.

Secondary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Scholars on Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
					£	£	£	£
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—								
Grenada Grammar School	27	—	27	24	73	468	—	501
Victoria Girls' High School	—	23	23	22	90	25	66	199
St. Joseph's Convent School (Girls) ..	6	66	72	—	145	100	70	315
Totals for 1906	33	89	122	46	308	593	136	1,015
Totals for 1905	52	84	136	54	410	418	126	1,025
Increase in 1906	—	5	—	—	—	175	10	—
Decrease in 1906	19	—	14	8	102	—	—	10

TABLE M.

Criminal Statistics.

—	Average 1902–1904.	1905.	1906.
Magistrates' Courts—			
Convictions...	1,346	1,452	1,496
Acquittals	331	352	330
Discharged	562	752	436
Committed for trial at the Supreme Court	48	42	23
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrates.	2,287	2,598	2,285
Supreme Court—			
Convictions	30	24	11
Acquittals	8	15	9
Not prosecuted	8	12	4
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	46	51	24
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained—			
Offences against the person	318	339	450
Prædial larceny	68	79	118
Other offences against property	98	101	83
Other offences	891	957	856
	1,375	1,476	1,507

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905–1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate...	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon...	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate...	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.

2

Gt. Brit. Colonial office

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 553.

1045
281
19

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 505.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
January, 1908.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729-17.] *Price* 2*d*.

M

JV33
.G7A4

CONTENTS.

		PAGE.
I.	Financial	1
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	10
III.	Legislation	19
IV.	Education	19
V.	Government Institutions	20
VI.	Judicial Statistics	21
VII.	Vital Statistics	25
VIII.	Postal and Telephone Services	26
IX.	General Remarks	27

MAR 22 1909
D. of D.

No. 553.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 505.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
16th November, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Lucia for the year 1906-7, together with a report thereon by Mr. E. D. Laborde, who has been acting as Administrator.

I have, &c.,

RALPH WILLIAMS,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 24282 1/08 D & S 5 30730 A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) Revenue.

The general revenue for the year 1906-7 was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Ordinary Revenue	57,940	1	4
Part Proceeds of Sale of reclaimed Lands	388	19	0
Balance of Immigration Fund transferred to General Revenue	840	1	3
Total Local Revenue ...	59,169	1	7
Amount granted to the Colony from Imperial Funds in aid of Agriculture	843	0	0
Total Revenue ...	£60,012	1	7

The revenue was £1,865 less than the revenue for the previous year and was the lowest collected during the past ten years. The ordinary revenue was £441 below the estimate.

The following is a comparative statement of the revenue:—

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1907.

Heads of Revenue.	Estimate for 1906–7.	Actual Revenue to 31st March, 1907.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	27,000 0 0	25,521 9 4	26,762 2 1	—	1,240 12 9
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	5,000 0 0	4,866 11 0	5,670 7 0	—	803 16 0
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	18,320 0 0	17,764 12 1	18,172 10 1	—	407 18 0
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in Aid	3,348 10 0	3,710 8 2	3,502 9 11	207 18 3	—
5. Post Office	957 0 0	1,113 2 8	1,324 2 3	—	210 19 7
6. Telephone	592 0 0	606 11 2	551 5 0	55 6 2	—
7. Rent of Government Property	825 0 0	847 3 5	826 18 7	20 4 10	—
8. Miscellaneous	245 0 0	488 2 4	350 18 3	137 4 1	—
9. Interest	1,705 1 2	2,574 11 2	1,758 13 7	815 17 7	—
10. Repayment of Loans	388 10 0	447 10 0	388 10 0	59 0 0	—
	58,381 1 2	57,940 1 4	59,307 16 9	1,295 10 11	2,663 6 4
11. Part proceeds of Sale of Reclaimed Lands	500 0 0	388 19 0	1,342 0 1	—	953 1 1
— Balance transferred from Immigration Fund	—	840 1 3	—	840 1 3	—
12. Imperial Department of Agriculture—Grant-in-Aid	791 0 0	843 0 0	1,227 8 1	—	384 8 1
Total	59,672 1 2	60,012 1 7	61,877 4 11	2,135 12 2	4,000 15 6

(B.) Expenditure.

The total expenditure was £60,293 18*s.* 10*d.*, including £726 3*s.* 4*d.* paid from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture.

The following is a comparative statement of the expenditure :—

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the Year ended 31st March, 1907.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimate for 1906–7.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1907.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	11,420 19 6	11,421 19 4	11,434 5 9	—	12 6 5
2. Pensions	1,853 3 4	2,150 14 3	1,885 14 4	264 19 11	—
3. Governor and Legislature	2,991 19 4	2,917 9 11	2,941 2 10	—	23 12 11
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department	3,667 14 0	3,362 6 10	3,244 18 8	117 8 2	—
5. Post Office	1,183 16 0	1,021 18 11	1,196 18 9	—	174 19 10
6. Port and Marine	863 12 0	823 17 3	846 8 3	—	22 11 0
7. Audit	552 16 0	513 2 2	531 19 7	—	18 17 5
8. Legal	4,972 10 0	4,699 17 5	4,490 0 10	209 16 7	—
— Local Forces	—	444 15 7	—	444 15 7	—
9. Police	4,457 16 0	4,287 3 1	4,311 3 3	—	24 0 2
10. Prisons	1,346 6 0	1,432 10 3	1,438 5 6	—	5 15 3
11. Medical	2,655 16 0	2,576 7 2	2,669 7 6	—	93 0 4
12. Hospitals and Asylums	3,027 0 0	2,913 4 1	3,037 5 4	—	124 1 3

13. Charitable	585 0 0	515 13 7	585 1 11	—	69 8 4
14. Education	4,364 16 0	4,343 9 9	4,349 1 10	—	5 12 1
15. Ecclesiastical	1,600 0 0	1,600 0 0	1,600 0 0	—	—
16. Agriculture (from local funds)	776 0 0	770 4 6	437 7 9	332 16 9	—
17. Miscellaneous...	2,744 0 0	2,531 9 4	4,565 9 5	—	2,034 0 1
18. Colonial Engineers' Department	3,196 17 0	2,883 9 6	3,396 1 6	—	512 12 0
19. Public Works Recurrent	7,395 0 0	7,015 0 0	6,447 17 5	567 2 7	—
	59,655 1 2	58,224 12 11	59,408 10 5	1,936 19 7	3,120 17 1
20 Public Works Extraordinary	500 0 0	1,343 2 7	1,915 0 0	—	571 17 5
	60,155 1 2	59,567 15 6	61,323 10 5	1,936 19 7	3,692 14 6
16A Agriculture (from Imperial Funds) ...	791 0 0	726 3 4	1,197 17 11	—	471 14 7
Total	60,946 1 2	60,293 18 10	62,521 8 4	1,936 19 7	4,164 9 1

	£	s.	d.
The estimated expenditure was ...	60,946	1	2
and the estimated revenue	59,672	1	2
showing an estimated deficit of ...	£1,274	0	0

By careful economy small savings were effected in several directions amounting to £2,326, but this was counterbalanced to the extent of £1,674 of unforeseen expenditure that had to be incurred.

The actual expenditure was therefore £60,294, or £652 less than the estimate, against an actual revenue of £60,012, showing a deficit on the year's transactions of £282.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities of the Colony at 31st March, 1907:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Colony at 31st March, 1907.

Liabilities.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Assets.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1907. March 31.	Savings Bank	16,177 9 11		1907. March 31.	Cash on hand	502 16 5	
	Towns and Villages Fund	1,063 19 2			Colonial Bank Current Account	1,334 14 6	
	Grenada Intercolonial Account	454 4 6			Colonial Bank Deposit Account:—		
	St. Vincent Intercolonial Account	87 3 4			General Revenue	500 0 0	
	Land Sales Fund	1,156 9 9			Savings Bank	1,000 0 0	
	Castries Town Fund	297 13 4			Investments on Account of Savings Bank	13,416 14 11	
	Savings Bank Working Account	88 10 1			Investments on Account of Public Buildings Insurance Fund	2,283 14 2	
	Police Recreation Fund	20 7 0			Investments on Account of Surplus Funds	20,790 10 8	
	Interest, Baron Trust Money Account	245 19 7			Loan to Castries Town Board for acquisition of Recreation Ground	1,000 0 0	
	Inperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture	184 0 7			Loan to Castries Town Board for Cemetery	589 14 5	
	Sundry Deposits Account	89 19 4					41,418 5 1
	Suspense Account,—Sale of Workyard Lots	609 8 10					
	Crown Agents' Advances against Bills maturing	3,500 0 0					
	Crown Agents' Current Account	222 18 5					
			24,198 3 10		Advances:		
					Authorised Advances Account	261 5 11	
					Drafts and Remittances Account	7,502 0 0	
					Post Office Account	216 3 6	
							7,979 9 5
	Surplus Assets:						
	Surplus and Deficit Account	22,915 16 6					
	Public Building Insurance Fund	2,283 14 2					
			25,199 10 8				
			£49,397 14 6				£49,397 14 6

1907. March 31. Excess of Assets over Liabilities of the Colony of St. Lucia, exclusive of sums due to Debenture and Stock Holders on 31st March, 1907, £25,199 10*s.* 8*d*

(D.) Surplus Funds.

The surplus funds of the Colony on 31st March, 1907, amounted to £25,199 10*s.* 8*d.*, which included the sum of £2,283 14*s.* 2*d.*, being the amount of contributions at the rate of £300 a year set aside from general revenue as an insurance fund on public buildings. The investments on this account including the insurance fund amounted at the close of the year to £20,790 10*s.* 8*d.* as shown below:—

	£	s.	d.
Government of Zanzibar 3% debentures	3,000	0	0
Transvaal Government Stock 3% ...	9,970	13	3
Gold Coast Government Stock 3% ...	4,477	7	11
Sheffield Corporation Stock 3% ...	3,342	9	6
	£20,790	10	8

(E.) Public Debt.

The public debt at the 31st March, 1907, amounted to £157,779 11*s.*, apportioned as follows:—

Colony's Share.

	£	s.	d.
Castries Harbour Loan ...	56,600	0	0
Central Factory	11,500	0	0
Public Works Loan ...	50,579	11	0
Water Works	12,000	0	0
Immigration	10,100	0	0
	140,779	11	0
Castries Town Board share...	17,000	0	0
	£157,779	11	0

The sinking fund amounted to £13,529 19*s.* 3*d.*

(F.) Towns and Villages.

Besides Castries, the chief town, there are nine towns and villages in the Island. The following table shows their order of importance as regards population according to the Census of 1901, and the revenue and expenditure in 1906 and the balance to the credit of each town or village fund at the close of the year:—

Population, Revenue and Expenditure and Balance to Credit of each Town or Village Fund at close of year.

Name of town or village.	Population.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Credit Balance.
		£	£	£
Castries	7,910	5,217	5,601	298
Soufrière	2,394	508	446	142
Vieux Fort	1,619	165	131	109
Dennery	1,072	140	100	254
Anse la Raye... ...	885	66	46	80
Laborie	808	66	54	49
Gros Islet	705	104	93	187
Micoud	577	73	61	42
Canaries	522	38	28	122
Choiseul	409	44	17	79
Total	16,901	6,421	6,577	1,362

The rates were in Castries and Soufrière 8 per cent. on assessed rental value of houses and 2 per cent. for water rate. In Vieux Fort, Gros Islet, and Canaries the rate was 6 per cent. on the assessed rental value of houses, and in the other villages the rate was 5 per cent.

The revenue in Castries was the lowest received since 1899, and was £719 less than the receipts for the previous year. This may be attributed to the depreciation of the rental value of property consequent on the emigration that followed the withdrawal of the garrison.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports.

The value of imports in 1906 was £242,469, as compared with £285,987 in 1905.

The following figures shew the value of the imports from the countries specified, as compared with the previous year:—

Year.	United Kingdom.			British Colonies.			Foreign Countries.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1905 ...	95,086	10	11	56,891	7	11	134,008	15	11	285,986	14	9
1906 ...	87,842	19	2	34,077	11	4	120,548	17	5	242,469	7	11

The importations of coal amounted to 76,304½ tons, of the value of £94,056, as compared with 79,225 tons in 1905, of the

value of £96,620, not including 362 tons imported for the use of the military.

Of the coal imported in 1906, 13,236 tons came from the United Kingdom, and 63,068½ tons from the United States.

The imports are divided into the following classes:—

	£
Class I.—Live Animals, Food and Drink Supplies, and Narcotics ...	87,702
Class II.—Raw Materials	111,568
Class III.—Manufactured Articles	67,511
Class IV.—Coin and Bullion	5,867

The following table shows the principal articles and values imported under the different Classes:—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.
Class I.			
Live Animals—			£
Cattle	137		840
Horses and Mules	14		344
Sheep	21		129
Food and Drink Supplies—			
Ale and Beer, &c. (bottled)	5,586	doz. pts.	1,152
Ale and Beer, &c. (in wood)	102½	hhds.	322
Bacon and Hams	16,435	lbs.	509
Beef, Pork (salted and pickled)	189,978	"	2,498
Biscuits (common)	1,561½	brls	842
Butter	47,568	lbs.	1,822
Oleomargarine	88,088	"	1,669
Cheese	18,785	"	612
Coffee	83,858	"	1,698
Confectionery	—		809
Fish (salted and dried)	7,623	cwt.	9,542
Flour	13,906	brls.	14,960
Fruits and Vegetables	—		1,249
Lard and its compounds	65,223	lbs.	1,062
Medicine (not containing Quinine) ...	—		1,397
Oats	7,428	bshls.	1,166
Oil (Lard, Olive, and others)	5,418	galls.	762
Pease and Beans	2,101	bshls.	1,023
Preserves	—		775
Rice	506,540	lbs.	2,824
Whisky	4,362	galls.	1,551
Sugar	144,505	lbs.	853
Wines	—		3,107
Narcotics—			
Tobacco (manufactured)	19,529	lbs.	1,463
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	49,092	"	1,044
Cigars and Snuff	302	"	143
Cigarettes	1,188	"	337

Principal Articles and Values Imported—continued.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
Class II.		
Raw Materials—		£
Coal	76,304 tons	94,056
Manure	4,622 bags.	4,795
Oil (Cotton Seed)	44,099 galls.	3,639
Oil (Engine and Paint)	4,711 "	429
Oil (Petroleum)	58,420 "	1,845
Wood (Pitch pine)	27,518 feet	109
Wood (White pine)	115,007 "	725
Class III.		
Textile Manufactures—		
Bags (empty)	—	2,375
Cottons and Woollens	—	25,645
Rope and Cordage...	—	363
Twine	—	535
Metal Manufactures—		
Hardware	—	5,419
Iron (galvanised)	—	839
Machinery for industrial purposes ...	—	1,339
Tinware	—	599
Manufactured Articles other than Textile or Metal—		
Books (printed)	—	496
Boots and Shoes	—	3,999
Cement	—	987
Patent Fuel	732 tons	588
Earthenware	—	549
Furniture	—	2,056
Glassware	—	380
Haberdashery	—	7,585
Hats and Bonnets...	—	2,318
Matches	—	422
Paints, Dyes, and Varnish	—	657
Perfumery	—	665
Soap (common)	—	2,465
Stationery	—	763
Class IV.		
Bullion	—	5,867

(B.) Exports.

The value of the exports in 1906 was £220,313, as compared with £211,654 in the preceding year. £102,457 represented the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and £117,856 the produce of other Countries, of which £105,696 was for bunker coal exported.

The exports are divided into the following classes:—

	£
Class I.—Live Animals, Food and Drink Supplies, and Narcotics ...	100,101
Class II.—Raw Materials	114,165
Class III.—Manufactured Articles	2,037
Class IV.—Coin and Bullion	4,010

The following table gives the principal articles, the produce of the Colony, and the value exported under Classes I. and II.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
Class I.		£
Live animals—		
Cattle	14	68
Horses and Mules	40	666
Food and Drink Supplies—		
Cocoa (unmanufactured)...	1,579,200 lbs.	42,300
Honey	310 cases	386
Rum...	6 276 galls.	316
Sugar (Usine)	5,441 tons	51,689
Sugar (Muscovado)	230 tons	1,610
Sugar (Melhado)	313 casks	939
Sugar (Molascuit)...	1,517 bags	379
Class II.		
Raw Materials—		
Hides	156 pkgs.	974
Fuelwood	1,055 cords	528
Logwood	478 tons	836
Pimento Logs	176	350
Pimento Sticks	15,374 bndls.	684

(C.) Coal Trade.

The following return shows the imports and exports of coal and the declared value during the past ten years:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.
		£		£
1897...	63,902	58,809	78,130	76,177
1898...	76,046	72,149	73,411	73,411
1899...	61,487	45,196	76,417	72,596
1900...	99,864	89,090	100,578	125,154
1901...	85,819	99,959	85,743	110,516
1902...	57,169	67,220	72,426	84,641
1903...	58,333	70,138	50,307	64,446
1904...	50,443	63,199	59,376	71,080
1905...	79,587	97,261	82,149	103,478
1906...	76,304	94,056	86,997	106,000

(D.) Shipping.

The number of steamers that entered was 617 with an aggregate tonnage of 1,055,473 tons. The number that cleared was 618 and their tonnage 1,057,414 tons.

In addition 13 ships of war and four yachts visited the port, as against 16 and 5 in 1905, and 38 and 8 in 1904. The year was an unusually busy one for shipping. The number of steamers that entered has only been exceeded twice during the past ten years, namely, in 1897 and in 1900, when the number reached 620, but the aggregate tonnage in those years was respectively 869,739 and 906,158 tons, proving that larger ships are now visiting the port.

The following return shows the number of vessels, British and foreign, that entered and cleared, and the aggregate tonnage during the past seven years:—

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1900	473	751,463	271	9,009	147	154,695	41	6,258
1901	461	770,443	273	9,634	124	148,488	15	4,260
1902	430	682,878	338	11,001	108	141,240	71	3,869
1903	354	542,095	269	7,470	66	84,391	152	5,212
1904	373	544,895	231	7,349	77	98,544	45	2,899
1905	452	748,494	207	6,941	99	155,846	43	4,774
1906	534	931,449	246	7,310	83	124,024	38	3,749

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1900	473	749,172	226	8,530	147	156,988	39	5,480
1901	460	768,110	266	9,788	124	142,488	15	5,509
1902	432	685,282	346	10,994	108	141,240	68	3,579
1903	352	540,122	280	7,664	66	84,391	150	4,564
1904	374	546,795	237	7,537	77	98,544	45	2,869
1905	452	748,494	207	6,941	98	153,905	43	4,774
1906	534	931,449	252	7,541	84	125,965	37	3,696

(E.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

There are no mines in the Colony.

The only manufactures of any consequence are sugar and rum. There are four well-equipped central sugar factories, but the area of land in sugar cultivation is not as extensive as it might be, owing to want of labour and other causes. The exported produce amounted to 5,441 tons of crystallized sugar, 230 tons of Muscovado, and 313 casks of Melhado. Of this output Canada took 980 tons of Usine sugar and 60 tons of Muscovado, and the rest of the produce went to London markets.

There are two rum distilleries. Rum is produced principally for local consumption, and as the consumption is declining the quantity distilled keeps pace with its declension as the following table indicates:—

Year.	Quantity Distilled.	Consumed.	Exported.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls
1903...	72,470	53,558	16,286
1904...	57,429	52,562	5,684
1905...	56,150	50,337	8,655
1906...	49,553	46,950	6,319

The quantity in stock on the 1st January, 1903, was 21,911 gallons, and the quantity distilled during the four years, 235,582=257,493 gallons. The quantity consumed or exported was 240,351 gallons, and 6,307 gallons remained in stock, while 10,835 gallons or 4·20 per cent. was lost by leakage and evaporation.

There is a number of boats, principally small canoes, engaged in fishing, and fresh fish in abundance can be obtained for local consumption all the year round. There is no attempt at preserving fish for exportation.

(F.) Agricultural Industries.

The staple industries are sugar and cocoa.

There was a marked increase in the sugar crop over 1905. The usine sugar exported was 5,441 tons of a declared value of £51,689, as compared with 3,721 tons of the declared value of £37,210 in the preceding year.

During the past ten years there has been a considerable fluctuation in the cocoa crop. In 1897, calculating at 200 lbs. to the bag, 4,768 bags were exported. In 1900 the exports rose to 6,490 bags, but in the following year fell to 3,285 bags. In 1902 the exports reached 7,524 bags, and in 1905, 9,468, the highest record. The average for the five years from 1897 to

1901 was 4,865 bags, and the average for the next five years, from 1902 to 1906, was 8,045 bags. It will be seen, therefore, from these figures, that the cocoa industry has been nearly doubled during the past ten years; but the progress of the industry has nevertheless been very slow considering the quantity of land suitable for cocoa in the possession of large and small proprietors. The attention directed this year to improvements in the methods of cultivation will have good and widespread results, especially among the peasant growers, as time goes on, while the great rise that has recently taken place in the price of cocoa will be the strongest inducement to planters to extend their cultivation.

The lime industry made great strides and appeared for the first time as an export produce. 571 packages of limes and 12 packages of lime juice were shipped. The cultivation is being extended. 40,000 plants were distributed by the Agricultural Department during the year.

Rubber also for the first time appeared as an article of export, a small quantity from trees of the Castilloa Elastica having been shipped. This industry has not however been started to any extent, and must be regarded as being still in an experimental stage.

The cultivation of Sea Island cotton has not yet been taken up. Some few years ago, at the instance of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, an effort was made to induce local growers to start the industry, but the trial was made in a lukewarm manner and proved a failure, which has since exercised a discouraging effect on any further attempts. Owing however to the successful results that have been obtained in the neighbouring Colonies, the desire to make another trial is manifesting itself, and it is hoped that this industry will soon again be started. There are large areas of cleared land, apparently well adapted for the cultivation, that are available for enterprise in this direction.

Agricultural Department.

The Botanic Station, and Agricultural School and Experiment Station, were maintained in efficient working order, and several minor improvements were effected during the year. Several of the nursery plant beds were reconstructed on an improved plan by which better drainage and greater means of checking insect and fungoid pests were secured.

A plant fumigating chamber for the treatment of imported plants by the hydrocyanic acid gas method, for preventing the introduction of insect pests, was established at the Botanic Station, and is now in use.

There was a great increase in the demand for economic plants for local planting. The total number of plants distributed was 64,850, being the highest annual record in the history of the station. Limes headed the list with 37,116

plants, being 25,282 above the previous year's record. 6,967 rubber plants were issued to local applicants

Useful leaflets on "The Improvement of Cocoa Plantations" and on "Rubber Growing" were prepared and distributed by the department for the information of the planting community.

The total expenditure on the Botanic Station and connexions, excluding building repairs and the cost of the fumigating chamber, was £809 13*s.* 9*d.* The sale of plants, &c., realised £64 2*s.*

Agricultural School.

The average number of pupils maintained during the year was 18·9. One pupil was admitted and three discharged to take up situations obtained for them.

All the ground provisions required for the Institution were produced on the premises, and a large number of economic plants was raised for distribution. The routine work associated with the training of the pupils in agricultural science and practice received careful attention.

The half-yearly examinations of the pupils show that good progress was made in their school and field work. The Medical Officer's report on the health of the boys and the sanitary condition of the institution was very satisfactory. The expenditure on the Agricultural School and Experiment Station was £586 14*s.* 3*d.* The receipts from the sale of plants and produce amounted to £55 12*s.* 3*d.*

With a view to making the institution partially self-supporting, a scheme was sanctioned for extending the cocoa cultivation and for supplying the hospital and prison with milk and ground provisions. To effect this purpose a sum of £300 was placed on the estimates to be expended in 1907 for clearing and planting six additional acres of cocoa, for increasing the area in ground provisions, and for the purchase of live stock. It is estimated that an additional annual expenditure of £144, to be expended on labour and stock food and other necessaries, will be required for the next five years to carry out the proposal. In the meanwhile it is expected that the returns from 1908 will more than cover this recurrent annual expenditure, and that at the end of five years, when the additional cocoa comes into bearing, the original outlay will be recouped. If the cultivation can be subsequently further extended the institution might ultimately be made entirely self-supporting.

(G.) Crown Lands and Surveys.

During the year 160 applications were received for 1,423 acres. On 32 of these applications the usual survey fee and deposit was paid. 75 surveys were executed. The acreage alienated amounted to 1,197 acres. Grants to the number of 79 were issued, and at the close of the year there were 59 further grants prepared and awaiting delivery.

The Land Sales Fund transactions were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance on 31st December, 1905 ...	854	6	6
Revenue, 1906	1,027	14	9
Expenditure, 1906	809	0	5
Balance on 31st December, 1906 ...	£1,073	1	0

(H.) Public Works.

The total expenditure on public works amounted to £10,552 17*s.* 6*d.*, as shown under the heads below:—

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings—repairs and maintenance	643	4	2
Roads and Bridges—repairs and maintenance	5,919	0	7
Jetties—repairs and maintenance ...	162	9	11
Harbour Works	491	14	10
Miscellaneous Works	284	0	9
Works executed for Government Departments	212	1	9
Public Buildings and works extraordinary	715	11	10
Reclamation Piling—extraordinary ...	761	13	9
Roads and Bridges—Land Sales Fund	290	7	8
Telephones — reconstruction, repairs, and maintenance	1,072	12	3
	£10,552	17	6

There were no new works of any considerable importance started during the year.

The expenditure on public buildings and works extraordinary included £544 5*s.* 11*d.* for repairing damages to public buildings and bridges caused by the earthquake on 16th February, 1906. This amount does not represent the entire expenditure for making good all the injuries sustained by Government buildings. The work of repairs was delayed for a considerable period owing to the frequency of the shocks that recurred for some months, and all the damaged structures had not been repaired at the close of the year.

There are approximately 265 miles of road in the Colony:—

	Miles.
Main Roads	115
Byways	117
Unclassified	33
	265

There was no increase of roadway made during the year, but the expenditure of a sum of £5,000 from surplus funds was

sanctioned for the opening up of new roads which are very much needed for bringing within easy reach the fertile land in the interior of the Island.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Six Ordinances were passed during 1906, two of which were Appropriation Ordinances, while the others related to Contagious Diseases of Cattle, Telephones, Savings Banks, and the Pauper Asylum.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Primary.

The general statistics for the year are given in the following table:—

Schools	No.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.	Government Grant.
					£
Anglican	3	480	290	389	285
Wesleyan	1	216	108	137	126
East Indian Mission ...	1	33	26	33	33
Roman Catholic	39	6,012	3,473	4,423	2,946
Total	44	6,741	3,897	4,982	3,390
The figures for 1905 were	46	7,256	3,832	5,057	3,339

(B.) Secondary.

Secondary Education is provided for boys by the St. Mary's College, and for girls by the St. Joseph's Convent. The former school received a Government grant of £400, and the latter one of £50. The total expenditure on these schools was £730 and £500 respectively, the school fees collected being £277 and £235.

There were 71 boys on the roll of the college, with 68 in average attendance, the figures for St. Joseph's Convent for girls being 104 and 77 respectively.

The boys are prepared for the Cambridge Local examinations, and the girls for those of the London College of Preceptors. The girls are also taught needlework—plain and fancy, drawing, and painting.

One of the conditions attached to the grant to St. Mary's College is the right to have ten Government scholars educated at the College free of charge. The report on these boys shows work and conduct "satisfactory" 'in seven cases, work "very

fair," conduct "satisfactory" in two, and work "unsatisfactory," conduct "satisfactory" in one.

At the examination in December to fill four vacancies, nine candidates presented themselves. The best candidates obtained, out of a total of 100 marks, 75, 70, 68, and 67.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals and Asylums.

The following statement tabulates the principal statistics relating to the hospitals and asylums of the Colony:—

Institutions.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during 1906.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.		No. of Deaths.	Remaining in Hospital at end of year.
				Cured.	Relieved.		
Victoria Hospital, Castries	69	1,362	72	869	393	105	64
Soufrière Hospital ...	2	27	1·22	21	6	2	—
Vieux-Fort Hospital ...	4	44	3	28	9	2	4*
Dennery " ...	1	16	1	9	4	4	—
Yaws Hospital, Soufrière	34	52	29	47	4	1	34
Poor Asylum "	43	96	55	—	50	31	58
Lunatic Asylum "	19	13	17	3	—	4	17†

* Five patients discharged, condition not improved.
† Eight sent to Grenada Lunatic Asylum.

(B.) Dispensaries.

Outdoor medical relief is given through the medium of a dispensary in each district, at which a medical officer attends every week.

The number of patients treated during the past two years was as follows:—

Dispensary.	1905.	1906.
Castries	7,399	8,007
Gros-Islet	619	654
Dennery	1,067	992
Anse-la-Raye	724	655
Soufrière	887	1,245
Choiseul	171	314
Vieux-Fort	1,193	1,481
Laborie	693	490
Micoud	610	518
Babonneau (opened September 14th, 1906) ...	—	88
Total	13,363	14,444

The growing recognition of the advantages offered by the Victoria Hospital under an improving system of administration is marked by the increasing number of natives of the Colony admitted to the Institution during the past four years.

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Natives of St. Lucia ...	364	553	797	979
Natives of other countries including India	1,275	709	472	452
Total	1,639	1,262	1,269	1,431

The emigration of many natives of other Colonies who had been attracted to Castries by the military works and left the Island on the abandonment of St. Lucia as a military station, accounts for the large fall that appears in the admission of patients not belonging to the Colony.

Dr. King observes: "A bad type of malaria is common in returned (Panama) Canal labourers, who not infrequently have ankylostoma as well. The latter seems to be universal in returned Cayenne gold diggers."

Of the strangers treated, 21 were from Europe or Canada. Excluding these it would appear that the Government maintained 1,761 patients in the hospitals and asylums and provided medical aid for 14,444 exclusive of repeats at the dispensaries, a total of 16,205, or nearly 30 per cent. of the whole estimated population of the Island.

(C.) Out-door Relief of Paupers.

The number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief on the 31st December, 1906, was 200.

The expenditure amounted to £532 11*s.* 9*d.* including £131 10*s.* 10*d.* for pauper burials.

(D.) Sanitary.

Considerable attention was paid to the improvement of sanitary matters in the towns and villages, and to the destruction of breeding places of mosquitoes.

The police are charged with the duty of enforcing the sanitary regulations of the Board of Health, but as they were found to possess no special training for this purpose, instructions were issued for the non-commissioned officer in charge of each station to apply to the medical officer for advice and assistance, and the Health Officer was good enough to undertake the special training of a selected European non-commissioned officer whose services could be made available in any part of the Colony where they may be needed.

(E.) Savings Banks.

The principal bank is in Castries, and is managed by the Treasurer of the Colony. There are four district branches in different parts of the Island.

The following statement shows the transactions of the bank for the five years ended the 31st December, 1906:—

Year.	Total number of depositors on 31st December of each year.	Total deposits inclusive of Interest.			Total Withdrawals.			Amount on deposit at the end of each year.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1902	1,590	20,365	12	6	17,696	8	6	15,956	18	3
1903	1,584	18,338	16	7	17,084	5	11	17,211	8	11
1904	1,642	18,990	15	5	20,568	7	1	15,633	17	3
1905	1,231	15,025	16	3	16,285	13	7	14,373	19	11
1906	1,584	13,750	12	6	13,397	7	1	14,727	5	4

Investments through the Crown Agents on account of the Savings Bank on the 31st December amounted to £13,416 14*s.* 11*d.* The interest derived from the investments was £461 13*s.* 3*d.*

The working account of the bank showed a revenue of £479 12*s.*, and an expenditure of £384 16*s.* 4*d.* for interest paid or credited to depositors. The balance of £94 15*s.* 8*d.* was transferred to general revenue.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

There are 13 Friendly Societies, being one in excess of the previous year. The total number of members on the rolls on 31st December was 1,114, as against 1,247 in 1905.

				£	s.	d.
The aggregate balance at 31st December, 1905, was ...				933	14	6
Total receipts in 1906 ...				1,442	7	3½
				£2,376	1	9½
The disbursements during the year were:—						
Sick benefits	525	9	7½			
Funeral claims	166	5	0			
Working expenses ...	431	19	3			
Payment for regalias ...	23	4	0			
Loans written off	10	12	7			
Payments to withdrawing members	48	4	5½			
				1,205	14	11
Balance at 31st December, 1906 ...				£1,170	6	10½

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The strength of the force on the 31st December was one officer and 70 non-commissioned officers and men, being two short of the authorized number.

Twenty-two men joined the force during the year, while nineteen resigned, four were dismissed, and one died. The canal works at Colon attracted many of the men who left the service in the hope of bettering their fortunes there.

There were 1,088 summary prosecutions and 29 indictable cases taken up by the police during the year, also 76 arrests made by the police and Town Board constables in Castries for breaches of Town Board bylaws, which were prosecuted by the Town Board authority, and 48 arrests prosecuted as private cases. Eighty-three per cent. of the cases resulted in convictions.

The police were for the first time entrusted with the duty of summoning and arresting road tax defaulters. This duty had hitherto been performed by bailiffs selected for the purpose, but the result was not satisfactory, and on the 2nd February regulations were made under the Road Tax Ordinance, 1905, transferring the responsibility to the police. 3,051 summonses were served and 1,796 warrants were executed, thus greatly increasing the work of the police department and reducing the costs to defaulters from 7*s.* to 2*s.*, and making it easier for the people to pay. The result was a better collection of the current taxes and the recovery of £284 10*s.* of arrears.

The force was armed early in April after the departure of the military, and has since undergone a course of training under the supervision of the staff officer of the Windward Islands. An inspection was held by Brigadier-General Caulfield on the 27th April, very shortly after the commencement of the course.

(B.) Prisons.

At the commencement of the year there were 48 prisoners in the Royal Gaol—38 males and 10 females.

The number of committals during the year was 642, 445 being adult males, 178 adult females, and 19 juveniles.

—	1905.	1906.
For Statutory Offences ...	301	387
„ Non-payment of Road Tax	80	193
„ Military Offences	13	—
„ Safe custody, trial, &c. ...	166	62
	560	642

The convictions from the Royal Court fell to 14, as against 29 in 1905.

The daily average number of prisoners in custody was 55·49, not taking into account the long-sentence St. Lucia prisoners who are undergoing their sentences in the Grenada Prison, the daily average of whom was 19·28. The corrected daily average for St. Lucia would be 74·77, as against a total of 75·65 in 1905.

The labour of the prisoners during the year is valued at £596 4*s.* 9*d.*, and the profits of the Prison Manufacturing Account amounted to £76 19*s.* 7*d.*

The expenditure on the prison was £1,696 9*s.* 10*d.*, of which £251 19*s.* 1*d.* was for the maintenance of St. Lucia prisoners at Grenada. The cost of the prison establishment and of the maintenance of prisoners was £1,447 11*s.* 5*d.*, the balance being made up of sums expended in repairing damage caused to the buildings by the earthquake of 16th February, 1906, in erecting a work shed, in improving ventilation, and in general repairs.

The daily average on the sick list was 1·85. One death occurred in the prison.

The convictions of natives of St. Lucia increased to 53 per cent., as against an average for the past five years of 43·8, natives of other places contributing 47 per cent. to the prison population.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The following figures summarise the criminal statistics for the past five years:—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Offences reported	2,790	1,942	2,032	1,595	1,706
Summary convictions—					
For offences against the person	333	255	355	405	220
„ prædial larceny	48	28	29	60	37
„ offences against property ...	133	77	124	226	77
„ other offences	1,430	877	1,059	904	1,126
Convictions by the Superior Court—					
Child murder	—	—	—	1	—
For offences against the person	6	12	17	3	2
„ „ „ property ...	17	11	13	23	14
„ other offences	1	2	2	5	1

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The estimated total population on the 31st December, according to the returns of the Registrar-General, was 54,073, an increase of 684 during the year, and was composed of 25,997 males and 28,076 females.

The birth-rate of the year was 31·9 per thousand, as compared with 35·2 per thousand in 1905; and the death-rate 19 per thousand, compared with 21·8 per thousand in 1905. The number of births was 1,702, and of deaths 1,018.

The population by the Census of 1901 was 49,883. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from the date of the Census to the 31st December, 1906, has been approximately 4,190. No deduction is made of persons who have left the island since the withdrawal of the garrison in 1905, and since the Panama Canal works were started. The estimate of the present population appears, therefore, to be subject to modification.

The number of marriages during the year was 352, as compared with 340 in the previous year.

(B.) Public Health.

Epidemics of influenza and malarial fever followed each other at Vieux Fort, but otherwise the public health was normal.

(C.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year at different stations was:—

	Inches.
At Botanic Station, Castries	81·84
Agricultural School, near Castries ...	88·15
Rivière Dorée	48·95
Anse la Raye	100·47
Soufrière	90·26
Errard	97·99
	507·66
Mean for six Stations	84·61

The absolute maximum temperature registered during 1906 was 91° on 3rd May, and the absolute minimum temperature 60° on 5th January. The mean monthly temperature for the year was 78·0°. The mean barometrical pressure for the year was 29·998 inches at 10 feet above mean sea-level.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(A.) Post Office.

The revenue of the Department was £1,330 3*s.* 11*d.*, of which £990 11*s.* 7*d.* was received from letters, post cards, &c., £206 5*s.* 7*d.* from sales of stamps to collectors, and £133 6*s.* 9*d.* from commissions on postal and money orders.

The expenditure was £1,013 19*s.* 2*d.*, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure was, therefore, £316 4*s.* 9*d.* No portion of the subsidy of the coastal steamer which carries mails to and from the outports is, however, charged against the Post Office:—

The total number of letters and post cards dealt with was—	Number.	Total.
Foreign sent	103,294	
Foreign received	103,289	
		206,583
Inland	—	84,190
		290,773
The number last year was	—	341,360
A net decrease of	—	50,587
Newspapers and book packets sent	10,354	
Newspapers and book packets received ...	65,807	
		76,161
Inland	—	17,404
		93,565
The number last year was	—	123,962
A net decrease of	—	30,397
Parcels sent	399	
Parcels received	1,877	
		2,276
The number last year was	—	3,446
A net decrease of	—	1,170

The number of registered articles sent was 3,920, and the number received 3,903. The number of insured letters sent was 27, and the number received 21. 6,100 letters were dealt with in the Returned Letter Branch, of which 1,704 were returned to the countries of origin, and 4,396 to the writers.

The money orders issued amounted to £7,488, and the orders issued elsewhere and paid here £2,088. British postal orders were sold to the amount of £1,310, and paid to the amount of £415.

The inland postal orders issued only amounted to £37 14*s.*

In August last a contract was made between the Crown Agents and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for a mail service between certain of the West Indian Colonies. The

itinerary provided for a service every four weeks between St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, and other Northern Islands. A provisional fortnightly service was also provided for by the S.S. "Yare." Towards the end of the year, however, the mails from Europe had to be brought from Barbados by chance opportunities involving delay in their receipt.

(B.) Telephones.

The system consists of 112½ miles of trunk line, 54¾ miles of branch lines, or a total of 167¼ miles.

The lines were maintained in good working order throughout the year, and a sum of £218 16*s.* was expended on reconstruction and improvements.

On 31st December there were 110 subscribers, as compared with 111 in 1905.

The receipts were £564 17*s.* 11*d.*, being £13 12*s.* 11*d.* more than in 1905, and the expenditure £1,072 13*s.* 3*d.*, or £507 15*s.* 4*d.* in excess of the revenue.

The expenditure included £500 paid for the purchase of the military telephone system and stores, which were taken over by the Government on the removal of the troops.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Changes in the Civil Establishment included the departure of Sir R. B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., who had been Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands since November, 1900. Having completed his term of office, he left the Government on 14th November on three months' leave prior to his retirement. Pending the appointment of his successor, Mr. Cork, C.M.G., the Administrator of St. Lucia, by virtue of his dormant Commission, assumed the Government as Acting Governor.

Other important changes were the appointment on 5th April of Mr. P. M. C. Sheriff as Chief Justice in succession to Mr. J. B. Walker, who had been transferred to Grenada; and the resignation on 31st October of Mr. Edward Bateson, the Attorney-General, a successor to whom had not been appointed by the end of the year.

A severe earthquake occurred on the 16th February, 1906, which did considerable damage to property. The shock was felt all over the Colony but with greater violence in Castries and in the northern part of the island, where the seat of the disturbance appeared to be chiefly located. All the public buildings in the town sustained injury to some extent. The walls of the Treasury premises were badly cracked and had to be shored up until they could be repaired. The Male Prison was

seriously damaged and the Keeper's quarters rendered uninhabitable. The churches and many private dwellings received injury, and in some cases broken walls had to be taken down and rebuilt, while much loss occurred in the shops from the destruction of bottled liquor, crockery, and other breakable goods that were thrown from shelves and destroyed. Fortunately no person received any hurt from falling *débris*. The shock took place early in the afternoon, which probably saved the chance of further loss by fire which might have happened had the earthquake occurred in the night-time.

The Colony having been happily free from such occurrences for a great number of years, the event produced much alarm, which lasted for some while owing to the recurrence of further disquieting shocks, though of no severity, that continued at intervals. These mild disturbances were not felt, as a rule, beyond the quarter extending from Castries to Gros Islet, and they gradually diminished in frequency as time passed.

While the removal of the Imperial garrison has thrown back the Colony on its own natural resources, the island is fortunate in possessing many opportunities in favour of great future prosperity. Only a small portion of the available land is at present under cultivation, and there are large areas in untouched localities suitable for the production of every description of economic produce that can be grown in the West Indies. There is plenty of land suitable for growing cocoa, and large areas that are well adapted for the lime industry as well as for rubber planting, while the lower lands, in many directions lying near the sea coast, offer favourable selections for the Sea Island cotton industry.

It is specially characteristic of St. Lucia that the island possesses suitable soils within easy access in different parts that are favourable to extensive cultivation of various products. From this point of view it has exceptional capabilities for agricultural development as its resources are not limited to any particular industry.

Apart from the sugar lands occupied by the four central factories, there are large tracts that can be taken up for cocoa or limes or any other tropical-paying cultivation. The land is comparatively cheap, and in these respects it may be said that St. Lucia offers many exceptional advantages to settlers of moderate capital.

There is a daily steam coastal service on the leeward side of the island between Castries and Vieux Fort at the extreme southern end, with several intermediate places of call. This provides a quick and easy means of communication and transport, and brings the out-districts in that extensive quarter into close touch with Castries.

Another factor in the prosperity of the Colony is the importance of Castries as a coaling station. The Port affords quick

facilities for supplying bunker coal and fresh water alongside the wharves. The shipping statistics indicate an increasing trade. 617 steamers called during the year, and 83,733 tons of bunker coal were taken.

The fine military buildings in the neighbourhood of Castries that are now no longer required for the purposes for which they were built, offer an excellent opportunity for the establishment of hotel accommodation for tourists to the West Indies. The new and commodious brick buildings at the Vigie are especially well adapted for such a project. The Vigie is a narrow promontory jutting out from Castries, and forms the northern arm of the harbour. The climate is dry and cool and extremely healthy. There is excellent sea-bathing, and the town of Castries is within a few minutes' reach by boat across the harbour or by easy carriage road. Enterprise in this direction, if well advertised in Canada and in the United States, would probably have most successful results.

The mail steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company from England, the steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company from New York, and the Pickford and Black steamers from Canada, call regularly, while the frequent visits of other steam vessels place the Colony in constant communication with the outer world.

E. LABORDE,

Administrator (Acting).

24th October, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 555.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 510.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
February, 1908.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729-19] *Price 2d.*

CONTENTS.

		PAGE.
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industry	11
III.	Legislation	19
IV.	Education	20
V.	Government Institutions	20
VI.	Judicial Statistics	23
VII.	Vital Statistics	24
VIII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services ...	26
IX.	Military Forces and Expenditure	27
X.	General Observations	27

No. 555.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 510.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
6th January, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1906-7, prepared by Mr. D. T. Tudor, Acting Administrator.

I have, &c.,

RALPH WILLIAMS,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 24282 2/08 D & S 5 31220

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of revenue and expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads, for the years 1905-6 and 1906-7, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years, 1902-3 to 1906-7:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1906-7 *and* 1905-6.

Heads of Revenue.	1906-7.	1905-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs:—				
Import	10,549 7 10	9,771 11 9	777 16 1	—
Export	669 8 10	619 5 11	50 2 11	—
2. Port and Harbour Dues:—				
Tonnage..	638 7 3	562 8 6	75 18 9	—
Port	110 10 0	128 10 0	—	18 9 0
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:—				
Licences—Liquor	364 15 0	409 10 0	—	44 15 0
Do. Other	1,097 17 3	1,271 13 9	—	173 16 7
Excise	3,454 10 10	3,806 18 0	—	352 7 2
Land and House Tax	3,067 12 8	3,131 18 10	—	64 6 2
Income Tax	529 18 3	506 1 11	23 16 4	—
Other Internal Revenue	617 0 3	730 1 8	—	113 1 5
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,272 9 10	1,362 16 6	—	90 6 8
5. Post Office..	884 4 3	1,090 14 3	—	206 10 0
6. Telephones	404 13 10	414 16 10	—	10 3 0
7. Rent of Government Property ..	60 0 0	25 0 0	35 0 0	—
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans ..	529 4 0	614 2 6	—	84 18 6
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	65 18 7	37 14 9	28 3 10	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands..	406 13 2	444 4 8	—	37 11 6
Total Local Revenue ..	24,722 11 10	24,927 18 10	990 17 11	1,196 4 11
Parliamentary Grants—				
In aid of Agricultural Department	1,308 16 7	1,222 0 0	86 16 7	—
In aid of deficit	—	750 0 0	—	750 0 0
Total General Revenue	26,031 8 5	26,899 18 10	1,077 14 6	1,946 4 11

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1906-7 *and* 1905-6.

Heads of Expenditure.	1906-7.	1905-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	709 15 0	630 0 0	79 15 0	—
2. Pensions	1,714 6 1	1,684 17 8	29 8 5	—
3. The Governor	885 19 4	901 6 8	—	15 7 4
4. Government Office	1,230 18 4	1,305 0 6	—	74 2 2
5. Treasury, Customs and Excise ..	1,564 19 10	1,425 9 4	139 10 6	—
6. Audit Department	286 13 7	309 5 0	—	22 11 5
7. Legal Departments	1,666 0 3	1,859 12 9	—	193 12 6
8. Police and Prisons	3,039 13 1	2,916 16 10	122 16 3	—
9. Medical Department	1,535 11 3	1,613 10 9	—	77 19 6
10. Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,572 3 5	2,824 19 5	—	252 16 0
11. Poor Relief	698 12 2	792 16 6	—	94 4 4
12. Education	1,496 10 8	1,484 11 11	11 18 9	—
13. Post Office..	757 15 11	718 13 4	39 2 7	—
14. Telephone Department	335 8 7	333 8 4	2 0 3	—
15. Miscellaneous	919 15 7	1,532 0 7	—	612 5 0
16. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	597 13 3	607 0 10	—	9 7 7
17. Public Works Department	502 15 11	546 18 5	—	44 2 6
18. Do. do. Recurrent	2,485 6 1	2,455 14 8	29 11 5	—
19. Do. do. Extraordinary ..	247 16 7	398 2 1	—	150 5 6
20. Agricultural Department	255 2 2	285 2 6	—	30 0 4
Total Local Expenditure ..	23,502 17 1	24,625 8 1	454 3 2	1,576 14 2
Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds).	1,146 17 3	1,285 17 0	—	138 19 9
Total General Expenditure..	24,649 14 4	25,911 5 1	454 3 2	1,715 13 11

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1902-3 *to* 1906-7.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1902-3.	Local	25,931		Local	25,758	
	Imperial Grant	3,361		Imperial Grant	2,632	
			29,292			28,390
1903-4.	Local	20,944		Local	26,657	
	Imperial Grant	5,572		Imperial Grant	1,458	
			26,516			28,115
1904-5	Local	22,448		Local	25,228	
	Imperial Grant	5,818		Imperial Grant	1,287	
			28,266			26,515
1905-6.	Local	24,928		Local	24,625	
	Imperial Grant	1,972		Imperial Grant	1,286	
			26,900			25,911
1906-7.	Local	24,723		Local	23,503	
	Imperial Grant	1,308		Imperial Grant	1,146	
			26,031			24,649

The total local revenue of the Colony for the year 1906-7 was £24,723, being £480 more than the estimate and £206 less than the receipts of the previous year.

The gross excess of receipts over estimate was £1,054, of which £599 was under the head of "Customs," and the gross deficiency on estimated receipts was £574, of which £295 was under "Excise" and £60 under "Liquor Licences," the result being a net increase over estimate of £480 as above stated.

On a comparison of the revenue details of 1906-7 with those of the previous year, it will be seen that there was a satisfactory increase in the customs revenue during the year, both under import and export. The increase of £778 in the receipt of import duties shows that the spending capacity of the community has been materially enlarged; whilst the advance of £50 in the receipt of export duties is most significant, especially when one bears in mind the very low rate of these duties in this Colony. Both of these totals provide direct and forcible evidence of a substantial improvement in the financial conditions and unprecedented development of agriculture in St. Vincent.

The decrease in the total amount of port dues is principally attributable to the fact that an important line of steamers have ceased to make their fortnightly calls at our port in Kingstown.

The gross revenue, including the Parliamentary grant of £1,308 in aid of the annual grant for Botanic Station and Agricultural School, was £26,031.

The expenditure of the Colony for the year was £23,503 (as against an estimate of £25,034), and a further amount of £1,146 was spent out of the Imperial Grant on upkeep of the agricultural institutions.

The corresponding figures of expenditure in 1905-6 were £24,625 and £1,286.

Comparison with the previous year's expenditure is most satisfactory, although it shows an increased expenditure of £79 on account of public debt, the liability on which had up to last year been lessening annually; the present increase has arisen on account of the Crown Lands Roads Loan, the first repayments on which have now begun to fall due. By similar comparison, an increase of £139 is to be noted against the "Treasury," due principally to higher emoluments, and an increase of £122 against "Police," caused by a larger purchase of new uniforms.

On the other hand, substantial savings appear under other heads of expenditure, notably, £193 from reduction in salaries against the "Legal Department," £252 from the exercise of general economy in "Hospitals and Dispensaries," and a net saving of £165 in Public Works under the three heads 17, 18, and 19. The large decrease of £612 against the heading "Miscellaneous" is somewhat illusory as it is only made apparent after comparing these returns with the previous year's; which latter returns included two extraordinary items

whereunder the bad debts due by the towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown, amounting to £425, were remitted, the explanation for which remission is set forth in last year's report.

The net result of the year's working is therefore:—

	£
Actual local revenue	24,723
Actual local expenditure	23,503
So further increasing the surplus by	£1,220

as against an estimated deficit, for the year, of £739.

This estimated deficit, if realised, could have been paid out of the Colony's Surplus Fund; hence it was that it had not been found necessary to apply this year for an Imperial Grant in aid of such anticipated shortage.

(B.) Taxation.

No changes took place during the year under review.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

An examination of the statement subjoined shows an excess of assets of £2,964.

At 31st March, 1906, the account showed an excess of assets of £1,744.

(Table

Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DEPOSITS:						
Savings Bank	12,511	0	2			
Police Reward Fund	19	4	3			
Georgetown Town Fund	12	4	11			
Layou Town Fund		19	3			
Barrouallie Town Fund	15	5	5			
Hurricane Loan "Special Fund" ...	2,636	4	10			
Roads and Land Settlement Fund ...	5,848	1	5			
Permanent Investment (Eruption Fund).	25,000	0	0			
Restoration and Improvement Current Account (Eruption Fund).	4,245	12	8			
Alexander Fund...	1,071	16	11			
Graham Fund	690	9	9			
Cotton Cultivation Fund	106	6	7			
The Imperial Agricultural Department	314	1	2			
Cotton Factory—Working Account ...	185	7	6			
Veterinary Surgeon Fund	117	13	9			
Stock Improvement Fund	248	14	1			
Other Deposits	50	17	11			
				53,074	0	7
INTER-COLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of Grenada				239	17	11
Post Office Account				575	6	9
Total Liabilities*				53,889	5	3
Excess of Assets				2,963	11	8
				£56,852	16	11

* The Public Debt is £4,150. The Colony is also responsible for the Treasury, which is at date £13,665 9*s.* 0*d.*

Examined and found correct,

WM. CUDDEFORD,
Auditor.

Audit Office, St. Vincent,
19th July, 1907.

3.)

Colony of Saint Vincent at 31st March, 1907.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest				375	3	2
Colonial Bank on Current Account ...				2,092	16	7
INVESTMENTS:						
Savings Bank Funds	11,997	6	9			
Hurricane Loan "Special Fund" ...	1,994	16	7			
Roads and Land Settlement Fund ...	4,885	0	9			
Permanent Investment (Eruption Fund).	25,000	0	0			
Restoration and Improvement Current Account (Eruption Fund).	4,359	12	2			
Alexander Fund...	1,021	0	9			
Graham Fund	598	7	10			
				49,856	4	10
ADVANCES:						
Kingstown Town Fund	112	5	6			
Calliaqua Town Fund	3	2	8			
Chateaubelair Town Fund	6	10	2			
Bequia Town Fund	5	11	9			
Other Advances	302	0	0			
				429	10	1
INTER COLONIAL ACCOUNTS:						
Government of St. Lucia				87	3	4
Drafts and Remittances				2,396	1	7
Crown Agents, Current Account ...	115	17	4			
" " Deposit Account ...	1,500	0	0			
				1,615	17	4
				£56,852	16	11

unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial

Treasury, St. Vincent,
4th June, 1907.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Treasurer.

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1907, stood at £4,150, as against £4,650 at the end of the previous financial year. Of the above sum, however, the amount for which Colonial revenue is actually liable is £800 only. The remainder, though guaranteed by the Colony, is repayable from the municipal funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown.

(E.) Currency.

Sterling money of Great Britain, and British silver and copper coins constitute the legal money for tender in the Colony; although American gold is occasionally found in circulation and the notes of the Colonial Bank are most commonly used in the larger daily monetary transactions.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

(F.) and (G.) Finances of Municipalities or Public Boards.

The management of the affairs of the town of Kingstown is vested in a Board, one half of the members of which body are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by Wardens, appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,495	1,873*	1,657	1,664	1,708
Georgetown	179	90	164	137	105
Chateaubelair	31	27	23	32	34
Calliaqua	40	36	31	38	35
Barrouallie	33	38	29	33	40
Layou	22	28	16	19	18
Bequia	6	6	15	11	10

* Inclusive of £201, 1902 revenue, not passed to account till 3rd January, 1903.

Expenditure.

Town.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,637	1,609	1,650	1,472	1,698
Georgetown	204	137	120	103	102
Chateaubelair	33	31	26	24	28
Calliaqua	27	33	40	24	52
Barrouallie	60	20	27	20	34
Layou	17	23	34	19	12
Bequia	5	7	4	10	27

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at 31st March, 1907, are as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	2,700	
Kingstown town improvement ...	300	
		3,000
Georgetown water supply		350
		£3,350

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown water supply loan is being repaid at a rate varying from £200 to £400 per annum, the town improvement loan at the rate of £50 per annum, and the Georgetown loan by annual instalments of £50.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statement gives the value of the chief articles of imports in 1906-7 and the two previous years:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.		
	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
Class I.—	£	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	605	448	382
Biscuits	1,780	2,042	1,611
Butter	1,688	1,518	1,654
Coffee	201	315	357

Imports—cont.

Chief Articles.	Value.		
	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.
Class I.—*cont.*	£	£	£
Fish, salted, &c.	5,671	4,875	5,954
Flour, wheaten	7,951	7,864	8,386
Flour, other kinds	445	513	567
Oilmeal and cake	362	368	345
Pork, salted	2,056	1,922	1,917
Rice	2,399	2,179	2,279
Salt	458	426	315
Sugar, muscovado	54	333	126
Sugar, refined	436	508	436
Sugar, crystallised	370	363	212
Wine	601	623	570
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated ...	1,092	986	939
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	949	971	889
Spirits	908	826	868
Class II.—			
Manure	12	181	581
Petroleum oil	1,179	1,211	1,383
Timber and shingles	4,158	2,595	7,000
Class III.—			
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage and canvas.	16,262	15,185	16,581
Metal, manufactured	4,385	4,822	5,922
Boots and shoes	855	740	958
Cement	498	398	467
Rope, cordage and canvas	1,326	745	1,134
Soap	1,498	1,375	1,569
Articles unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures.	4,200	2,822	2,817

Generally speaking, trade has been very brisk during the year, and the importation of foodstuffs has increased, particularly in fish and flour, the respective values of which were £1,079 and £576 above the previous year's importations; but, on the other hand, the values of biscuits and sugar show decreases, being respectively £431 and £430 below the previous year's valuations.

All the chief articles enumerated under Class II. and under Class III. were imported in larger quantities, and an especially large rise is to be noted in building materials, timber and shingles having amounted to the value of £7,000. The imported timber, alone, amounted in value to £4,144, and of this a quantity, valued at £944, was exported to neighbouring colonies.

The figures given in the annual report of the Supervisor of Customs show an increase in value of imports of £8,911 com-

pared with the figures of 1905-6, the distribution being as follows:—

		£
Increase from the United Kingdom	...	1,655
" " British Colonies	...	2,179
" " Foreign Countries	...	5,077
		£8,911

The returns under "British Colonies" show a marked change in the origin of importation; there having been a decrease of £3,411 from British West Indies, but an increase of £5,558 from British North America.

The value of the principal exports is given in the annexed table:—

Exports.

Articles.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7
	£	£	£
Cassava starch	1,379	1,531	1,439
Whale oil	437	254	250
Turtle shell	341	551	433
Firewood	627	685	493
Cotton and cotton seed	4,857	8,280	18,949
Vegetables	2,340	3,545	2,690
Manure	97	57	14
Syrup	648	344	452
Sugar, muscovado	9,777	3,793	3,555
Pease	458	379	689
Molasses...	652	895	1,111
Rum	204	431	—
Ground-nuts	1,258	2,444	1,929
Live stock	3,993	5,076	5,192
Fresh fruit	227	75	38
Farine	343	378	286
Arrowroot	20,674	20,522	24,351
Cocoa	2,255	2,426	3,838

It was noted with satisfaction in last year's report that the value of exported cotton during the year then under review was nearly double what it had been in the previous year (1904-5). The most remarkable features in this return are that, although the record of exported cotton is now more than double even the previous year's increased record, the exportation of arrowroot in no way suffered, for the figure under this head has increased by nearly 20 per cent., and moreover that cocoa was also exported to a very much larger extent, showing an increase of more than 25 per cent.

The values of exported cassava starch, vegetables, and ground-nuts were very satisfactory, although they do not equal the grand totals achieved in the previous year.

The decrease under "Vegetables" is entirely due to the comparatively small exportation of sweet potatoes which was less by £831 than in the previous year. This decrease was accompanied by a considerable drop in the exportation of fresh fruit. As these products are mainly shipped by the peasantry class it would seem as if the cultivation of cotton is found to be more attractive.

Much less firewood was exported during the year, the value of exports of this class having been £141 less than the average amount exported during the previous three years, and £192 less than in 1905-6.

The increase of £116 in the value of live stock exported is to be attributed solely to a brisker trade in the exportation of pigs, because this trade shows an excess in value, over the previous year's figures, of £648; whilst the horses and sheep exported were lower in value respectively by the sums of £219 and £148. The presence of anthrax in St. Vincent has had, as explained in previous reports, and will probably continue to have, a discounting influence upon the exportation of the larger and more valuable kinds of live stock, although the islands of the Grenadines now enjoy complete immunity from the disease.

Sugar shows a lower return, as regards value, although the weight exported was greater than in the previous year. No rum was exported during the year.

The total imports and exports for the five years 1902 to 1906-7 are given below:—

Imports.

Classes.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	37,861	31,643	32,534	31,575	32,000
II. Raw materials... ...	11,292	10,076	8,628	6,566	12,268
III. Manufactured articles	29,970	36,134	33,076	30,956	33,740
Totals	79,123	77,853	74,238	69,097	78,008

Exports.

Classes.	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	38,781	33,023	43,374	40,935	46,393
II. Raw materials... ...	3,201	3,572	6,648	10,289	21,899
III. Manufactured articles	2,112	1,579	1,880	1,854	15,463
Totals	44,094	38,174	51,902	53,078	83,755

By comparison with previous year's returns, and allowing for the large importations of relief and other stores consequent upon the distress following the eruptions of 1902-3, these totals, it is claimed, are entirely satisfactory and indicative of sound progression, notwithstanding that the total now extended opposite Class III. under Exports includes a sum of £13,200 representing shipments of specie.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1902 to 1906-7 are shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

—	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	24,579	31,146	28,816	25,471	27,126
British Colonies	25,107	26,162	29,562	30,691	32,870
Foreign Countries	29,437	20,545	15,860	12,935	18,012
Totals	79,123	77,853	74,238	69,097	78,008

Exports.

—	1902.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	22,333	19,204	22,192	24,405	39,878
British Colonies	15,146	16,470	26,881	27,920	43,184
Foreign Countries	6,615	2,499	2,829	753	693
Totals	44,094	38,173	51,902	53,078	83,755

The shipments of specie, above mentioned, were consigned mainly to British Colonies, £12,400 having seen sent to other West Indian Colonies, whilst only £800 of the total £13,200, was sent to the United Kingdom.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The Grenadines Whale Fishery was again a failure. The export of whale oil was only 5,824 gallons, valued at £250, as against 6,482 gallons of the value of £254 in 1905-6.

The Central Cotton Ginnery erected in 1903-4 still remains under the successful management of the officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. The rate charged for ginning and baling is fixed at 1*d* per lb., and at this low rate a considerable profit results after paying for labour and other outgoings.

The lint again secured the highest price in the English market, which fact is in a great measure due to the care and expert supervision bestowed on the ginning and preparation of the produce for export.

The disintegrator for crushing cotton seed was not used, and practically all of the seed produced locally was sent to Barbados for sale. It is much to be regretted that this should be the case, but it is difficult to see how it can be altered until effective oil-extraction machinery has been erected in the Colony.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

The advance, noted under this head in previous reports, has continued most satisfactorily.

The Agricultural Department distributed a large number of economic plants, *i.e.*, 10,134; but this total is somewhat lower than that of previous seasons, owing to the planters' attention and efforts having been directed more to cotton cultivation than to the cultivation of permanent crops.

The export of cacao showed a substantial increase in volume, and higher prices were obtained for this class of produce. The number of bags shipped during the year was 1,129, as against 789 in the previous year and in marked contrast to the smaller returns of preceding years, and especially to that of 1900 when only 443 bags were shipped. Moreover, a considerable amount of cacao is always consumed locally by the peasant and labouring classes.

The cultivation of Sea Island cotton has advanced in a very marked degree. The total acreage planted was about 1,534 acres as against 790 in 1905-6, and the yield was also better. "Anthracnose" disease made its appearance in the bolls, and leaf-blister mite late in the season, but on the whole the damage done to the plants was not serious.

The exports of Sea Island cotton during the financial year amounted to 225,632 lbs., the crop for the whole season having been estimated at 252,104 lbs.; and practically all the exported cotton was ginned at the Central Cotton Factory by the Agricultural Department.

The prices realised were very satisfactory on the whole; no less than 31 pence per lb. having been obtained for a few bales, whilst a considerable number sold at 30 pence. The average price for white lint was from 27 pence to 28 pence per lb.

The value of the exports in cotton and cotton-seed amounted to £18,949, cotton thus maintaining its place as second in importance on the list of St. Vincent exports.

The sugar industry is being rapidly replaced by cotton in every direction. An effort was made to encourage the pro-

duction of "fancy" molasses for the Canadian market, but with partial success only.

Although the weight of sugar exported during the year showed a slight increase over that of the previous year, yet its estimated value was less; the sugar shipped having been 967,445 lbs., valued at £3,516, as against the shipment in 1905-6 of 786,293 lbs., valued at £3,794.

The large areas of land devastated by the eruptions of the Soufrière (1902-3), were not cultivated to any extent during the year under review, but I am glad to state that, at the time of writing this report, some few more hundreds of acres in that locality are once again being put into cultivation in sugar-cane, arrowroot, pigeon-peas, and cotton. The remark made in last year's report, to the effect that cotton cultivation in this district had so far been only a partial success must be repeated in connection with this year's working.

The continuous recurrences of "sporadic" cases of anthrax and the consequent prohibition by the Government of neighbouring colonies of the shipment thereto of cattle from St. Vincent, have continued to cause much anxiety, inconvenience, and loss. This Government and the Imperial Department of Agriculture, who took the matter in hand, were successful in obtaining, temporarily, the services of Professor H. E. Annett, of the Liverpool School of Pathology, to investigate the disease and advise as to the best measures for stamping it out; and a Government veterinary surgeon was subsequently added to the official staff. Certain other and practical measures for fighting the disease have been resorted to and energetically carried out, such as the vaccination of all kinds of stock, the microscopic examination of the ears of every animal which dies, and the proper disposal of all diseased carcasses. Most of the neighbouring colonies accepted stock which had been vaccinated, some even without an interval of quarantine, and so the scheme received practical as well as moral support.

On the Land Settlement estates, progress continued to be made in the cultivation of the land.

A number (8,363) of economic plants, cacao, nutmeg, coffee, &c., was distributed free amongst the allottees, of which plants a proportion was raised on nurseries in the Linley and Cumberland Valleys.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The price of ordinary Crown land is £1 per acre for cash, and £2 if paid in instalments. A certain area is rented out in small lots at 6*s*. 3*d*. an acre.

The law governing the disposition and administration of these lands was consolidated and simplified.

The amount of Crown land proper granted during 1906-7 was 253 acres, the number of grants issued being 55, as against 47 in the previous year; while of eruption lands (the latter being the estates acquired from the Eruption Fund in 1902 for location of refugees, on which, however, there were numerous tenants found, many of whom have since acquired their holdings) grants were issued to 131 persons, of which 34 were for small lots and 97 for house-spots.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands, not including eruption estates, was £407, as against £444 in the previous year; whilst the revenue from the eruption lands aggregated £233, as against £208 in the previous year.

(E.) Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1905-6 and 1906-7 is annexed, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping for the last five years. These figures do not include ships-of-war, of which two British and two French visited the Colony during the year:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1905-6.				1906-7.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	460	10,151	452	10,419	394	9,563	386	9,545
United States ...	1	756	1	756	1	720	1	720
Venezuelan ...	8	227	6	172	1	18	1	18
Dutch	4	244	4	244	3	185	3	185
French	—	—	—	—	1	457	1	457
Totals ...	473	11,378	463	11,591	400	10,943	392	10,925

Steamers.

Nationality.	1905-6.		1906-7.	
	Inwards and Outwards.		Inwards and Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	166	222,477	99	143,145
Norwegian ...	1	1,298	—	—
Totals ...	167	223,775	99	143,145

The large decrease appearing in this latter table was caused by one important line of steamers having ceased in the month of July to call here. For two years prior to July this line had maintained a fortnightly connection with St. Vincent, but the company owning these steamers (viz., Messrs. Scruttons Direct Line) have abandoned this port.

Total Shipping for last Five Years.

—	1902.	January, 1903, to March, 1904.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	190,211	217,601	249,341	235,153	154,088
Outwards	190,348	217,876	249,246	235,366	154,070
Totals	380,559	435,477	498,587	470,519	308,158

III.—LEGISLATION.

During the year 1906 seventeen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, some of which are unusually important. Ordinance No. 8, "The Criminal Evidence Ordinance," and Ordinance No. 15, "The Married Women's Property Ordinance," assimilated the law of the Colony with the more modern law of England, in relation to the subjects referred to in their short titles. Ordinance No. 14, "The Passenger Boats Ordinance," which amends the law by introducing fresh provisions for ensuring the safety of passengers in boats and small vessels on and around the coasts of the Colony, and Ordinance No. 11, "The Agricultural Products Protection Ordinance," which regulates the sale and purchase of certain valuable agricultural products, and which is designed to so check the common and rampant offence of prædial larceny, are also noteworthy enactments of great utility, whilst Ordinance No. 3, "The Crown Lands Ordinance," effected a much-needed consolidation of the laws relating to Crown lands. The remaining Ordinances deal with matters of comparatively minor importance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1905-6 and 1906-7 compare as follows:—

Number of schools	1905-6	27	1906-7	27
Number on roll	,,	4,945*	,,	4,876*
Average attendance	,,	2,488*	,,	2,162
		£		£
Government grant-in-aid	,,	1,348	,,	1,354

An examination of the schools was held from May to July by the Inspector of Schools, Grenada, on whom this duty devolves annually.

(B.) Secondary Education.

The grant-in-aid of this was withdrawn at the close of the financial year 1904-5 owing to financial stress.

(C.) Industrial, Technical, and Agricultural Schools.

The average number of pupils on the books of the Agricultural School was 23. The four vacancies which occurred during the year in consequence of boys leaving the school were filled with new boys; and boys who left found useful employment on estates in the island. It is satisfactory to record that the demand for boys trained at the school was greater than the supply, and that the object of the institution is, in this and other respects, being rapidly realised.

The work of the school continued to show progress during the year, and it is worthy of remark that a pupil of this school was recently awarded the First Prize in the competitive examination between the three West Indian Agricultural Schools at St. Vincent, Dominica, and St. Lucia.

A good deal of most useful work was done at the stock farm attached to the school. The animals purchased and kept at the farm were a thoroughbred horse stallion, donkey stallion, Ayrshire bull, and a grade Ayrshire cow, besides small stock of good breeds, and poultry.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

During the year there were 688 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 744 cases treated, as against a total of 794 in the previous year.

* During the March quarter of the year.

The daily average dropped to 52·4, from averages of 55·8, 55, and 65 in the previous three years.

The death-rate was 7·8 of the total cases.

Operations numbered only 238, as against 294 in the previous year.

The Medical Officer-in-Charge was greatly facilitated in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association, whose services continued to be of the greatest value.

(B.) Asylums.

Lunatics.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is available for detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies; other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the pauper asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is sent to the asylum at Grenada, but sometimes that institution has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were only 10 cases under treatment during the year (four being new admissions), of whom two were discharged cured, two died, and one was transferred to the Grenada Asylum.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 25, at a cost to the colony of £499 10*s*.

Lepers.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1906, was ten; one case was admitted and there were four deaths, leaving seven at the commencement of the new year.

There is no compulsory segregation.

(C.) Poor Houses.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, on a considerable elevation, commanding the town of Kingstown.

There were 108 inmates on 31st March, 1906, and the admissions and discharges in 1906-7 were:—

—	Male	Female.	Total.
Admissions ...	36	29	65
Discharged ...	16	14	30
Died	25	23	48
	41	37	78

leaving 95 on 31st March, 1907.

The total expenditure in 1906-7 was £969 on the institutions, including lepers and lunatics kept locally, as against £1,090 in 1905-6.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

(D.) Reformatories.

Nil.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The following is a statement of the work of the Bank for the last five calendar years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including Interest capitalised).
		£	£	£
1902	992	8,781	6,501	11,975
1903	987	6,587	6,171	12,653
1904	976	5,012	5,467	12,465
1905	933	4,883	5,276	12,232
1906	907	5,282	5,687	12,095

Up to 1900 the bank was established in Kingstown only, but in that year branches were opened at the small towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown.

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

		£		£
Kingstown,	31st Dec., 1905	11,258	31st Dec., 1906	10,914
Georgetown	,, ,,	488	,, ,,	635
Chateaubelair	,, ,,	486	,, ,,	546
	Totals	£12,232		£12,095

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £128 1*s*.

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1906, £11,698.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The St. Vincent police force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, late of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 48 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. In addition to their ordinary police work they are charged with many duties in connection with all such details of administration as excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges.

They are drilled and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles. The force also commenced a special and systematic course of musketry during the year, under the supervision of Captain Barker, the newly-appointed Staff Officer for the Windward Islands. In Kingstown they form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Town Board.

(B.) Prisons.

226 were committed to prison in the year—148 men, 66 women, and 12 juveniles. The daily average was 12, against 17·7 in the previous year.

Prisoners with sentences of over two years were sent to serve their time in the Penitentiary at Grenada.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1906-7 was 982, against 893 in the previous year.

Of the offences reported in 1906-7, 218 were for offences against the person, 75 were for prædial larceny, 136 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 553 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Courts was 680, against 601 in the previous year.

These convictions are classed as follows:—129 for offences against the person, 6 for malicious injuries to property, 54 for prædial larceny, 87 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 156 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., and 248 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—4 for offences against property, and 3 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—In the Inferior Courts, 119; in the Supreme Court, 3.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the colony was not in a position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1907, was 51,009. This figure, however, as explained in previous reports, is generally considered to be unreliable, as it takes no account of the flow of emigration which during the past two years has been very considerable in consequence of the exodus of labourers to Panama.

The births registered in 1906-7 were 1,768—856 male and 912 female—as against 1,709 in 1905-6. Of these, 1,018, or 57·57 per cent. were illegitimate.

Still-births were 104—37 legitimate and 67 illegitimate—the figures for the previous year having been 31 and 72 respectively.

Marriages were 141, a decrease of 55 on last year's figures, a decreased total which coincides with the increased percentage of illegitimacy. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.
Church of England ...	82	84	64
Roman Catholic... ...	24	10	23
Wesleyan...	83	96	46
Church of Scotland ...	13	6	6
Plymouth Brethren ...	—	—	2

The total registered deaths were 929, as against 775 in 1905-6, being 18·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, a general rate of mortality which, after taking into account the deplorably high rate of infant mortality, must be regarded as very favourable.

The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) reached no less a total than 311, being 33·5 per cent. of the whole. The similar figure in 1905-6 was 169, or 21·8 per cent.

(B.) Public Health.

A table of the causes of death, properly classified and stated, has been prepared under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Kingstown, Dr. C. W. Branch, and it may be interesting to quote in an abridged form the information it gives:—

Causes of Death.

General diseases (includes syphilis 119, tubercle 66, tetanus 37, malarial fevers 18)	356
Diseases of nervous system	36
,, ,, circulatory system	25
,, ,, respiratory ,, ...	51
,, ,, digestive ,, ...	132
Parasites	47
Age	87
Still-born	104
Other diseases	91
Total	929

(C.) Sanitation.

There is nothing special under this head to which to call attention. In the villages of the peasantry, the ideas and methods in sanitary matters are elementary in the extreme. In the towns things are passable.

(D.) Climate.

The rainfall for the year 1906-7 was 104·45 inches, as against 90·40 inches in 1905-6.

Rain fell on 292 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in one day was 3·18 inches, on 7th October.

June was the wettest month, with 16·88 inches, and April the driest, with only 1·63 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 78·3° F. Maximum for the year 90° F., in November, minimum, 63° F., in March.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

During the year very unsatisfactory and uncertain conditions prevailed in connection with the Royal Mail services between Europe and this colony; for although there was a regular service across the Atlantic to and from Barbados, the inter-colonial steam communication with that colony was always unpunctual, and indeed it ceased entirely for several weeks (June to August).

To add to these difficulties, Messrs. Scrutton's Direct Line of steamers, as stated above under "Shipping," discontinued their fortnightly service during the month of July.

All mails to and from Europe were carried to and from Barbados as ship-letters by such sailing or steam opportunities as from time to time presented themselves; and, although some little saving has resulted on public expenditure from not having to pay a mail subsidy during the year, it is a matter of general congratulation at the time of writing that a new inter-colonial mail service has been lately arranged and is only awaiting final ratification by the Imperial Parliament.

The mail service to and from Canada was renewed in July, 1906, for a further period of four years, with improved conditions. Under the new contract with Messrs. Pickford and Black's Steamship Company, which is generously supported and encouraged by the Imperial and Canadian Governments, St. Vincent now secures a 24-days' return service instead of the monthly service which formerly existed, and also gains extra facilities for communicating with all the most important West Indian colonies excepting Grenada. The weekly connection with Grenada was, however, continued by the arrangement whereunder our inland postal contractor for the Grenadines takes his sloop on to Carriacou, where he exchanges mails with the Grenada coasting steamer every week.

The inland postal system was also continued, whereunder the Windward district of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward district daily, and the Grenadines, as already stated, weekly.

The postal order system introduced in 1904 maintained its growing popularity, and there was a large increase in the numbers issued. The issue of orders for amounts exceeding 10*s.* 6*d.* was initiated during the year. In other respects the volume of the post office business was normal, except that the sale of stamps declined.

The revenue of the telephone department was £405, including £175 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £335. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair, on the Leeward side of the Island, and to Mesopotamia and Georgetown on the Windward side, about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

In March last active measures were set on foot towards the establishment of a volunteer reserve force, which are now developing in a satisfactory and practical manner; and in that month considerable impetus, more particularly in the way of firing exercise, occurred on the occasion of the first visit to this colony of the recently appointed military adviser, the Staff Officer of the Windward Islands.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In August, 1906, the appointment of Ralph Champneys Williams, Esquire, C.M.G., to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands was announced; and in October Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., paid his last visit to this colony prior to his retirement from the Governorship. That visit was for a period of four days, and His Excellency, our present Governor, arrived in the Windward Islands and passed through St. Vincent on his way to Grenada on the 15th of January. From October, 1905, until His Excellency's arrival, Philip Clarke Cork, Esquire, C.M.G., assumed the office of Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands by virtue of his Dormant Commission in that behalf.

During the year the expansion in all agricultural industries, especially in the cultivation of Sea Island cotton, was remarkable, and this development in the natural resources of the colony has materially improved the economical conditions of the people generally, whilst the bright prospects foreshadowed in last year's report have been fully realised up to date.

The colony's balance sheet discloses a sound position financially, as the surplus assets were increased during the past year by the sum of £1,220, making the grand total of assets amount to £2,964 at the 31st March, 1907. From these assets it is proposed to repay to the Imperial Treasury the sum of £1,441, which had been advanced to the colony by the mother country in aid of anticipated deficits in previous years, which deficits did not in fact ultimately accrue.

The present excess of assets in the local treasury is to be mainly attributed, however, to the long-continued policy of exercising strict economy and retrenchment in every detail of the local administration; in the course of exercising this policy, the grants which were formerly made towards the encouragement of secondary education in the colony have been stopped, and the annual subsidy of £400 hitherto paid to the Telegraph Company for supplying to the public daily bulletins of the world's news and of commercial quotations has been

discontinued. The colony's expenditure has also been largely curtailed by numerous reductions in the salaries voted for various public offices, and some saving incidentally arose during the past year from the temporary cessation in payment of the mail contract subsidy. It is hoped that, with the colony's returning prosperity and increasing public assets, the Government will, at no distant date, be in a position to relax its present frugal policy in certain directions without having again to avail itself of financial assistance which His Majesty's Government has, for so many years and in such large sums, accorded to the colony from the Imperial Exchequer.

The terrible effects of misery and devastation caused by the successive blows sustained from the hurricane of 1898 and the eruptions of the Soufrière in 1902-3 are, it is most gratifying to be able to report, fast disappearing, both morally and physically; and I think there is no question that, given a succession of seasons, under the present favourable conditions without any throw-back through the recurrence of a further catastrophe similar to either of those referred to above, the colony of St. Vincent will eventually be restored to its old-time sound position.

DANIEL T. TUDOR,

Administrator (acting).

31st December, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

524	Jamaica ...	1905–1906
525	Uganda ...	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon ...	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia ...	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate ...	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago ...	"
546	Grenada ...	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica ...	1906–1907
550	British Guiana ...	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia...	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906

MISCELLANEOUS.

42	Ceylon...	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do. do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
47	Do. do.	Do. 1905–6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do. 1906–7.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 577.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1907-8.

(For Report for 1906–7, *see* No. 555.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1908.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729-41.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	8
LEGISLATION	13
EDUCATION	13
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	14
JUDICIAL	16
VITAL STATISTICS	17
POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	19
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	20

No. 577.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1906–7, *see* No. 555.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Lucia,

21st August, 1908.

Forwarded.

P. C. CORK,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

Government House,

St. Vincent, 10th August, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for transmission to the Secretary of State, my report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1907-8.

I am, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Administrator.

His Excellency
P. C. Cork, C.M.G.,
Acting Governor of the Windward Islands,
&c., &c., &c.,
St. Lucia.

1125 Wt 24282 10/08 D & S 5 33740

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1907-8.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and table give the heads of revenue and expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads, for the years 1906-7 and 1907-8, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years, 1903-4 to 1907-8:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Statement of Revenue for the Years 1907-8 *and* 1906-7.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in the year 1906-7.	Amount collected in the year 1907-8.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs:—				
Import	10,549 7 10	12,167 2 11	1,617 15 1	—
Export	669 8 10	682 2 9	12 13 11	—
2. Port and Harbour Dues:—				
Tonnage..	638 7 3	629 17 1	—	8 10 2
Port	110 10 0	115 13 0	5 3 0	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:—				
Licences—Liquor	364 15 0	385 0 0	20 5 0	—
Do. Other	1,097 17 3	1,201 6 11	103 9 8	—
Excise	3,454 10 10	3,936 16 0	482 5 2	—
Land and House Tax	3,067 12 8	3,128 17 9	61 5 1	—
Income Tax	529 18 3	529 1 6	—	0 16 9
Other Internal Revenue	617 0 3	741 19 7	124 19 4	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,272 9 10	1,344 12 3	72 2 5	—
5 Post Office..	884 4 3	1,010 14 5	126 10 2	—
6. Telephones	404 13 10	453 18 10	49 5 0	—
7. Rent of Government Property ..	60 0 0	60 0 0	—	—
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans ..	529 4 0	660 0 1	130 16 1	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	65 18 7	35 16 1	—	30 2 6
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands..	406 13 2	460 9 3	53 16 1	—
Total Local Revenue ..	24,722 11 10	27,543 8 5	2,860 6 0	39 9 5
Parliamentary Grants—				
In aid of Agricultural Department	1,308 16 7	913 0 0	—	395 16 7
Total General Revenue	26,031 8 5	28,456 8 5	2,860 6 0	495 6 0

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1907-8 *and* 1906-7.

Heads of expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates.	Expenditure 1906–1907.	Expenditure 1907–1908.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	709 15 0	786 15 0	77 0 0	—
2. Pensions	1,714 6 1	1,706 4 8	—	8 1 5
3. The Governor	885 19 4	907 19 9	22 0 5	—
4. Government Office	1,230 18 4	1,215 16 2	—	15 2 2
5. Treasury, Customs, and Excise ..	1,564 19 10	1,402 19 1	—	162 0 9
6. Audit Department	286 13 7	331 2 9	44 9 2	—
7. Legal Departments	1,666 0 3	1,879 10 0	213 9 9	—
8. Local Forces	—	116 16 3	116 16 3	—
9. Police and Prisons	3,039 13 1	2,996 13 9	—	42 19 4
10. Medical Department	1,535 11 3	1,572 3 4	36 12 1	—
11. Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,572 3 5	2,470 4 1	—	101 19 4
12. Poor Relief	698 12 2	678 18 8	—	19 13 6
13. Education	1,496 10 8	1,493 17 3	—	2 13 5
14. Post Office..	757 15 11	956 16 5	199 0 6	—
15. Telephone Department	335 8 7	336 15 0	1 6 5	—
16. Miscellaneous	919 15 7	705 16 1	—	213 19 6
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	597 13 3	598 15 10	1 2 7	—
18. Public Works Department	502 15 11	536 8 4	33 12 5	—
19. Do. do. Recurrent	2,485 6 1	2,299 8 4	—	185 17 9
20. Do. do. Extraordinary ..	247 16 7	259 8 10	11 12 3	—
21. Agricultural Department	255 2 2	255 7 2	0 5 0	—
Total Local Expenditure ..	23,502 17 1	23,507 16 9	757 6 10	752 7 2
Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds).	1,146 17 3	1,144 16 4	—	2 0 11
Total General Expenditure..	24,649 14 4	24,652 13 1	757 6 10	754 8 1

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1903-4 *to* 1907-8.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1903–4.	Local	20,944		Local	26,657	
	Imperial Grant	5,572		Imperial Grant	1,458	
			26,516			28,115
1904–5.	Local	22,448		Local	25,228	
	Imperial Grant	5,818		Imperial Grant	1,287	
			28,266			26,515
1905–6.	Local	24,928		Local	24,625	
	Imperial Grant	1,972		Imperial Grant	1,286	
			26,900			25,911
1906–7.	Local	24,723		Local	23,503	
	Imperial Grant	1,308		Imperial Grant	1,146	
			26,031			24,649
1907–8.	Local	27,543		Local	23,508	
	Imperial Grant	913		Imperial Grant	1,145	
			28,456			24,653

The total local revenue of the Colony for the year 1907-8 was £27,543, being £2,983 more than the estimate and £2,820 more than the receipts of the previous year.

The total local expenditure, on the other hand, was £23,508, being £1,593 less than the estimate and just £5 more than the figure of the previous year.

The Colony thus made £4,035 clear profit on the year's working.

This result is due to a general revival of prosperity induced mainly by the growing success of the cotton industry and to some extent by the improved market for arrowroot.

The larger revenue returns from imports and excise are clear indications of increased spending power among the people, and the whole present outlook is distinctly encouraging, and a vast change from the conditions of a few years back, when a grant of some thousands from the Imperial Treasury had to be annually made to make good the local deficit.

No changes in taxation took place during the year under review.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets at 31st March, 1908, was £6,258.

At 31st March, 1907, the account showed an excess of £2,964. From this last sum, however, £741 is to be deducted, which amount was paid back to the Imperial Treasury on account of an excess of deficit grant received in previous years. The remainder, £2,223, with the £4,035 profit on the year added, gives the £6,258 above mentioned.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1908, stood at £3,550, as against £4,150 at the end of the previous financial year. Of the above sum, however, the amount for which the Colonial revenue is actually liable is £600 only, which will be redeemed by 1910. The remainder, though guaranteed by the Colony, is repayable from the municipal funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown.

In the same way the Colony is responsible for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which is £12,861 12*s*. 0*d*. This last is being steadily paid off by the borrowers at the rate of about £750 per annum to the local Government, by which annual payments are in turn made to the Imperial Treasury through the Crown Agents.

Currency.

Gold, American and British, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government's accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of the town of Kingstown is vested in a Board, one-half of the members of which body are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government. The small towns of the Colony are controlled by Wardens, appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns for the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,873*	1,657	1,664	1,708	1,706
Georgetown	90	164	137	105	108
Chateaubelair	27	23	32	34	34
Calliaqua	36	31	38	35	31
Barrouallie	38	29	33	40	45
Layou	28	16	19	18	19
Bequia	6	15	11	10	9

* Inclusive of £201, 1902 revenue, not passed to account till 3rd January, 1903.

Expenditure.

Town.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,609	1,650	1,472	1,698	1,758
Georgetown	137	120	103	102	108
Chateaubelair	31	26	24	28	28
Calliaqua	33	40	24	52	30
Barrouallie	20	27	20	34	31
Layou	23	34	19	12	9
Bequia	7	4	10	27	2

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at 31st December, 1907, were as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	2,400	
Kingstown town improvement ...	250	
		2,650
Georgetown water supply		300
		£2,950

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. The Kingstown water supply loan is being repaid at a rate varying from £200 to £400 per annum, the town improvement loan at the rate of £50 per annum, and the Georgetown loan by annual instalments of £50.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The following comparative statement gives the value of the chief articles of import in 1907-8 and the previous year:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1906–7.	1907–8.
Class I.—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	382	545
Biscuits	1,611	2,548
Butter...	1,654	1,711
Coffee	357	392
Fish, salted, &c.	5,954	5,911
Flour, wheaten	8,386	10,400
Flour, other kinds	567	708
Oilmeal and cake	345	435
Pork, salted	1,917	2,129
Rice	2,279	2,702
Salt	315	320
Spirits	868	981
Sugar, muscovado	126	139
Sugar, refined...	436	633
Sugar, crystallized	212	202
Wine	570	785
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated	939	1,262
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	889	1,038
Class II.—		
Manure	581	822
Petroleum oil...	1,383	1,400
Timber and shingles	7,000	7,270
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	16,581	22,021
Metal, manufactured	5,922	10,091
Boots and shoes	958	1,001
Cement	467	571
Rope, cordage, and canvas	1,134	1,540
Soap	1,569	1,747
Articles unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures.	2,817	3,979

These figures are clear evidence of the general improvement that has taken place.

The annual report of the Supervisor of Customs shows an increase in value of imports of £18,546 compared with the figures of 1906-7, the distribution being as follows:—

Increase from the United Kingdom ...	9,154
,, ,, British Colonies	9,565
	£18,719
Decrease from Foreign Countries ...	173
	£18,546

The direct import trade from Canada and the United States seems practically stationary, the figures being £8,273 and £16,686, respectively, as against £8,145 and £17,319 in 1906-7. The increase from the British West Indies is £9,450, made up chiefly of merchandize of United States origin obtained at Barbados.

The value of the principal exports is given in the annexed table:—

Exports.

Articles.	1906–7.	1907–8.
	£	£
Cassava starch	1,439	1,296
Whale oil	250	446
Turtle shell	433	4[illegible]9
Firewood	493	742
Cotton and cotton seed	18,949	33,133
Vegetables	2,690	2,213
Syrup	452	550
Sugar, muscovado	3,555	3,172
Pease	689	504
Molasses	1,111	889
Rum...	—	99
Ground-nuts	1,929	1,589
Live stock	5,192	4,781
Fresh fruit	38	65
Farine	286	174
Arrowroot	24,351	25,555
Cocoa	3,838	4,960

The satisfactory feature of the above is the large increase in the output of cotton, and the steady rise in the cocoa figure. The larger cotton cultivation accounts to some extent for the smaller export of vegetables, pease, ground-nuts, &c.

The total imports and exports for the five years 1903-4 to 1907-8 are given below:—

Imports.

Classes.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink &c.	31,643	32,534	31,575	32,000	38,864
II. Raw materials... ...	10,076	8,628	6,566	12,268	11,175
III. Manufactured articles	36,134	33,076	30,956	33,740	46,515
Total	77,853	74,238	69,097	78,008	96,554

Exports.

Classes.	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	33,023	43,374	40,935	46,393	45,972
II. Raw materials... ...	3,572	6,648	10,289	21,899	36,120
III. Manufactured articles	1,579	1,880	1,854	15,463*	12,173†
Total	38,174	51,902	53,078	83,755	94,265

* Includes £13,200 specie. † Includes £10,000 specie.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1903-4 to 1907-8 are shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

—	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	31,146	28,816	25,471	27,126	36,280
British Colonies	26,162	29,562	30,691	32,870	42,436
Foreign Countries	20,545	15,860	12,935	18,012	17,839
Total	77,853	74,238	69,097	78,008	96,554

Exports.

—	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	19,204	22,192	24,405	39,878	52,718
British Colonies	16,470	26,881	27,920	43,184	40,535
Foreign Countries	2,499	2,829	753	693	1,012
Tota	38,173	51,902	53,078	83,755	94,265

Manufactures and Fisheries.

The Grenadines whalers had a better year, and the export of whale oil rose from 5,824 gallons, valued at £250, in 1906-7, to 9,632 gallons, of the value of £446, in 1907-8.

The Central Cotton Ginnery erected in 1903-4 still remains under the successful management of the officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. The rate charged for ginning and baling is 1*d.* per lb., and the profit on the handling of the crop amounted to about £600.

The lint again secured the best price in the English market, but prices have unfortunately been very much lower than before, averaging from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* as against 1*s.* 11*d.* to 2*s.* 5*d.*

One new private ginnery has been established in Kingstown with three gins, which has been of assistance in handling the largely increased crop, and another, with two gins, is at work on the leeward side of the island.

The disintegrator for crushing cotton seed has been used to some extent, one proprietor having some forty odd tons of seed crushed for the purpose of manure for his cotton lands.

Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

Arrowroot still holds the first place in area of cultivation, but cotton this year has overtopped it in value as an export.

The Sea Island cotton export in 1907-8 was 388,833 lbs. as against 225,632 lbs. in the year previous, the area in cultivation being 3,200 and 1,534 acres respectively.

The yield did not quite come up to the anticipations, and planters are learning the lesson that land *must* be well selected, prepared, and manured, and the cultivation most scrupulously cared for in all stages if the best results are to be obtained.

It is greatly to be hoped that some improvement in price will take place before the next crop sales, and as the serious fall has been attributed to the general money disturbance occasioned by the recent American crisis, whereby the demand for the extra fine goods for which this quality of cotton is required has temporarily diminished, there are reasonable expectations that the sale conditions at the end of this year will be better.

The sugar industry may be said to be only just alive. Some cultivation there must always be for the sake of the rum manufacture, and as an incentive to attract and keep a supply of labour, but except for an output from the Carib country, where 160 odd acres have been put in by the proprietor in canes as a first step to the restoration of the land, the prospect of any large agricultural activity in this direction is practically nil.

As indicated, the proprietor of the Carib Country Estates has at last started on the work of restoration, and considerable progress in this direction has been made. A grant of £1,600 from the balance of the Eruption Fund to assist in

putting back the water supply canal, on which these lands are entirely dependent, was approved at the beginning of the present year, and the work is now nearly complete.

On the Land Settlement Estates matters are progressing fairly, and this year an appreciable quantity of cocoa from the various small holdings was marketed.

Anthrax still continues to be a serious trouble, and the question of the further action to be taken in dealing with it is now under consideration.

The Crown land which the Government has for disposal is nearly all mountain land, for the most part suitable for provision-grounds only. The price varies from £1 to something over £3 according to locality and nature of the land and whether purchase is arranged for by cash or instalments.

The amount of Crown land proper granted during 1907-8 was 68 acres, the number of grants issued being 21 as against 55 in the previous year; while of eruption lands (the latter being the estates acquired from the Eruption Fund in 1902 for location of refugees, on which, however, there were numerous tenants found, many of whom have since acquired their holdings) grants were issued to 34 persons, of which 33 were for small lots and one for a house-spot.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands, not including eruption estates, was £460, as against £407 in the previous year; whilst the revenue from the eruption lands aggregated £167, as against £233 in the previous year.

Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1906-7 and 1907-8 is annexed, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping for the last five years. These figures do not include ships-of-war, of which three British and one Italian visited the Colony during the year:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1906–7.				1907–8.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	394	9,563	386	9,545	410	11,575	410	10,180
United States ...	1	720	1	720	—	—	—	—
Venezuelan ...	1	18	1	18	2	36	2	36
Dutch	3	185	3	185	2	134	3	193
Norwegian ...	1	457	1	457	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	400	10,943	392	10,925	414	11,745	415	10,409

Steamers.

Nationality.	1906-7.				1097-8.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	99	143,145	99	143,145	96	135,533	96	135,533
Danish	—	—	—	—	4	6,379	4	6,379
Totals ...	99	143,145	99	143,145	100	141,912	100	141,912

Total Shipping for last Five Years.

—	January, 1903, to March, 1904.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1907-8.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards ...	217,601	249,341	235,153	154,088	153,657
Outwards ...	217,876	249,246	235,366	154,070	152,321
Totals ...	435,477	498,587	470,519	308,158	305,978

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eight Ordinances were passed during the year 1907, but none were of any major importance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1906-7 and 1907-8 compare as follows:—

—	1906-7.	1907-8.
Number of schools	27	27
Number on roll	4,876*	4,578*
Average attendance	2,162	2,265
	£	£
Government grant-in-aid	1,354	1,357

During the March quarter of the year.

The grant-in-aid of secondary education was withdrawn at the close of the financial year 1904-5 owing to financial stress. It is intended, however, to re-open a secondary school shortly with a resident master, who will combine this duty with those of Inspector of Schools.

The average number of pupils on the books of the Agricultural School was 24.

This institution is now beginning to be more largely appreciated, but it is unfortunate that the standards of intelligence and education of the boys whose parents apply for their admission are not higher. Notwithstanding this, however, the senior prize, offered for competition between the pupils of the senior classes at the three schools at St. Vincent, St. Lucia, and Dominica, was awarded to a St. Vincent pupil.

Two pupils left and took useful places on estates in the island.

The small stock farm continued to be worked satisfactorily and affords valuable opportunities for training the boys.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 610 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 656 cases treated, as against a total of 744 in the previous year.

The daily average was 55, as against 52·4, 55·8 and 55 in the previous three years.

The death-rate was 6·5 of the total cases.

Operations numbered 153 as against 238 in the previous year.

The Medical Officer-in-Charge is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association, whose services are of great value.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is available for detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies; other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the pauper asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is sent to the asylum at Grenada, but sometimes that institution has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were 15 cases under treatment during the year (ten being new admissions), of whom one was discharged cured, one died, and three were transferred to the Grenada Asylum. The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 28, at a cost to the Colony of £457.

The numbers of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1907, was 7, of whom one died during the year. There were no admissions. There is no compulsory segregation of lepers.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, on a considerable elevation commanding the town of Kingstown.

There were 95 inmates on 31st March, 1907, and the admissions and discharges in 1907-8 were:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	21	30	51
Discharged	8	10	18
Died	18	17	35
	26	27	53

leaving 93 on 31st March, 1908.

The total expenditure in 1907-8 was £919 on the poorhouse, including the cost of lepers and lunatics kept locally, as against £969 in 1906-7.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Savings Banks.

The following is a statement of the work of the Bank for the last five calendar years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors at 31st December (including Interest Capitalized).
		£	£	£
1903	987	6,587	6,171	12,653
1904	976	5,012	5,467	12,465
1905	933	4,883	5,276	12,232
1906	907	5,282	5,687	12,095
1907	1,010	7,629	6,757	13,247

Up to 1900 the bank was established in Kingstown only, but in that year branches were opened at the small towns of Chateaubelair and Georgetown.

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

	At 31st December, 1906	At 31st December, 1907
Kingstown	£10,914	£11,837
Georgetown	635	828
Chateaubelair	546	582
Totals	£12,095	£13,247

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £131.

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1907, £11,997.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The St. Vincent Police Force consisted of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, late of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 48 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. This number has been now increased to 50.

They are drilled and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles.

In addition to ordinary police work, they are charged with many duties in connection with current details of administration, such as excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges.

Furthermore, the Prison is worked entirely by the police, save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs at labour outside. A non-commissioned officer and a certain number of privates are told off from time to time for this duty, constant supervision being, of course, exercised by the sergeant-major and chief.

In Kingstown, a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Town Board.

It will thus be seen that the small force of police in St. Vincent have little time for idling, and to this in some measure is probably attributable their acknowledged efficiency.

In July of 1907, Mr. F. W. Griffith, who had been acting as Chief of Police since early in 1905, and whose energy and success in the suppression of illicit distillation has been marked, was confirmed in the office.

During the disturbances which occurred in April in the neighbouring island of St. Lucia, an armed force of 25 police from here, under command of the sergeant-major, were sent across at a day's notice to supplement the available force there. The men responded eagerly to the call, and behaved excellently, rendering useful assistance, which was much appreciated.

The number of committals to prison in the year was unusually large, namely, 221 men, 73 women, and 12 juveniles, in all 306. The daily average was 34·7, against 12 in the previous year.

No special reasons are assigned by the Chief of Police in his report for this increase, beyond the presence for five months of the time of sixteen prisoners from St. Lucia, convicted of participation in the riotous disturbance which took place there in April. It is not unusual, however, in the West Indies, to find the prison average rising with increased general prosperity.

The practice of sending prisoners with sentences of over two years to serve their time in the Penitentiary at Grenada was also discontinued.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1907-8 was 1,015, against 982 in the previous year.

Of the offences reported in 1907-8, 251 were for offences against the person, 50 were for prædial larceny, 169 were for offences against property other than prædial larceny; 545 were for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Courts is returned as 676, against 680 in the previous year.

These convictions are classed as follows:—117 for offences against the person, one for malicious injuries to property, 36 for prædial larceny, 108 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, 220 for offences against Revenue Acts, &c., and 194 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—7 for offences against property, and 5 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—In the Inferior Courts, 128; in the Supreme Court, 1.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. By the estimate

of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1908, was 51,779. This figure, however, as explained in previous reports, is generally considered to be unreliable, as it takes no account of the flow of emigration, which, during the past few years, has been very considerable in consequence of the exodus of labourers to Panama.

The births registered in 1907-8 were 1,668—849 male and 819 female—as against 1,768 in 1906-7. Of these, 947, or 56·77 per cent. were illegitimate.

Still births were 112—37 legitimate and 75 illegitimate; the figures for the previous year having been 37 and 67, respectively.

Marriages were 179, an increase of 38 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1907-8.
Church of England	84	64	78
Roman Catholic	10	23	22
Wesleyan	96	46	68
Church of Scotland	6	6	11
Plymouth Brethern	—	2	—

The total registered deaths were 898, as against 929 in 1906-7, being 17·34 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still births) was 230, being 25·61 per cent. of the whole. The similar figure in 1906-7 was 311, or 33·47.

The public health was more satisfactory than during the previous year. The following table of causes of death is interesting:—

Causes of Death.

General diseases (includes syphilis 154, tubercle 55, tetanus 27, malarial fevers 17)	345
Diseases of nervous system	30
,, ,, circulatory system	33
,, ,, respiratory ,, ...	35
,, ,, digestive ,, ...	162
Parasites	39
Age	70
Still-born	112
Other diseases	72
Total	898

The rainfall for the year 1907-8 was 93·17 inches, as against 104·45 inches in 1906-7.

Rain fell on 301 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in one day was 2·75 inches, on 15th November.

December was the wettest month, with 12·26 inches, and March the driest, with only 3·06 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 77·7° F. Maximum for the year 88° F., which was experienced, curiously enough, in April, October, November and February, and minimum, 64° F., in February.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service performed by the Royal Mail Steamers was discontinued for a few weeks in May and June, but has, since then, been regularly carried on, a new contract therefor extending over a period of ten years having been entered into in August last.

The steamers of the Pickford and Black Line from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, and occasional calls were made durng the year at the port of Kingstown by the steamers of the Direct and Quebec Steamship Lines.

A new line of steamers, the East Asiatic, from Copenhagen viâ London and the Danish West Indies, commenced calling at St. Vincent at the end of 1907.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward District of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward District daily and the Grenadines weekly.

The postal order system introduced in 1904 continued to make strides in popular favour, and there was a large increase in the numbers issued.

The volume of the post office business was in excess of that of the previous year.

The revenue of the telephone department was £454, including £175 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £337. The lines run from Kingstown to Chateaubelair, on the Leeward side of the island, and to Mesopotamia and Georgetown on the Windward side, about 24 miles either way, and the service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony in September, 1907, for a period of 21 days. During the absence on leave from June, 1907, to January, 1908, of the Administrator, Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., the local Government was administered by Mr. D. T. Tudor, Attorney-General of Grenada and St. Vincent.

As a result of the generosity of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, a very substantial Free Public Library Building, which will be a valuable addition to the Colony's institutions, was erected during the year by the Kingstown Board on a site belonging to that body in the town, and is now approaching completion.

Financially and industrially the year was a most satisfactory one.

The Colony has now been fairly extricated from the slough of impecuniosity in which it has been floundering for so many years. The financial returns show that a clear profit of over £4,000 was made during the year, and there are not wanting signs of further revenual expansion.

With a small but useful surplus of £6,000 in reserve and practically no debt, collections well in hand, and the contributory support of a variety of special funds, the income of which is available to supplement and so relieve current resources in certain directions, the pecuniary position of St. Vincent may, I think, be looked on as reasonably secure, for some years to come at any rate.

In arriving at this result, however, the Colony has, perforce, had to be somewhat starved; and it is pleasant, therefore, to record that the current year's Estimates make provision for various matters, such as further medical aid, secondary education, cable news subsidy, and other smaller amenities, which for some time past have had to be done without.

During the year 1907-8 the total area of land in the Colony under cultivation, including peasant agriculture, was larger than has been the case for very many years past.

The first steps were also taken last autumn towards resuscitation of the Carib Country, the large tract of valuable land at the north-east of the island that was devastated by the 1902 volcanic eruption, and at the present time the restoration of the destroyed water supply is almost complete. A large amount of labour has been and will continue to be employed here, and the local supply is scarcely equal to the demand.

The natural result of these conditions has been to place considerably more money in circulation, and to increase the purchasing power and comfort of the labouring class, bringing with such increase added contentment.

The policy of road-improvement which has been steadily pursued, and particularly the provision to the peasants of readier and improved means of access to and from the Crown and Land Settlement and other lands owned and worked by them, has certainly been a powerful contributing factor to

Ordnance Survey Office, Southan

this contentment. The latest work of this kind has been in the upper recesses of the Buccament Valley, where bush tracks have now been replaced by decent bridle-paths, down which a donkey-load of provisions may conveniently be brought, and which, moreover, admit of these lands and the general conditions being taken cognizance of by visiting officers.

A great deal, however, as regards the continuance and further development of the present quiet prosperity (I may now venture to use a term which strikes rather strangely on the ear in connection with St. Vincent), hinges on the future of the cotton industry and whether a more remunerative figure than that of last year will be forthcoming for the staple in the future, such as will encourage the estate owners to extend the cultivation and to expend on the land the requisite preparation, care, and supervision, with, of course, the attendant expense, which the industry demands to ensure its continued successful exploitation, and without which the quality of the product cannot be maintained.

It is unfortunate that the Colony is so little visited by the travelling public, but the present arrangements, under which the Royal Mail Steamers arrive at the port of Kingstown only at night, coupled with the absence of any first-class hotel accommodation, are serious obstacles to this. St. Vincent is an exceedingly beautiful and a very healthy island, with a good and pleasant climate, especially in the winter months; and it has the advantage over islands of similar mountainous formation, of considerable general accessibility, possessing a good carriage road for some 37 miles round the coast, and a regular net-work of easy bridle-roads through a large proportion of the interior.

In its Soufrière volcano it possesses a natural feature of absorbing interest. The ascent of this mountain is now quite easily compassed, and the magnificent prospect at the crater's summit is well worth the slight fatigue involved.

Lack of suitable accommodation off the beaten track is, of course, the drawback, but any enterprising traveller in good health and of reasonable activity and not too exigent, who may be wishful to have an experience of West Indian ways and scenes, might do much worse than spend a fortnight in investigating the many natural beauties which he will find here.

A sketch-map of St. Vincent is attached to this report, which has on it various notes of interest, and will serve to a fuller understanding by the average reader of the configuration, size, and settlement of the Colony and its exact location.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

25th July, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony &c.	Year.
543	Bahamas	1906–1907
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia...	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda...	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas...	"
576	Gambia	1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904–5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905–6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 579.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 553.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1908.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729-43.] *Price* 3*d*.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	9
LEGISLATION...	15
EDUCATION	16
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	17
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	20
VITAL STATISTICS	22
POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	24
GENERAL REMARKS...	25
SKETCH MAP.	

No. 579.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 553.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Lucia,
22nd August, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual report on the Blue Book of St. Lucia for the year 1907.

I have, &c.,

P. C. CORK,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 24282 10,08 D & S 5 33742 A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The finances are recovering from the condition of stringency in which they were involved by the sudden stoppage of military works three years ago and the subsequent abandonment of Castries as a garrison town. The ordinary revenue, which had been barely sufficient during the previous two years to meet an expenditure restricted severely within the narrowest limits, increased during the past year, in response partly to additional taxation, but in large measure to greater activity in trade and to agricultural prosperity, by over 14 per cent., not only covering the expenditure for the year, including heavy extraordinary expenses on account of a strike accompanied by disturbances, and a considerable outlay on a new road, but adding materially to the surplus. The surplus, which is nearly all invested in stocks or held in cash, now amounts to £25,400, with £2,600 invested as an insurance on public buildings, making the true surplus £28,000. The last contribution of £2,100 has been made for Interest and Sinking Fund on the Central Factory Loan of £30,000 incurred in 1875, thus securing a permanent relief on account of Debt Charges. The financial position of the Government has been greatly strengthened and may be considered satisfactory.

Tables are appended showing the Revenue and Expenditure for 1907-8 as compared with that for 1906-7.

Revenue.

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the years 1906-7 *and* 1907-8.

Heads of Revenue.	Actual Revenue 1906-7. £	s.	d.		Actual Revenue 1907-8. £	s.	d.
1. Customs	25,521	9	4	...	32,621	14	10
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	4,866	11	0	...	7,086	8	10
3. Licences, Excise, &c., and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	17,764	12	1	...	18,955	18	9
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements in Aid ...	3,710	8	2	...	3,510	9	4
5. Post Office	1,113	2	8	...	1,118	15	6
6. Telephone	606	11	2	...	625	19	5
7. Rent of Government Property	847	3	5	...	846	6	1
8. Miscellaneous	488	2	4	...	275	1	3
9. Interest	2,574	11	2	...	1,398	16	9
10. Repayment of Loans ...	447	10	0	...	175	10	0
	57,940	1	4	...	66,615	0	9

Carried forward ... ...

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Brought forward... ...	57,940	1	4	...	66,615	0	9
11. Part proceeds of Sale of Reclaimed Lands ...	388	19	0	...	21	0	4
— Balance transferred from Immigration Fund ...	840	1	3	...	—		
12. Imperial Department of Agriculture — Grants-in-Aid	843	0	0	...	715	0	0
Total ...	£60,012	1	7	...	£67,351	1	1

The ordinary Revenue was £8,675 in excess of that of 1906-7, and the extraordinary Revenue £1,336 less.

The following statement shows the number of licences issued for the sale of intoxicating liquors during the year ended 31st March, 1908, and the revenue derived therefrom.

Licence.	Rate of Licence.	Number of licences issued quarterly.				Revenue.
		April to June.	July to September.	October to December.	January to March.	£ s. d.
Wholesale liquor ..	£20 yearly	2	2	2	2	40 0 0
Retail Spirit ..	Castries £15 quarterly Soufriere £9 " Other places £5 "	46	44	44	44	1,454 0 0
Bottle	£40 yearly	2	2	2	2	80 0 0
Refreshment house	£30 "	3	3	3	2	82 10 0
Hotel	£6 "	1	1	1	1	6 0 0
Occasional	Rate fixed by Governor in Council in each case.	1	—	1	3	3 10 0
						1,666 0 0

EXPENDITURE.

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the years 1906-7 *and* 1907-8.

Heads of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure 1906-7.				Actual Expenditure 1907-8.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt	11,421	19	4	...	11,514	10	0
2. Pensions	2,150	14	3	...	1,877	12	7
3. Governor and Legislature	2,917	9	11	...	2,983	2	1
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department	3,362	6	10	...	3,439	19	3
5. Post Office	1,021	18	11	...	1,178	16	11
Carried forward	20,874	9	3	...	20,994	0	10

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	20,874	9	3	...	20,994	0	10
6. Port and Marine ...	823	17	3	...	960	9	3
7. Audit	513	2	2	...	551	17	9
8. Legal	4,699	17	5	...	4,227	16	3
— Local Forces	444	15	7	...	466	6	7
9. Police	4,287	3	1	...	4,934	13	10
10. Prisons	1,432	10	3	...	2,039	15	9
11. Medical	2,576	7	2	...	2,918	7	5
12. Hospitals and Asylums	2,913	4	1	...	3,018	4	0
13. Charitable	515	13	7	...	553	5	10
14. Education	4,343	9	9	...	4,326	17	11
15. Ecclesiastical	1,600	0	0	...	1,600	0	0
16. Agriculture (from local funds)	770	4	6	...	946	3	7
17. Miscellaneous	2,531	9	4	...	2,649	3	8
18. Colonial Engineer's Department	2,883	9	6	...	2,595	9	7
19. Public Works Recurrent	7,015	0	0	...	6,684	1	0
	58,224	12	11	...	59,466	13	3
20. Public Works Extraordinary	1,343	2	7	...	4,685	10	8
	59,567	15	6	...	64,152	3	11
16A. Agriculture (from Imperial Funds) ...	726	3	4	...	687	11	7
Total ...	£60,293	18	10	...	£64,839	15	6

The Expenditure was £4,189 more than was estimated for. The excess is due to considerable expenditure having been incurred on new roads for the development of the Colony voted after the Estimates were passed; also to disturbances having occurred after a labour strike; and to new arrangements having been made with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for the carriage of mails involving additional cost.

The Revenue and Expenditure of the previous five years were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1901-2 ...	£67,365 ...	£67,486
1902-3 ...	72,193 ...	69,408
1903-4 ...	66,009 ...	70,692
1904-5 ...	69,273 ...	65,508
1905-6 ...	61,877 ...	62,521
1906-7 ...	60,012 ...	60,294

Assets and Liabilities.

The following is a statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Colony at 31st March, 1908:—

Liabilities.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits:						
Savings Bank Depositors	18,996	3	11			
" Interest on Investments	97	12	8			
Police Recreation Fund	20	12	9			
Sale of Workyard Lots	588	8	6			
Interest, Baron Trust Money ...	306	12	10			
Sundry deposits Account ...	34	2	0			
				20,043	12	8
Advances:						
From Govt. of Grenada	491	2	8			
" " of St. Vincent ...	60	18	11			
" Crown Agents against Bills maturing...	3,500	0	0			
				4,052	1	7
Special Funds:						
Towns and Villages	1,063	19	1			
Castries Town Board	363	12	11			
Imperial Grant-in-aid of Agriculture	211	9	0			
Land Sales Fund	1,932	4	6			
				3,571	5	6
Total Liabilities				27,666	19	9
Surplus Assets:						
Surplus and Deficit Account ...	25,399	13	8			
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	2,668	1	8			
				28,067	15	4
				55,734	15	1

Assets.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash:						
In hands of the Treasurer ...	342	8	11			
Colonial Bank Current Account	1,259	12	11			
Colonial Bank Deposit Account:—						
On a/c of Gen. Revenue £500						
" Savings Bank £2,500	3,000	0	0			
				4,602	1	10
Investments:						
On account of Savings Bank ...	14,416	14	11			
" Public Buildings Insurance Fund	2,668	1	8			
" Surplus Funds ...	20,790	10	8			
				37,875	7	3
Loans:						
Castries Town Bd. for Recreation Ground	900	0	0			
" Cemetery	571	14	5			
				1,471	14	5
Advances:						
Personal and other advances ...	201	0	9			
Post Office Account	653	0	0			
Crown Agents Current Account	451	10	10			
				1,305	11	7
Drafts and Remittances Account ...				10,480	0	0
				55,734	15	1

NOTE.—The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1908, stood at £153,729 11*s*, and the accumulated Sinking Fund towards its redemption at £14,611 7*s*. 5*d*.

Surplus Funds.

The surplus funds of the Colony on 31st March, 1908, amounted to £28,067 15*s.* 4*d.*, including the sum of £2,668 1*s.* 8*d.*, the amount of contributions at the rate of £300 a year set aside from general revenue as an insurance fund on public buildings. The investments on Surplus account amounted at the close of the year to £22,262 5*s.* 1*d.* and on Insurance Account to £2,668 1*s.* 8*d.*, making a total of £24,930 6*s.* 9*d.*

Public Debt.

The public debt at the 31st March, 1908, amounted to £153,729 11*s.* 0*d.*, apportioned as follows:—

Colony's share.

	£	s.	d.
Castries Harbour Loan ...	55,150	0	0
Central Factory	9,300	0	0
Public Works Loan	50,579	11	0
Water Works	12,000	0	0
Immigration	9,700	0	0
	136,729	11	0
Castries Town Board share...	17,000	0	0
	£153,729	11	0

The sinking fund amounted to £14,611 7*s.* 5*d.*

Towns and Villages.

Besides Castries, the chief town, there are nine towns and villages in the Island. The following table shows their order of importance as regards population according to the Census of 1901, and the revenue and expenditure in 1907 and the balance to the credit of each town or village fund at the close of the year:—

Name of Town or Village.	Population.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Credit Balance.
		£	£	£
Castries	7,910	5,470	5,404	364
Soufriere	2,394	529	532	138
Vieux Fort	1,619	177	183	102
Dennery...	1,072	126	119	262
Anse la Raye	885	70	83	67
Laborie	808	69	84	34
Gros Islet	705	103	99	191
Micoud	577	74	87	30
Canaries...	522	38	32	128
Choiseul...	409	45	13	112
Total	16,901	6,701	6,636	1,428

The rates were, in Castries and Soufriere, 8 per cent. on assessed rental value of houses and 2 per cent. for water rate. In Vieux Fort, Gros Islet, and Canaries the rate was 6 per cent. on the assessed rental value of houses, and in the other villages the rate was 5 per cent.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The value of imports in 1907 was £310,309 as compared with £242,469 in 1906. Of these £80,603 in value were received from the United Kingdom, £33,982 from British Colonies, and £195,724 from Foreign Countries, a falling off of £7,240 in imports from the United Kingdom and £96 from British Colonies and an increase of £75,175 from Foreign Countries.

The importations of coal amounted to 111,232 tons, of the value of £137,200, as compared with 76,304½ tons in 1906, of the value of £94,056.

All the coal imported in 1907 came from the United States, and this accounts in great measure for the increase of foreign trade.

The imports are divided into the following classes:—

	£
Class I.—Live Animals, Food and Drink Supplies, and Narcotics ...	67,121
Class II.—Raw Materials	152,544
Class III.—Manufactured Articles ...	78,121
Class IV.—Coin and Bullion	12,523

As compared with 1906, Class I. decreased by £20,581, showing, I think, that the Island produced more of its own food-stuffs. Classes II. and III. increased by £40,976 and £10,610 respectively, indicating an increase of business, and Class IV. by £6,656, being the additional amount of coin which was probably needed for coping with the increased business.

Exports.

The value of the exports in 1907 was £264,401, as compared with £220,313 in the preceding year. £109,407 represented the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and £154,994 the produce of other countries, of which £142,381 was for bunker coal exported.

The exports are divided into the following classes:—

Class I.—Live Animals, Food and Drink Supplies, and Narcotics ...	104,032
Class II.—Raw Materials	151,453
Class III.—Manufactured Articles ...	1,776
Class IV.—Coin and Bullion	7,140

Class I. increased by £3,931, due to the export of cocoa reaching 1,719,700 lbs. or 140,500 lbs. more in quantity than in 1906, and £47,292, or £4,992 more in value. The sugar industry barely maintained the position regained in 1906, and there was a falling off in rum, live animals, hides, pimento sticks, &c., partly counterbalanced by an increase in the sale of logwood. Class II. increased by £37,288, the sale of coal having been the largest ever effected in any one year. Class III. decreased by £261, and Class IV. increased by £3,130.

Shipping.

The number of steamers that entered was 716, with an aggregate tonnage of 1,305,957 tons. The number that cleared was 714, and their tonnage 1,301,794 tons.

In addition, 27 ships-of-war and 4 yachts visited the port, as against 13 and 4 in 1906.

The year was an unusually busy one for shipping, and a record has been established in the number of ships and in tonnage.

So far as the information accessible to me indicates, the Port of Castries appears to do the most considerable coaling business in the West Indies, the exports during the year being 118,503 tons, valued at £142,381.

The following return shows the number of vessels, British and foreign, that entered and cleared, and the aggregate tonnage during the past five years:—

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1903 ...	354	542,095	269	7,470	66	84,391	152	5,212
1904 ...	373	544,895	231	7,349	77	98,544	45	2,899
1905 ...	452	748,494	207	6,941	99	155,846	43	4,774
1906 ...	534	931,449	246	7,310	83	124,024	38	3,749
1907 ...	615	1,169,037	245	9,772	101	136,920	30	2,089

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1903 ...	352	540,122	280	7,664	66	84,391	150	4,564
1904 ...	374	546,795	237	7,537	77	98,544	45	2,869
1905 ...	452	748,494	207	6,941	98	153,905	43	4,774
1906 ...	534	931.449	252	7,541	84	125,965	37	3,696
1907 ...	614	1,166,991	216	7,606	100	134,803	30	2,089

Manufactures and Fisheries.

There are no mines in the Colony.

The only manufactures of any consequence are sugar and rum. There are four well-equipped central sugar factories. The exported produce amounted to 5,302 tons of crystallized sugar, 62 tons of Muscovado, and 3,700 bags of Molascuit or food for stock made from sugar-cane. Of this output Canada took 833 tons of Usine sugar, and the rest of the produce went to London markets, except 1,725 bags Molascuit, which went to France.

There are two rum distilleries. Rum is produced principally for local consumption, and as the consumption has revived, the quantity distilled keeps pace with the revival, as the following table indicates:—

Year.	Quantity. distilled. Galls.	Consumed. Galls.	Exported. Galls.
1903	72,470 ...	53,558 ...	16,286
1904	57,429 ...	52,562 ...	5,684
1905	56,150 ...	50,337 ...	8,655
1906	49,553 ...	46,950 ...	6,319
1907	57,213 ...	51,453 ...	3,652

The export of rum is still steadily declining.

There is a number of boats, principally small canoes, engaged in fishing, and fresh fish in abundance can be obtained for local consumption all the year round. There is no attempt at preserving fish for exportation.

Agricultural Industries.

The sugar industry still continues to hold the first place in the agricultural business of the Colony, and has fairly maintained the position it assumed in 1906. The decline in the

quantity of rum exported has been counterbalanced by an increase in the amount of Molascuit (stock food). The total value of sugar, rum and other products of the sugar-cane exported in 1907 was £54,511.

Cocoa is next in importance, the value being £47,292.

The wood industry comes third with a total of £4,875, there having been an increase of £2,000 in the value of logwood exported, and cedar, appearing as a new item, yielding £363.

Limes and lime juice appear for the second time on the list of exports. The total is only £192, but thousands of lime plants have been set out during the past two or three years, and in five or six years' time it is probable that an important export trade may be developed. A factory has been erected on the Fond Devaux Estate on modern lines for the concentration of lime juice.

The value of honey exported is slightly less than in 1906, but the care of bees has been taken up by a few intelligent individuals, and is being taught at the Agricultural School and at some of the Elementary Schools in the country districts, and there seems every reason to believe that it will develop into a not unimportant minor industry.

The Government and the Agricultural Society have been working together to induce planters to turn their attention to rubber, and the Agricultural Superintendent raised large quantities of Castilloa Elastica seedlings, and the Agricultural Society imported from Ceylon Para rubber plants and seeds, which were taken charge of at the Experiment Station and cared for till in a condition to set out. The planters have been slow to respond, and only about 2,000 Castilloa plants have been taken. The plants of the Para rubber had not been distributed at the end of the year. Reporting on Castilloa, the Agricultural Superintendent indicates that the trees seed freely, and the seeds are dropped about by birds feeding on the pulp. He adds that several young trees are to be found near the Station grown from seeds dropped in this manner, "and in this uncultivated state the young plants are healthy and as promising as one could wish for under cultivation: and this tends to support the opinion already formed from observations on cultivated plants that this rubber tree will thrive exceedingly well in St. Lucia if due consideration is given to the selection of suitable soil and locality."

Mr. Sands, the Agricultural Superintendent of St. Vincent, was sent by the Commissioner of Agriculture to report on the lands in St. Lucia suitable for the growth of Sea Island cotton, and he was able to point out a number of places along the coast which were favourable. His report was published in August, 1907, too late in the year for planting operations, and only two or three trial plots were put in. A plot of an acre and a half was put in at the Agricultural School, which yielded 707 lbs. of seed cotton. The Agricultural Superin-

tendent states: "The percentage of clean lint was 24·3 (172½ lbs.) and of stained lint 2·2 (16 lbs.), the seed being 72·8 and the loss ·7. These results show a yield of 134·6 lbs. of lint per acre." At 1*s.* 4*d.* a lb., which would seem a moderate valuation, the yield of lint per acre ought to be worth £9, and I gather from this experiment that with careful cultivation in good soil in St. Lucia a cotton planter may reasonably anticipate the gross value of his crop to range from £8 to £10 per acre. The amount of profit which it may be possible to count on would depend so greatly on the skill of the manager and on the labour supply obtainable that no reliable estimate can be made without trials on a commercial scale, and for this purpose it would be advisable that labour-saving implements such as ploughs, harrows, and horse hoes or cultivators should be employed.

These figures are based on what seems to be a low yield of cotton, as a plot of half an acre grown at the Station in 1904 yielded at the rate of 247 lbs. of lint per acre, or 84 per cent. more than was obtained in 1907.

Agriculture appears to be engaging more attention than formerly. The area planted in seedling canes on sugar estates is increasing, and these appear to give a larger yield and to resist disease better than the old stock. The Agricultural Department's efforts to spread knowledge as to the cultivation, drainage, and manuring of cocoa seem to be bearing fruit, and there are many more cocoa fields showing signs of care being bestowed on them than was the case two years ago, though much still remains to be done before the exports will be commensurate with the area planted.

Generally a more hopeful tone prevails as regards agricultural pursuits, and the thanks of the Government are due to all those who by example or precept have given encouragement to the movement. Hitherto the struggle has been to overcome the *vis inertiæ*: the first clear signs of motion appear now to be indicated, and it is to be hoped that a sustained effort will be made to give momentum to the study and practice of agriculture on intelligent lines, so as to make the best of the natural wealth of the Colony.

Agricultural Department.

The Botanic Station and Agricultural School and Experiment Station were maintained in efficient working order.

There was a further great increase in the demand for economic plants for local planting. The total number of plants distributed was 74,644, or nearly 10,000 in excess of 1906, which till then was the highest recorded in the history of the Station. Limes headed the list with 56,425 plants, making a total of 105,475 for the past three years, and large numbers of plants have been grown in private nurseries. On

the other hand Castilloa rubber plants issued to local applicants decreased from 6,967 in 1906 to 2,000 in 1907, and there being no further local demand, 5,000 were sent to Martinique and 4,000 seeds to Demerara. The following extract from the Agricultural Superintendent's report will show the result of the effort to introduce Para rubber plants from Ceylon:—

> "Ten packages, containing 2,059 seeds of Hevea brasiliensis were received in October from the Royal Botanic Gardens, of Peradeniya, Ceylon, being kindly supplied by that Department at the cost of postage, in consideration of the poor results obtained from the consignment supplied in wardian cases and reported on last year. The seeds were packed for transit in charcoal dust, in tins containing from 130-400 seeds each. Of the 2,059 seeds received 947, or about 46 per cent., germinated. Observations on the condition of the packages on arrival indicate that the best results were obtained from those tins in which, on arrival, the charcoal dust was dry. The charcoal was probably slightly damp when packed, in accordance with our suggestion, but dried in transit, the tins not being hermetically sealed.
>
> "The contents of one tin of 400 seeds were mildewed and rotten, the charcoal being in a damp and sweaty condition. In another tin of similar condition only 4 out of 128 seeds germinated. In other tins in which the charcoal was dry on arrival as high as 88 per cent. of the seeds germinated.
>
> "The seeds were probably about two months on the passage from Ceylon to St. Lucia.
>
> "On January 27 the Agricultural Superintendent reported that 850 plants in bamboo pots were ready for distribution."

The total expenditure on the Botanic Station and connexions, excluding building repairs, was £633 18*s.* 4*d.* The sale of plants, &c., realised £55 16*s.* 0*d.*

The Agricultural Instructor resigned during the year, and the services of an officer to replace him were not secured for several months, so that the Agricultural Department was short-handed during a portion of the year.

Agricultural School.

The average number of pupils maintained during the year was 20·6. Eight pupils were admitted and three discharged, two to take up situations obtained for them, and one to work on his father's property.

All the ground provisions required for the institution were produced on the premises, and a large number of economic plants was raised for distribution. The routine work associated with the training of the pupils in agricultural science and practice received careful attention.

The half-yearly examinations of the pupils show that good progress was made in their school and field work. The Medical Officer's report on the health of the boys and the sanitary condition of the institution was very satisfactory. The expenditure on the Agricultural School and Experiment Station was £899 16*s.* 10*d.* The receipts from the sale of plants and produce amounted to £71 2*s.* 11*d.*, and of provisions used in the School £42 7*s.* 10*d.*, a total of £113 10*s.* 9*d.*

Crown Lands and Surveys.

During the year 95 applications were received for 995 acres. On 36 of these applications the usual survey fee and deposit were paid. 40 surveys were executed. The acreage alienated amounted to 342 acres and 22 perches, besides one village lot. Grants to the number of 66 were issued, and at the close of the year there were 83 further grants prepared and awaiting delivery.

The Vve. Girardin Estate, comprising 179 acres 2 roods and 27 perches, was escheated and two other estates, of 96 acres and 21 perches and 215 acres and 29 perches, respectively, put up for escheat.

The Land Sales Fund had at credit on 31st March last a sum of £1,932.

Public Works.

The ordinary expenditure on Public Works amounted to £9,862 for the maintenance of roads, bridges, public buildings, telephones, harbour works, jetties, &c. Much improvement has been effected on the roads by the erection of small bridges and culverts, by draining with concrete pipes, and by forming and metalling. Expenditure was also incurred under the head of Public Works Extraordinary for bridging the Canelles River and completing on a modified plan the bridge over the Fond River which had been partly erected and condemned some years ago. The scheme for opening up parts of the interior of the island not hitherto served by public roads was also started, work having been commenced on the road intended to open up and connect the Anse la Raye, Millet, and Roseau Valleys, and a survey of the route for the proposed road in the Canaries Valley was made.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twelve Ordinances were passed during the year, two of which related to taxation—increasing the Customs tariff on a few articles, and imposing a licence duty on animals, wheels, and guns. Two related to the formation of a Volunteer Force and a Reserve. One provided for licensing purchasers of old metal, in order to check theft. One transferred to General Revenues the assets and liabilities of the Immigration Fund,

East Indian immigration having come to an end. Two were the ordinary Appropriation Ordinances, and the others dealt with small matters which it is not necessary to specially comment on.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary.

The general statistics for the year are given in the following table:—

Schools.	No.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.	Government Grant.
					£
Anglican	3	520	345	490	301
Wesleyan	1	278	132	178	91
East Indian Mission ...	1	43	27	36	34
Roman Catholic	41	5,875	3,809	4,990	2,866
Total	46	6,716	4,313	5,694	3,292
The figures for 1906 were	44	6,741	3,897	4,982	3,390

An additional sum of £39 was spent on matters connected with primary education, bringing the total to £3,331.

Fifteen out of the twenty-one juvenile schools for boys or boys and girls have school gardens, four are situated in towns or villages where land is not available, leaving two which have not yet started. It is hoped that one at least of these may commence operations in the coming year. £40 has been set aside as bonuses to head teachers who have taken serious interest in the garden work during 1907, and small grants have in other cases been made for purchasing tools or starting bee colonies. It cannot, however, be said that the gardens receive all the attention they deserve, and the new Agricultural Instructor has been directed to devote attention to the matter.

The teaching of elementary tropical hygiene was commenced during the year, with gratifying results in several cases.

A magic lantern was bought for the department, and the Inspector of Schools went round the island giving addresses and demonstrations in the schools. The subject chosen was London, and the Inspector says: "The schoolrooms were everywhere crowded and the children appeared much interested . . . . the various pictures, some sixty in number, were thrown one by one on the screen and explained in slow, simple English. This method of illustrated instruction appears very

well suited to a population where reading is uncommon, and capable of useful extension as an auxiliary incentive to the learning of English, which is a *sine qua non* as far as serious instruction in the Colony is concerned."

SECONDARY.

Secondary Education is provided for boys by the St. Mary's College, and for girls by the St. Joseph's Convent. The former school received a Government grant of £400, and the latter one of £50. The total expenditure on these schools was £802 and £680, respectively, the school fees collected being £230 and £270.

There were 51 boys on the roll of St. Mary's College, with 48 in average attendance, and 98 girls at St. Joseph's Convent, with 90 in average attendance.

The boys are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the girls for those of the London College of Preceptors. The girls are also taught needlework—plain and fancy, drawing, and painting.

One of the conditions attached to the grant to St. Mary's College is the right to have ten Government scholars educated at the College free of charge. The report on these boys shows work "satisfactory" in seven cases, "moderate" in one, and "poor" in two.

At the examination in December to fill three vacancies, eight candidates presented themselves. The best candidates obtained out of a total of 100 marks, 74, 71 and 67.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

The following statement tabulates the principal statistics relating to the hospitals and asylums of the Colony:—

Institutions.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during 1907.	Daily Average.	Patients discharged.		No. of deaths.	Remaining in Hospital at end of year.
				Cured.	Relieved.		
Victoria Hospital, Castries	64	1,147	66	678	314	123	49*
Soufrière Hospital ...	—	22	4	13	6	3	—
Vieux Fort Hospital ...	4	47	4	26	9	6	3†
Dennery Hospital ...	—	22	1	15	1	5	—‡
Yaws Hospital, Soufrière	34	87	36	55	6	7	53
Poor Asylum, Soufrière	58	72	58	—	39	31	60
Lunatic Asylum, Soufrière	17	21	16	—	1	3	11§

* 47 patients discharged, condition not improved.
† 7 " " " "
‡ 1 " " " "
§ 22 sent to Grenada Lunatic Asylum, including 2 from Castries. One patient discharged, condition not improved.

Dispensaries.

Out-door medical relief is given through the medium of a dispensary in each district, at which a medical officer attends every week.

The number of patients treated during the past two years was as follows:—

Dispensary.	1906.	1907.
Castries	8,007	8,947
Babonneau	88	132
Gros Islet	654	570
Dennery	992	562
Mabouya Valley	—	385
Anse la Raye	655	379
Soufrière	1,245	585
Choiseul	314	200
Vieux Fort	1,481	863
Laborie	490	723
Micoud	518	532
Total	14,444	13,878

Out-Door Relief of Paupers.

The number of persons in receipt of out-door relief on the 31st December, 1907, was 182.

The expenditure amounted to £575 11*s.* 3*d.*, including £203 8*s.* 9*d.* for pauper burials

Sanitary.

Constant vigilance had to be maintained during the year to prevent the introduction of quarantinable diseases, and 253 vessels were boarded by the Health Officer, six of which were fumigated. The presence of yellow fever in certain of the West India Islands and of small-pox or plague in foreign countries from which vessels arrived necessitated great caution. An Isolation Hospital was fitted up and screened, and vigorous measures adopted in Castries for destroying the breeding-places of mosquitoes.

Savings Banks.

The principal bank is in Castries, and is managed by the Treasurer of the Colony. There are four district branches in different parts of the island.

The following statement shows the transactions of the bank for the five years ended the 31st December, 1907:—

Year.	Total number of depositors on 31st December of each year.	Total deposits inclusive of Interest.	Total withdrawals.	Amount on deposit at the end of each year.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1903 ...	1,584	18,338 16 7	17,084 5 11	17,211 8 11
1904 ...	1,642	18,990 15 5	20,568 7 1	15,633 17 3
1905 ...	1,231	15,025 16 3	16,285 13 7	14,373 19 11
1906 ...	1,584	13,750 12 6	13,397 7 1	14,727 5 4
1907 ...	1,639	15,526 2 0	12,561 9 10	17,691 17 6

Investments through the Crown Agents on account of the Savings Bank on the 31st December amounted to £13,916 14*s.* 11*d.*

The working account of the bank showed a revenue of £501 18*s.* 8*d.*, and an expenditure of £430 1*s.* 10*d.* for interest paid or credited to depositors. The balance of £71 16*s.* 10*d.* was transferred to general revenue.

Friendly Societies.

There are 14 Friendly Societies, being one in excess of the previous year. The total number of members on the rolls on 31st December was 1,207, as against 1,114 in 1906.

		£ s. d.
The aggregate balance at 31st December, 1906, was		1,171 0 10½
Total receipts in 1907		1,505 0 10½
		2,676 1 9
The disbursements during the year were:—		
Sick benefits	£308 6 7	
Funeral claims	139 18 9	
Working expenses ...	411 14 9½	
Medicine and Medical attendance	204 18 2	
Bonuses to Members ...	16 0 0	
Payments to withdrawing members	28 5 2	
		1,109 3 5½
Balance at 31st December, 1907 ...		£1,566 18 3½

There was an increase of 89 in the number of members and £395 17*s.* 5*d.* in the balance of assets during the year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

The strength of the force on the 31st December was one officer and 72 non-commissioned officers and men.

Ten extra men were enrolled after the disturbances, but the force has been reduced to its normal strength, as three resigned, three were dismissed, and four were discharged before the end of their probationary service.

There were 1,293 summary prosecutions and 207 indictable cases taken up by the police during the year. The strike disturbances were responsible for 238 of these cases, but in several instances there was more than one charge against the same individual, the number of persons charged being 186.

3,733 road tax summonses were served and 1,558 warrants were executed.

The force, which was armed in April, 1906, after the departure of the garrison, had to undergo a serious trial in April, 1907, when, supervening on a strike of coal-heavers and sugar factory labourers, disturbances occurred in Castries and at three of the factories. The strikers and the mob, who made common cause with them, numbered several thousands, while of the 72 policemen distributed throughout the island only 41 were available in Castries to be used as a military force, and, in order to effect this the men had to be withdrawn from their civil duties on the streets. With the assistance of special constables, who were sworn in and gave invaluable aid in scouting, patrolling, guarding the station, &c., junctions of the different mobs were prevented, and by detaching a force of 20 policemen to operate at different times against them they were dealt with in detail. The arrival of a reinforcement of 100 police and volunteers from Barbados, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kaye, and 20 from St. Vincent, followed a few days after by H.M.S. "Indefatigable," enabled detachments to be placed in the disturbed areas until the ferment had quieted down and prevented any further trouble. The creditable behaviour of the St. Lucia force and the opportune assistance of the neighbouring Colonies, to whom the gratitude of this Colony is due, prevented the mob from gaining any considerable headway. Some of the police and special constables were badly injured.

Prisons.

At the commencement of the year there were 49 prisoners in the Royal Gaol—38 males and 11 females.

The number of committals on conviction during the year was 523, 305 being adult males, 194 adult females, and 24 juveniles, the number committed for trial or on remand being 778.

	1906	1907.
For Statutory Offences	387	487
„ Non-payment of Road Tax	193	36
„ Safe custody, trial, &c. ...	62	778
	642	1,301

The convictions from the Royal Court rose to 107 as against 14 in 1906.

The daily average number of prisoners in custody was 82·68 at the Royal Gaol, 21·87 at Grenada, and 6·87 at St. Vincent. The corrected daily average for St. Lucia would be 111·42, as against a total of 74·77 in 1906.

The labour of the prisoners during the year is valued at £740 7*s.* 3*d.*, and the profits of the Prison Manufacturing Account amounted to £121 4*s.* 4*d.*

The expenditure on the Prison was £1,804 11*s.* 8*d.*, of which £261 16*s.* 0*d.* was for the maintenance of St. Lucia prisoners at Grenada and £68 8*s.* 0*d.* at St. Vincent. The cost of the Prison Establishment and of the maintenance of prisoners was £1,706 0*s.* 9*d.*, the balance being made up of sums expended in repairing damage caused to the buildings by the earthquake of 16th February, 1906, in erecting a workshed, in improving ventilation, and in making temporary provision for the influx of prisoners after the disturbances.

The daily average on the sick list was 1·24. One death occurred in the Victoria Hospital of a prisoner removed there for treatment.

The natives of St. Lucia formed 62 per cent., natives of others places contributing 38 per cent. to the prison population. Of the riot prisoners 44 per cent. were natives of other Colonies. The percentage of old offenders was 48·57.

Criminal Statistics.

The following figures summarise the criminal statistics for the past five years:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Offences reported	1,942	2,032	1,595	1,706	2,059
Summary convictions—					
For offences against the person ...	255	355	405	220	380
„ prædial larceny	28	29	60	37	37
„ offences against property ...	77	124	226	77	138
„ other offences	877	1,059	904	1,126	950
Convictions by the Superior Court—					
Child murder	—	—	1	—	—
For offences against the person ...	12	17	3	2	10
„ „ „ property ...	11	13	23	14	27
„ other offences	2	2	5	1	110

The strike disturbances of April were responsible for 185 convictions, of 52 persons summarily and 90 by indictment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated total population on the 31st December, according to the returns of the Registrar-General, was 54,599, an increase of 526 during the year, and was composed of 26,283 males and 28,316 females.

The birth-rate of the year was 29·8 per thousand, as compared with 31·9 per thousand in 1906; and the death-rate 20 per thousand, compared with 19 per thousand in 1906. The number of births was 1,611 and of deaths 1,085.

The population by the Census of 1901 was 49,883. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from the date of the Census to the 31st December, 1907, has been approximately 4,716. No deduction is made of persons who have left the island since the withdrawal of the garrison in 1905, and since the Panama Canal works were started. The estimate of the present population appears, therefore, to be subject to modification.

The number of marriages during the year was 277, as compared with 352 in the previous year.

Public Health.

In the early part of the year malarial fever, which had been rife at Vieux Fort during 1906, supervening on an epidemic of influenza, began to abate, but the number of patients treated for this disease at the hospital and the dispensaries of Vieux Fort and Laborie was 922, showing that it was very widespread. The Medical Officer reports that by the end of June health conditions were normal.

Dr. King, the Health Officer of Castries, reports:—

"The year has not been healthy. There was a great deal of malaria in the early months; then in May and June a very severe epidemic of what, for want of a better name, may be called influenza. Although not true influenza, it was a very serious disease. Few persons escaped entirely, many developed grave complications, and a few died. Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia were very common, the death-rate from them unnecessarily high for several reasons. In the first place the labouring class is apt to think very little of fever until it has lasted for a week or so, as they know by experience that fever patients frequently recover without treatment, so, being unacquainted with this influenza they believed it to be ordinary malaria. Hence it was common to see for the first time a patient who had already exhausted all his reserve of strength in an unaided battle with a double pneumonia. Such cases all ended fatally.

"Secondly, the people, who are becoming more and more willing to submit to hospital treatment for surgical diseases, cannot be brought to understand that hospital treatment is of advantage in medical diseases also. Unluckily, the negro, whose resisting power to some diseases is marvellous, succumbs to pneumonia very easily. Most of the cases treated in hospital from the beginning of their illness made satisfactory recoveries, but the hospital average is ruined by several neglected cases brought simply to die there, and so avoid for the relatives the unpleasantness of police enquiries and possible post-mortem examinations."

In the Dennery Quarter the Medical Officer reports:—"About the middle of the year there was a sharp outbreak of a severe type of influenza throughout the district, which was responsible for many deaths among the older inhabitants. There was also a mild outbreak of whooping-cough about this time, and of parotitis—"Mumps"—at the end of the year." There were 11 cases of influenza and 149 of fever treated at the Dennery dispensary, 8 and 90 respectively at Mabouya and 19 and 154 at Micoud.

The Soufrière quarter appears to have escaped this visitation, as only malarial fevers were returned; 73 cases in Soufrière, 83 at Anse la Raye, and 24 at Choiseul.

It would appear that an epidemic of influenza commencing at Vieux Fort spread to the Castries and the Dennery quarters, carrying in its train malarial fever.

CLIMATE.

The rainfall for the year at different stations was:—

	Inches.
At Botanic Station, Castries	71·33
„ Agricultural School, near Castries ...	73·50
„ Rivière Dorée	50·70
„ Anse la Raye	78·63
„ Soufrière	72·56
„ Errard	79·93
„ Fond	54·00
„ La Caye	62·20
„ Parc	80·18
	623·03
Mean for nine Stations	69·23

This is 15 inches below the average for 1906.

The maximum temperature registered during 1907 was 90° on August 24th and September 2nd, and the minimum temperature 60° on March 29th. The mean monthly temperature for the year was 78·2°. The mean barometrical pressure for the year was 30·001 inches at 10 feet above mean sea level.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Post Office.

The revenue of the Department was £1,359 0*s.* 10*d.*, of which £991 9*s.* 6*d.* was received from letters, post-cards, &c., £175 17*s.* 8*d.* from sales of stamps to collectors, and £169 13*s.* 7*d.* from commissions on postal and money orders, and £22 0*s.* 1*d.* for box rents.

The expenditure was £1,077 16*s.* 2*d.*, but the mail subsidy in respect of the new contract with the Royal Mail Company had not been paid, and no portion of the subsidy of the coastal steamer, which carries mails to and from the out-ports, is charged against the Post Office.

The total number of letters and post-cards dealt with was:—

Foreign sent	106,807	
„ received	96,704	
		203,511
Inland		89,294
		292,805
The number last year was		290,773
A net increase of		2,032
Newspapers and book packets sent ...	11,387	
„ „ „ received	51,341	
		62,728
Inland		17,689
		80,417
The number last year was		93,565
A net decrease of		13,148
Parcels sent	336	
„ received	2,027	
		2,363
The number last year was		2,276
A net increase of		87

The number of registered articles sent was 3,702, and the number received 3,676. The number of insured letters sent was four, and the number received 13. 3,793 letters were dealt with in the Returned Letter Branch.

The money orders issued amounted to £5,988, and the orders issued elsewhere and paid here £4,117. British postal orders were sold to the amount of £1,712, and paid to the amount of £351.

The inland postal orders issued only amounted to £44 17*s.* 6*d.*

In September a new contract was made with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for a fortnightly intercolonial mail service.

In October the weight for letters was raised from ½ oz. to 1 oz., the rate of postage remaining at one penny.

TELEPHONES.

The system consists of 111½ miles of trunk line, 48⅝ miles of branch lines, or a total of 161⅛.

The lines were maintained in good working order throughout the year.

On 31st December there were 116 subscribers, as compared with 110 in 1906.

The receipts were £636 12*s.* 6*d.*, and the expenditure £771 1*s.* 9*d.*, exclusive of charges for interest and sinking fund on the loan raised for the construction of the lines.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Mr. R. C. Williams, C.M.G., assumed the government of the Windward Islands as Governor and Commander-in-Chief on 17th January, 1907, and was promoted to be K.C.M.G. in November.

Mr. A. De Freitas succeeded Mr. E. Bateson as Attorney-General, Mr. W. J. Douglass succeeding Mr. De Freitas as Magistrate of the First District.

The Administrator was on leave for six months from May to November, when Mr. E. D. Laborde, I.S.O., acted for him.

The most important feature of the year is the marked increase of prosperity, indicating that the island has recovered from the depression which supervened on the removal of the garrison.

The prices of sugar and cocoa have been remunerative, the export of logwood has been resumed and the coal trade has expanded satisfactorily in spite of severe competition with other ports.

The Public Revenues, which had been insufficient to cover expenditure during the two previous years, showed a considerable surplus, partly on account of extra taxation, but largely because of an increased yield due to prosperity. The balance of deposits in the savings bank at the same time increased by about 20 per cent., and the balance of assets of the Friendly Societies by 35 per cent., showing that the prosperity was general.

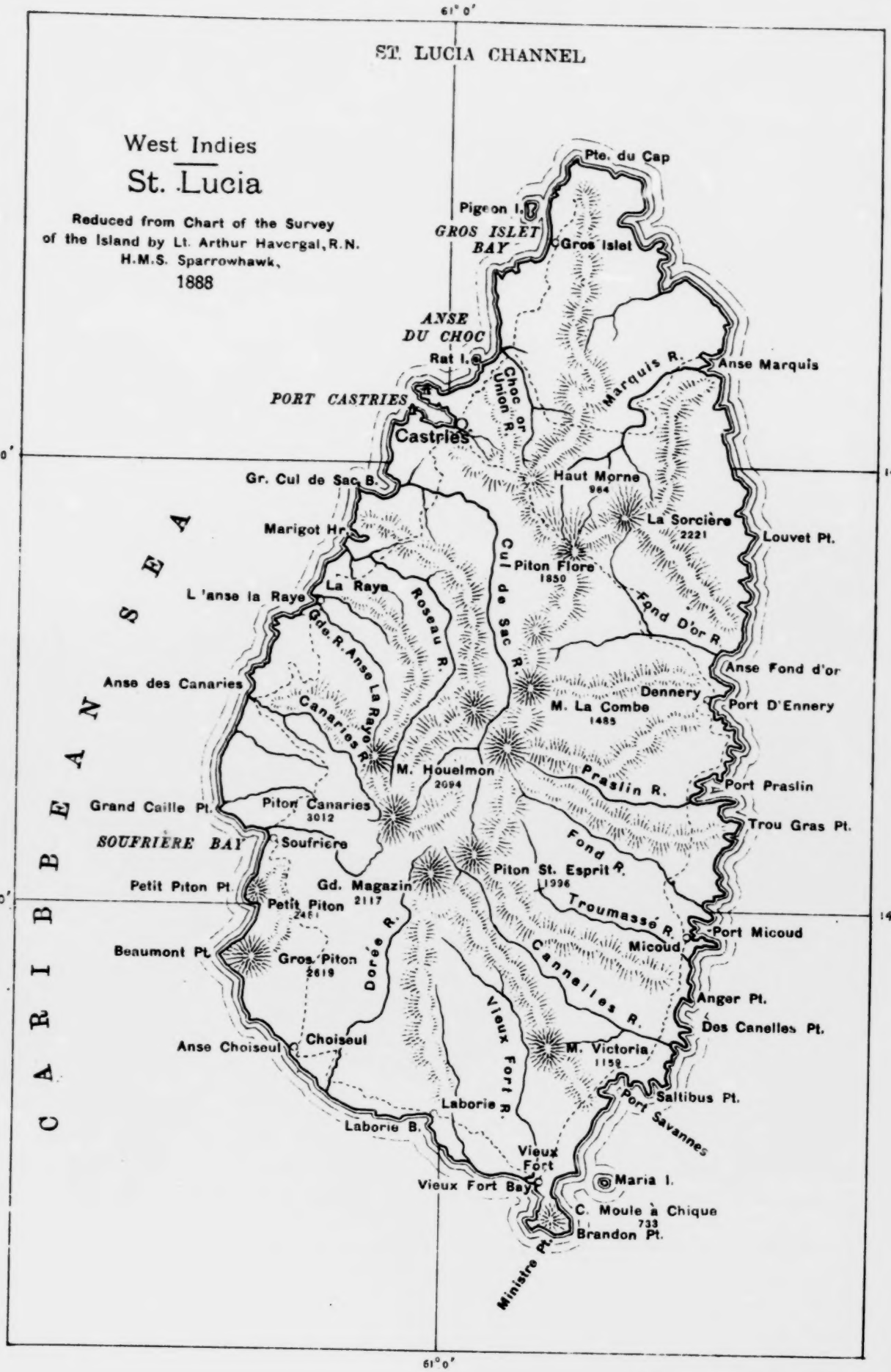
Most hopeful signs for the future are the greater attention now being paid to agriculture, which has already been commented on under that heading, and the great increase in average attendance at the elementary schools. The aim of the Government has been to endeavour to push forward elementary, agricultural, and sanitary education, and although heavily handicapped by want of means during the past few years, a commencement has been made which it is hoped that more liberal provision in future Estimates will enable it to accomplish. The Inspector of Schools, the Agricultural Instructor, and the Crown Lands Overseer working together should be able to reach all classes of agriculturists—old and young, while teaching elementary sanitation by text books and lectures is relied on to yield good results.

At the same time the improvement of the roads now in existence, the bridging of the rivers which is proceeding from year to year, and the gradual making of new roads are calculated to reduce the cost of transport of produce and render agriculture more profitable.

A sketch map of St. Lucia is appended.

P. C. Cork.

Government House, St. Lucia,
22 August, 1908.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
544	Barbados...	1906–1907
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia...	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar...	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda...	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–8
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland...	Governor's visit to Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 590.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 546.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1908.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729-54.] *Price* 3½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	7
LEGISLATION	12
EDUCATION	12
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	13
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	15
VITAL STATISTICS	16
POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	17
MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE	17
GENERAL REMARKS	18

SKETCH MAPS OF GRENADA AND CARRIACOU.

No. 590.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 546.)

THE ACTING-GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Lucia,
13th November, 1908.

Forwarded.

P. C. CORK,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

Government Office,
Grenada,
31st October, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward my Blue Book Report for this Colony, in respect of the year 1907.

2. The delay in submitting these annual returns has been due, firstly, to my having to deal with them and other returns in arrear since my return from leave at end of July, and, secondly, to the fact that the financial returns were not in my hands until the end of September.

3. In preparing the report, I have paid careful attention to the instructions, and trust that it may be found to meet requirements.

4. As this Colony comprises not only the Island of Grenada but the smaller island of Carriacou and other adjacent cays and islets, and as the Dependency of Carriacou is daily becoming of more importance, I have thought it best to send a map, not only of Grenada but of Carriacou, particularly as the references now necessarily made in the annual report to the Land Settlement Scheme and cotton cultivation in that island will be better understood by reference to a map of it.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

His Honour
The Administrator of the
Windward Islands, St. Lucia.

1125 Wt 25928 12/08 D & S 5 34424

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1907.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1908, was the largest yet received in Grenada, amounting to £79,871 altogether, of which £501 was the Imperial grant in aid of agriculture, and the balance, £79,370, revenue from local sources. This satisfactory result was due to the reaping of a fairly-good cocoa crop, accompanied by abnormally high prices for that staple, and also to the inflow of remittances from emigrants to the Canal Zone of the Panama Isthmus. The plentiful circulation of money thus induced, led to a large increase of imported goods, and the revision of the tariff of import duties, effected in 1905, was thereby enabled for the first time to produce its anticipated effect.

2. Following is a statement of the revenue for the year, classified under its usual heads:—

	£
Customs	44,962
Licences, Excise, and internal revenue	27,631
Fees of office, &c.	1,915
Post Office	1,562
Telephones	1,500
Water supplies	289
Rent of Government property	529
Refunds of interest and sinking funds	844
Miscellaneous receipts	114
Land sales	24
Total local revenue	79,370
Imperial grant for Agricultural Department ...	501
Total revenue	£79,871

3. The Customs revenue exceeded the estimate by £9,362, and the receipts of the preceding year by £8,743. Head 2 was £1,044 in excess of that year's results, in consequence of the operation of the Licences Ordinance of 1906 and better collection of the revenue thereunder, and also of collection of tax arrears. Post Office receipts fell off by £561, the preceding year's revenue having been inflated by sale of new issues of stamps. Land sales revenue was less than in 1906-7 by £549, owing to the sale of a valuable escheated property in that year.

4. The expenditure was kept well in hand during the year, and fell within the estimate by £1,083, being also £1,996 less

than in the preceding year. The details, under the usual heads, are as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of debt...	6,197
Pensions	2,482
The Governor and Legislature	2,491
Colonial Secretary's Department	1,675
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank	3,934
Inland Revenue Department	1,249
Post Office Department	2 323
Audit Department	613
Port and marine	294
Legal Departments	4,211
Police	4,908
Prisons	887
Medical	3,587
Hospitals and asylums	5,548
Education	6,532
Do. special expenditure	75
Ecclesiastical	444
Charitable	610
Telephone Department	1,277
Do. do. special expenditure ...	140
Carriacou District	936
St. Paul's and Richmond Hill water supply ...	181
Miscellaneous Services	4,529
Agricultural Department	413
Public Works Department	1,312
Public Works Recurrent—	
(1) Roads and bridges	8,380
(2) Other recurrent work	1,592
Public Works Extraordinary	1,084
Total expenditure from Colonial funds ...	67,904
Agricultural Department (share paid from Imperial funds)	479
Total expenditure	£68,383

5. The only increase, as compared with the preceding year, which is worthy of notice, is that of £613 under Post Office, due to the larger subsidy now payable for transport of inter-Colonial mails. Decreases of £641, under Roads and Bridges, and of £632, under Public Works Extraordinary, are attributable to restriction of the road grants and to the mild weather conditions of the year in the first case, and to abstention from important works during the year in the second.

6. The revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1903-4	70,260 ...	70,101
1904-5	69,993 ...	69,510
1905-6	69,954 ...	71,968
1906-7	71,786 ...	70,379
1907-8	79,871 ...	68,383

7. The pecuniary assets of the Colony at 31st March, 1908, amounted to £56,392, and the liabilities at that date to £22,464, so that the surplus of assets was £33,928, being an increase of £11,606 on the surplus with which the financial year opened. Of this amount £5,406 was held by the Crown Agents, on investment, by way of reserve fund, and this has since been increased by £10,000, remitted to them in the current year for that purpose.

8. The loan debt of the Colony is £123,670, in 4 per cent. inscribed stock, and the sinking fund, in the hands of the Crown Agents for its redemption between the years 1917 and 1942, amounted at 31st March, 1908, to £21,777.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the District Boards in the year 1907-8 were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's Board ...	3,802 ...	3,678
St. Andrew's Board ...	2,450 ...	2,301
St. Patrick's Board ...	1,553 ...	1,236
St. John's Board	1,394 ...	1,376
St. Mark's Board	596 ...	602
St. David's Board ...	681 ...	681

10. Their loan debts (all due to the Colony) at 31st March, 1908, amounted to £16,935, as under:—

	£
St. George's	9,981
St. Andrew's	1,030
St. Patrick's	1,220
St. John's	3,250
St. Mark's	1,454

In the current year the Jetty Loan of the St. Patrick's Board will be written off (£1,100), the sinking fund contributions, at the rate of 5 per cent., which that Board elected to pay when the loan was made in 1890, having in effect extinguished the debt. The further loan of £1,000, made in 1907 from general revenue to the St. George's Board for extension of the water works, will also be brought to account this year. Sinking fund contributions and interest on these loans are regularly paid to the Colonial Treasury by the several Boards.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

11. The total imports and exports in the last five years were, in value, as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1903	235,440 ...	283,565
1904	256,269 ...	321,766
1905	237,256 ...	283,955
1906	233,448 ...	210,149
1907	288,665 ...	417,299

12. The imports of 1907, therefore, exceeded those of 1906 by £65,217, the principal increases appearing under manufactured articles, £23,830, and live animals, food, drinks, &c., £23,314; while the quantity of coin, bullion, &c., imported, £22,584, was £15,458 more than in 1906, and largely in excess of the average.

13. Following is a comparative statement of the value of the principal articles imported in the last two years:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Bread of all kinds (biscuits)	3,412	4,446
Butter	2,026	2,559
Fish (dried or preserved)	12,362	14,146
Flour (wheaten)	28,928	33,998
Meat (salted and preserved)	8,609	10,747
Medicinal extracts and preparations ...	2,732	3,215
Oats	3,999	5,107
Oil (olive, and other for cooking) ...	3,302	4,291
Oleomargarine and butterine	3,467	4,246
Rice	6,513	7,078
Spirits	3,581	4,369
Sugar:—		
Refined	2,489	2,725
Muscovado	4,603	8,355
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes... ...	2,769	3,662
Class II.—		
Coal	1,382	2,480
Manures	2,611	3,167
Petroleum oil	3,465	3,728
Timber and shingles	8,239	8,719
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery ...	10,567	11,229
Textiles	51,403	51,150
Metal manufactures	13,991	15,290
Earthen and glassware	2,265	3,078
Furniture	1,934	3,310
Leather (manufactured):—		
Boots and shoes	4,393	5,407
Other	3,779	2,727
Soap	3,174	3,914

	1906.	1907
Class IV.—	£	£
Silver coin	3,060	16,600

14. Of the imports for the year, 43 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 27 per cent. from British Colonies, and 30 per cent. from foreign countries; the corresponding percentages for 1906 were 39, 30, and 31, respectively. The proportion of foreign imports has fallen from 35 per cent. of the total in 1902 to 30 per cent. The bulk of the foreign import trade is, of course, with the United States of America, which absorbed 91 per cent. of it in 1907, the preceding year's percentage being 90. It consists principally of foodstuffs and petroleum.

15. It will serve no useful purpose to give or comment upon the figures appearing as representing the trade with Canada. According to the returns it is rapidly diminishing since the withdrawal of the subsidised line of steamers, as was to be expected. At the same time a certain quantity of Canadian products reaches the Colony through New York, and this the returns do not disclose.

16. As will be seen from the figures given in paragraph 11, the value of the exports in 1907 reached the unprecedented figure of £417,299, being nearly double the value of the preceding year, and largely in excess of the average. This result is due to the exceptionally high prices realised by cocoa, as well as to the fact that the crop of that staple and of nutmegs was fairly satisfactory.

17. The following values of the chief exports of Colonial produce in the last two years show the position clearly:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Cocoa	166,538	361,128
Spices (chiefly nutmegs) ...	24,941	35,954
Cotton and cotton seed... ...	8,003	7,731
Live animals	1,524	1,289
Timber (mahogany and cedar)...	603	1,692

18. The shipment of £2,556 in gold coins to the United States of America, appearing in the returns, deserves to be noticed as a most unusual occurrence. The cause is well known.

19. The statistics, showing the direction of the Colony's export trade in the year under review, contain a factor of unreliability which makes it impossible to indicate with accuracy the amount of the foreign trade. There exists an annually increasing practice of shipping cocoa to Havre on bills of lading *optional* for London, and it is not possible to ascertain how much of these shipments is actually diverted

to the United Kingdom from the Continent. In 1907, the figures of exports to France expand from £35,869, in 1906, to no less than £133,655, while those to the United Kingdom do not exhibit the marked advance which was to be expected from the known facts.

20. The only comment which may safely be made on the statistics, showing the direction of export trade in 1907, is that the volume of such trade with the United States of America nearly doubled itself in the year, the figures being £44,680 in 1906, and £95,063 in 1907. This is due almost entirely to the increasing market for the Grenada cocoa and spices in the States, the value shipped there in 1907 being:—Cocoa £85,470, and spices £6,856; in 1896 the corresponding figures were £4,752 for cocoa, and £1,276 for spices.

Agricultural Industries.

21. *Cocoa.*—The planters of Grenada in 1907 reaped the reward of their labours and a measure of compensation for other disappointing seasons in the highly satisfactory prices realised by the output of their plantations. The year opened with good prices in the London market (75*s.* to 82*s.* per cwt.), and these gradually rose higher and higher, until in September the record price, 119*s.* per cwt., was attained. If a thoroughly satisfactory crop had at the same time been picked, the beneficial result to the Colony, marked as it actually was, would have reached the maximum. The crop, however, was only 60,089 bags in the year ended 30th September, 1907, and this, although 5,708 bags in excess of the previous year, was much below that of the record year, 1904, when 67,225 bags were reaped.

22. The development of improved methods of cultivation and curing, which was referred to in the Annual Report for 1905, continues to receive much attention. Apparatus for drying the beans by hot air, instead of relying on the fickle sunlight, is being steadily provided on all of the best plantations, and the machine manufactured by John Gordon & Co., London, continues the prime favourite, and, apparently, deservedly so. Another move in the right direction is that taken by the Agricultural and Commercial Society, with funds granted for the purpose by Government, in giving prizes to peasant proprietors for the best kept and cultivated holdings of cocoa. The first prizes were distributed at Gouyave on March 21st by the Honourable C. M. Browne, C.M.G., the President of the Society, and the results were most gratifying. Operations in this direction are being extended this year.

23. *Spices.*—In quantity, the nutmeg crop for the year ended 30th September was a distinct improvement on that of the preceding year, amounting to 7,284 barrels and 735 half-barrels, as compared with 5,393 barrels and 602 half-barrels in 1906. Prices, however, were not satisfactory, and there is no evidence of an expanding market for this product at

present. In methods of cultivation there seems little, if anything, left to be desired, and a well-kept nutmeg grove, such as that at Belvidere (to mention the largest in the island) is one of the most satisfying sights in the Tropics.

24. *Cotton.*—The cotton crop fell below that of 1906, 934 bales of lint and 4,742 bags of seed being exported in the year ended 30th September, 1907, against 1,019 bales and 5,692 bags in the previous year. This is not surprising in view of the deficient rainfall at Carriacou, the seat of this industry, in 1907, when only 33½ inches were recorded, or less than one-half of the preceding year's record. Improvements in cultivation can be noticed in connection with this product also, following upon the success of the Land Settlement Scheme in the Dependency, the example set by recent opening up of some of the large estates there, and the energetic efforts of the Commissioner, Mr. Whitfield Smith. Sea Island cotton is being steadily taken up by the new class of peasant proprietors there, who are becoming assured that it can be successfully and profitably cultivated in the island.

Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme.

25. In regard to this, the fourth year of its working, it is again possible to record continued success of this scheme, and the subjoined figures will show that its pecuniary details are satisfactory:—

	£
Total expenditure on the scheme to 31st December, 1907	8,448
Received in cash up to that date	4,101
Balance due, Colonial Treasury	£4,347

	£	£
Total value of lots surveyed for sale ...		7,466
Cash received for lots sold	3,136	
Balance due by allottees, payable by instalments bearing interest at 5 per cent. ...	4,038	
Value of unsold lots	292	
		7,466

	£
Approximate value of reserves and other property resulting from the purchase of the estates	3,679

26. In his Annual Report on the Dependency, the Commissioner thus refers to the scheme: ". . . . . the people continue to make steady progress in the improvement of their holdings. One of the most prominent features, which marks the elevating results and success of the Land Scheme, is the large number of substantial cottages which have recently come

into existence on the lands of allottees. These are neat wooden structures of two or three rooms, often with glass windows and painted roofs; they stand out in marked contrast to the type of 'shanty' usually affected by the peasant cultivator of Grenada, and afford another instance of the remarkable thriftiness of these islanders. The cultivation of Sea Island cotton has now taken firm hold amongst the allottees, and most of them have plots, varying in size from half-acre to one acre, planted with this variety."

27. A work of some importance to the future of the little island was commenced during the year and brought near to completion. This was the construction of a jetty in Hillsborough Bay for the landing and shipment of goods and produce, and for the safety of passengers, hitherto exposed at times to much danger in consequence of the heavy surf which frequently breaks on the beach. Unlike the similar jetties in Grenada this structure is of steel and iron, and it is hoped will prove permanent. The cost, about £1,500, is being borne by the Colonial revenue, and while it is anticipated that the dues levied on shipments inwards and outwards will provide a sum, annually, equivalent to interest and sinking fund contributions on that amount, it may also be mentioned that the yearly saving resulting from better road administration in the Dependency since 1904 will of itself recoup the outlay in about eight years.

Manufactures.

28. Thirteen distilleries were at work in 1907, and the quantity of the rum manufactured thereat was 46,675 gallons, or 10,697 gallons more than in 1906, while the excise duty on the amount consumed realised £11,006, as compared with £10,555 in 1906. There were 160 dealers licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors in the year, 17 being for wholesale and 143 for retail dealing; the revenue from these licences amounted to £3,455.

Shipping.

29. The total tonnage of shipping inwards and outwards in the last five years was as follows:—

	Tons.
1903	569,190
1904	632,291
1905	639,348
1906	595,534
1907	513,902

30. In the year under review, 99 per cent. of this was British shipping, and this is the general rule. The slight shrinkage of the total volume of shipping in the last two years is doubtless due to the discontinuance of the call here by the subsidised Canadian steamers.

LEGISLATION.

31. Of the 14 Ordinances passed by the Legislature in 1907, the most important were those "to validate a marriage between a man and his deceased wife's sister," and "to consolidate and amend the law relating to public primary education." To the latter reference will be made in its proper place, the former keeps pace with Imperial legislation on the subject, and remedies a long-standing defect in the marriage law.

EDUCATION.

Primary.

32. Although the new system, created by the Ordinance above referred to, did not actually come into operation until 1908, it is possible to record that definite legislative action was taken in 1907, putting an end to the state of transition which has existed since 1905 in regard to primary education in the Colony. The system in force, which was last revised in 1896, had been found both too expensive in its gradual expansion for the Colony's revenue to support, and also quite unsuited to the real wants of the community. Proposals for a complete change, originating with the late Governor, had been fully threshed out by the Board of Education, and a Bill was prepared at several discussions of that body which was passed by the Legislative Council in June, 1906, the date of its commencement to operate as law being fixed for the 1st of April, 1907. In the interval, however, not only was it ascertained to be more expensive in its working than had been anticipated, but its provisions failed to secure the support of those most interested in it, the managers of the denominational schools, which form the majority of the primary schools in the Colony. Upon the present Governor's arrival in January, 1907, they made energetic representations to His Excellency about the measure, and, after full consideration, it was decided that their criticisms were sufficiently well grounded and the fact of increased cost sufficiently clear to make it advisable not to enforce the new measure in April, and it was accordingly suspended by an Ordinance passed with that object.

33. A fresh Bill was then prepared, which, while taking as its basis the original proposals to which the suspended Ordinance owed its birth, gave effect to them in another way, which removed the obstacles discovered and disposed of the difficulties of the school managers, as represented. This was presented to the Legislative Council in July, and, after discussion by a committee of the Board of Education, most of whose sug-

gestions were adopted, was finally passed by the Legislative Council in December, 1907, and became law on 1st April, 1908. Comment on its provisions belongs, therefore, to the report for the current year.

34. There were 45 elementary schools in Grenada in 1907, nine of which were Government schools, supported altogether from Colonial revenue, and the remainder denominational schools aided by grants from that revenue. Twenty-one of these belong to the Roman Catholic Church, nine to the Anglicans, four to the Wesleyans, and two to the Church of Scotland. The total expenditure of the schools amounted in 1907 to £5,592, of which £5,215 was from public funds, the corresponding figures for 1906 being £5,727 and £5,467. The numbers on the roll were 10,406, and the average attendance 4,850.

SECONDARY.

35. No definite progress can be recorded in regard to this question in 1907. The Ordinance passed in 1906, but not brought into operation, remained in that condition of suspended animation, the primary difficulty connected with it, viz., the provision of funds for the erection of a boys' school, not being surmounted. The question, however, engaged the careful consideration of the Government, and in the current year proposals have been made and are being brought to finality, which should place the whole system on a sound and satisfactory footing.

36. During 1907 the existing boys' and girls' schools in St. George's were carried on, upon a temporary footing, under acting officers, and the Government grants to them were provisionally continued. The average attendance of boys was 25, and of the girls 27.

37. The St. Joseph's Convent School continued its satisfactory work as usual during the year. The considerations affecting the other two secondary schools have no connection with it.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

38. *Colony Hospital.*—Eight hundred and seventy-two cases were treated in 1907, the daily average being 94, and the cost per patient £22 16*s.* 3*d.* Four hundred and ninety-five patients were discharged cured, 247 were relieved, and 44 died. In the out-patient department there were 1,953 attendances, and there were 79 paying patients in the wards, from whom £114 in fees were received by the Colonial Treasury.

39. *Yaws' Hospital.*—Two hundred and forty cases were treated, the admissions being 158 in number, and the daily average 79; of these 168 were discharged cured, and one died from Bright's disease. The institution cost the Colony £805 in the year for maintenance.

40. *St. Andrew's District Hospital.*—One hundred and forty-five cases were treated, the daily average being 11; 121 were cured, 6 relieved, and 8 died. The cost per patient was £34 4*s.* 5*d.*, which is higher than in any other local institution. The dispensary receipts were £201 17*s.*, and 9,512 prescriptions were compounded, of which 4,023 were paid for. The District Dispensary was enlarged in 1907, securing *inter alia* a waiting room for patients.

41. *Carriacou District Hospital.*—An immense improvement has been effected here by the opening on the 1st October, 1907, of the new Bellevue Hospital. At this fine stone building, in the centre of the island, 800 feet above sea level, accommodation is provided for 28 patients, and it is made use of not only by natives of the Colony but by the people from the adjacent Grenadine islands belonging to St. Vincent. One hundred and seventy-eight patients were treated at the old and new hospitals in 1907, with a daily average of 14; 123 were cured, 36 relieved, and 5 died. The cost of a patient in the year was £30 15*s.* 9*d.* The receipts from the District Dispensary were £73, and 4,231 prescriptions were compounded, of which 1,224 were paid for.

42. *Lunatic Asylum.*—Forty-six patients were admitted during the year, of whom 21 were from St. Lucia, 24 from Grenada, and 1 from St. Vincent. The number under treatment was 174, of whom 23 were discharged and 7 died, and the daily average was 132, which is somewhat in excess of the accommodation. The departmental accounts were prepared and audited for the first time, in accordance with recent instructions from the Secretary of State, and show the cost of the institution to have been £2,447 in 1907, of which £1,066 was repaid by St. Lucia and St. Vincent and by paying patients, making the share borne by Grenada £1,151.

43. *Poor Asylum.*—This is practically a hospital for incurables, and 84 were cared for during the year, of whom 11 left of their own accord, 1 had to be transferred to the lunatic asylum, 1 was drowned while on leave and bathing in the sea, and 16 died at the institution. An inmate cost about £10 for maintenance.

44. The improved financial conditions of the year were fully reflected in the work of the Savings Banks. The depositors increased in number from 1,475 to 1,638, and the amount deposited from £7,875 to £12,564, while the balance remaining at the end of the year amounted to £15,419, as compared with £12,378 at 31st December, 1906. Of this balance £12,000 was invested in Colonial Securities and £2,000 was on deposit at

interest with the Colonial Bank. Arrangements were made with the British Minister at Panama whereby Grenadians on the isthmus can deposit their money in the Savings Bank of the Colony.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

45. The strength of the police force is 71, of all ranks, and comprises the Chief of Police, the sub-inspector, 5 sergeants, 5 corporals, 9 lance-corporals, and 50 privates; it receives a semi-military training, and is armed with the Martini-Enfield rifle. The men were exercised at rifle practice at the Queen's Park Range in 1907, going through the "Trained Men's Course —Militia" with satisfactory results. It may also be recorded that the headquarters' detachment stood the test of a rather trying period in October, when the normal calm of Grenada was interrupted for a time by popular excitement on account of an attempt made by a Revenue Officer to murder the Colonial Treasurer, and that they acquitted themselves creditably.

46. Two hundred and fifty-eight persons were committed to the Richmond Hill Prison in 1907, 203 men and 55 women; 225 being from Grenada, 30 from St. Lucia, and 3 from St. Vincent; the daily average being 63. Of the 258 committals, 215 were for purposes of penal imprisonment, and the 30 from St. Lucia were a batch of convicted rioters. The departmental accounts, kept for the first time this year in accordance with recent instructions from the Secretary of State, and audited, show that, after deducting £331 paid by St. Lucia and St. Vincent in respect of the maintenance of their convicts, the prison cost the Colony £836.

47. The prison suffered a loss in 1907 in the person of its excellent Superintendent, Mr. Richard Heels, who had to go on leave in August, his health having broken down, and has finally retired in the current year.

48. The Acting Attorney-General reports that the criminal statistics for the year indicate a noticeable decrease in crime, although the number of summary convictions for prædial larceny is apparently on the increase. This is due to the special efforts being made to check this form of crime, amongst which may be mentioned the grant of free summonses to complainants in the Magistrates' Courts in such cases.

VITAL STATISTICS.

49. The emigration in 1907 to the Canal Zone of Panama was not upon the same large scale as in the preceding year, and, according to the returns made, the Colony's apparent loss in population, due to emigrants not returned from the Isthmus during the year, was only 180. Deducting these from the population, as shown by the natural increase since the last census, the estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1907, was 71,504, or an increase of 8,066 on the census figures.

50. The birth-rate was 36·26 per thousand of the mean estimated population, and the death-rate 19·59, the averages for the preceding decennial period being 41·27 and 21·80, respectively. The fall in the birth-rate is perhaps attributable to the absence of large numbers of males in Panama.

51. The year under review was exceptionally healthy, a result probably attributable to the abnormally small rainfall, which will be noticed in the next section. A comparison of the deaths from the four principal causes in Grenada in 1906 and 1907 is here given to illustrate the improved conditions:—

	1906.	1907.
Diarrhœa	204 ...	112
Dysentery	135 ...	47
Enteritis	190 ...	165
Fevers	175 ...	120

52. Yellow fever was successfully kept out of the Colony from neighbouring islands, where it was prevalent. Two cases were imported from Trinidad, but were immediately isolated, and the disease did not spread. Twelve cases of the usual type of mild small-pox occurred, and being carefully isolated, the progress of the disease was checked in each instance.

53. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are as follows:—

Rainfall—	Inches.
North of the Island	65·58
Centre of the Island	131·19
South of the Island	59·04
Carriacou	33·61

The following figures are for the south of the Island:—

Mean relative humidity	76·3°
Maximum temperature	89·4°
Minimum temperature	67·8°
Mean pressure	29·979ins.
Days of rain	232

54. The average rainfall at the Meteorological Station in the south of the island in the 15 years ended 1905 was 78·34 inches,

in 1906 it was 83·27 inches, while, as will be seen above, it amounted to only 59·04 in 1907. In Carriacou the deficient rainfall was even more marked, the record of 1906 being 68·40 inches, while only 33·61 inches were received in 1907.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

55. There was an increase in Post Office business in the year 1907, as the subjoined figures show:—

	1906.	1907.
Letters and post cards	446,927	484,943
Newspapers, books, &c.	142,710	162,176
Registered articles	11,020	11,096
Parcels	6,950	7,421
Money orders issued and paid ...	£20,287	£24,807
British postal orders issued and paid	£2,442	£2,856

56. A prominent feature of the year's transactions was the large amount of money received from emigrants to the Canal Zone of the Panama Isthmus under the money order system established in July, 1906, no less than £6,235 being remitted to Grenada in this manner. In the five months of the preceding year, when it was in operation, £2,228 were thus remitted.

57. On the 17th September a new contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, for the transport of the inter-Colonial mails for ten years, commenced to operate. One-half of the total subsidy for this service, £25,000, is paid by the Imperial Government, and of the remaining £12,500 Grenada contributes £900 per annum. The Colonies concerned are to be congratulated upon the final settlement of this important question, and the ending of the difficulties and delays resulting from the absence of a service under contract.

58. The telephone service was satisfactorily maintained throughout the year, and there are no special changes or improvements worthy of mention.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

59. A rifle club was formed in St. George's on the 20th August, 1907, and is allowed the use of the Police Range at Queen's Park and of a certain number of police rifles. Police assistance is also given at the butts and in cleaning and attending to the rifles, and the Government allows the club to draw from the magazine an allowance not exceeding 10,000 cartridges per annum at half the cost price.

GENERAL REMARKS.

60. His Excellency, Ralph C. Williams, C.M.G., who had been appointed Governor of the Windward Islands on the 8th September, 1906, arrived in the Colony on the 16th of January, 1907, and next morning took the oaths of office. On the 9th of November the King was pleased to confer upon His Excellency the honour of appointment to be a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

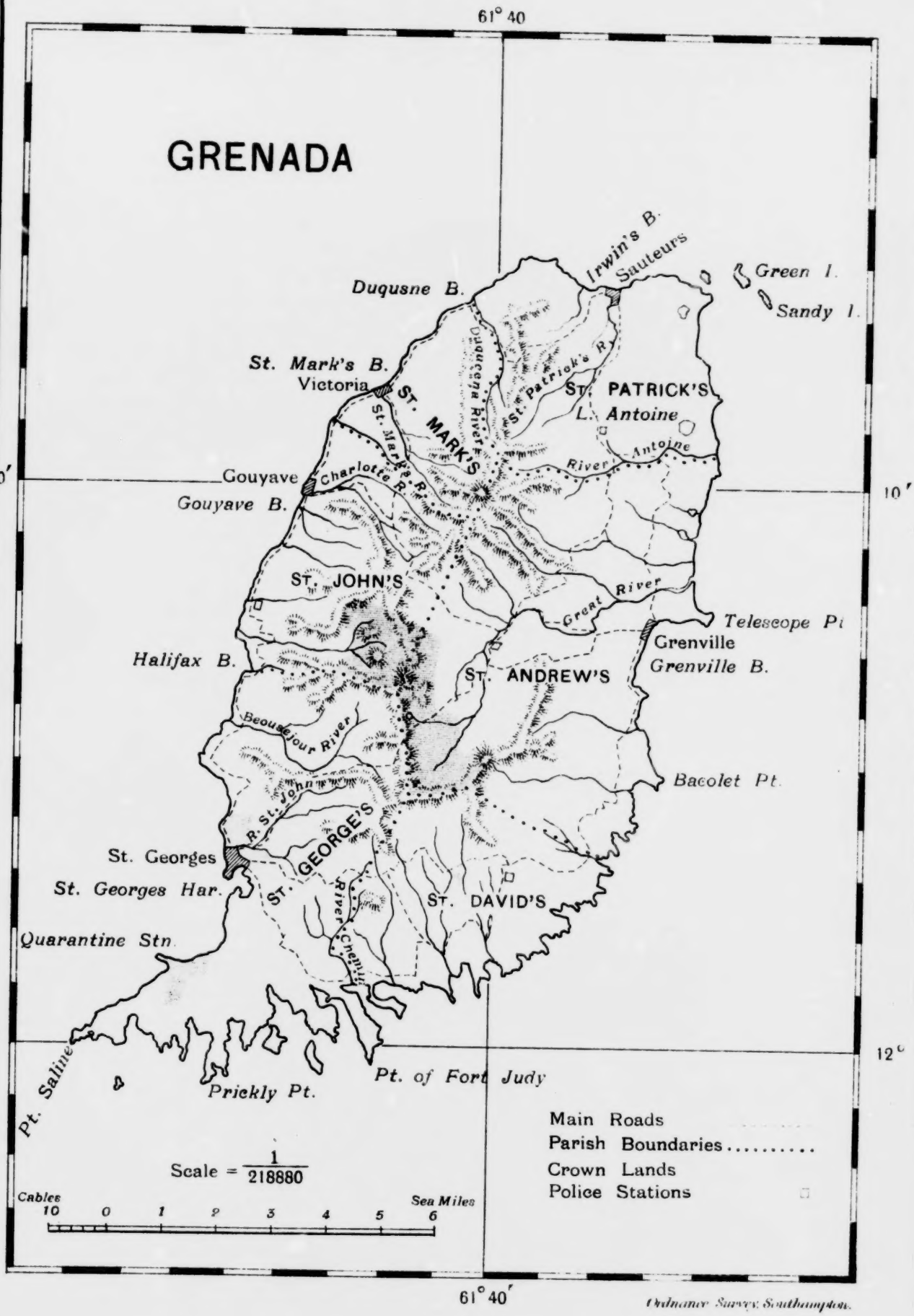
61. A Commission was appointed on 4th March to enquire into certain matters of importance affecting the peasant proprietary of the island, and presented its report and recommendations on 3rd December. Legislative and other action is being taken in the current year in these matters, and more satisfactory conditions may fairly be anticipated from the contemplated improvements.

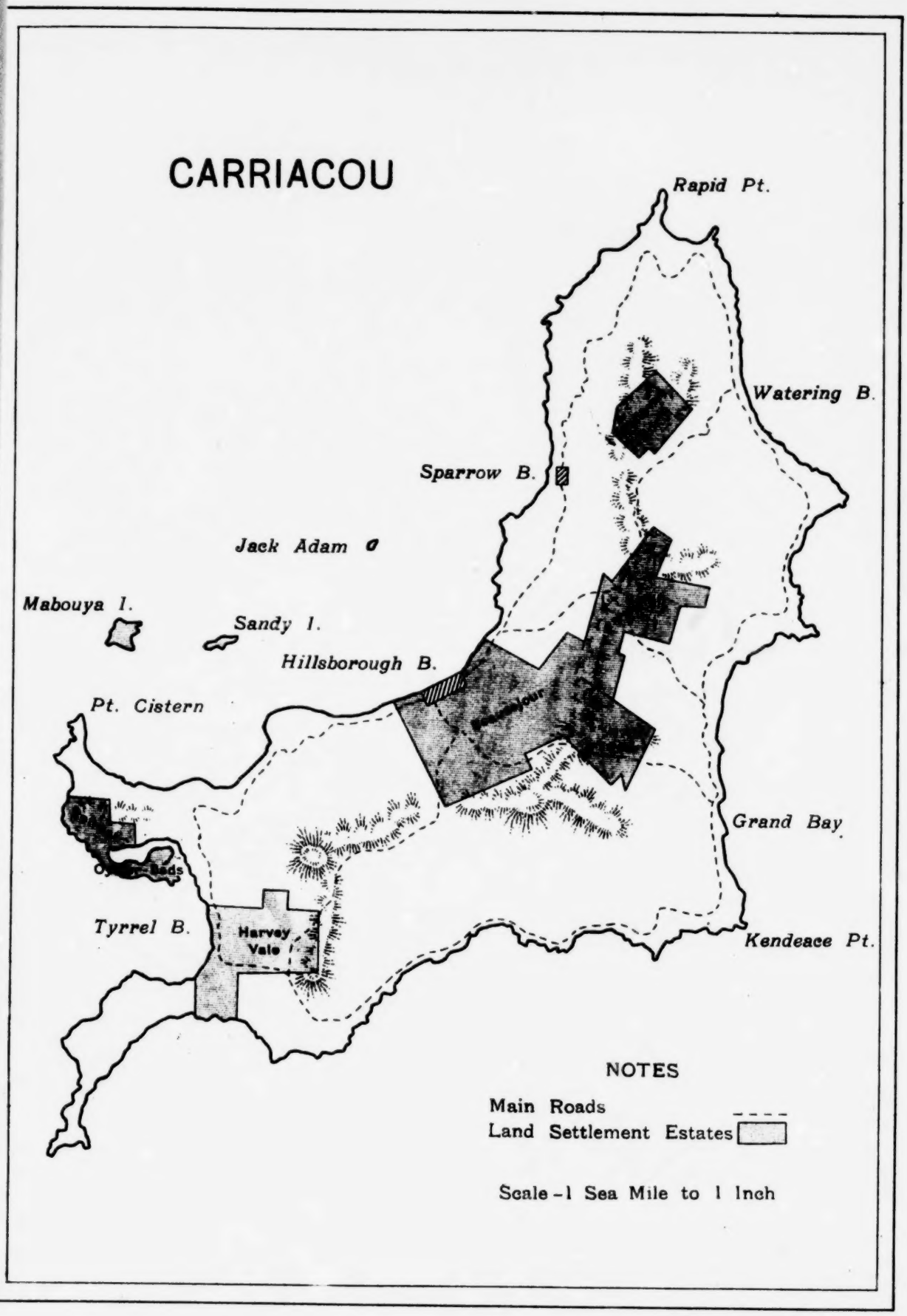
EDWARD DRAYTON,

Administrator.

Grenada,

31st October, 1908.


GRENADA
61° 40
Irwin's B.
Sauteurs
Green I.
Sandy I.
Duqusne B.
St. Mark's B.
Victoria
ST. MARK'S
Duqusne River
St. Patrick's R.
ST. PATRICK'S
L. Antoine
River Antoine
Gouyave
Gouyave B.
Charlotte R.
St. Marks R.
ST. JOHN'S
Great River
Telescope Pt
Grenville
Grenville B.
Halifax B.
ST. ANDREW'S
Beausejour River
Bacolet Pt.
R. St. John
ST. GEORGE'S
St. Georges
St. Georges Har.
ST. DAVID'S
River Chenier
Quarantine Stn.
Pt. Saline
Prickly Pt.
Pt. of Fort Judy
Main Roads
Parish Boundaries
Crown Lands
Police Stations
Scale = 1/218880
Cables
10 0 1 2 3 4 5 6
Sea Miles
61° 40′
Ordnance Survey, Southampton.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar...	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda...	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia...	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907
585	Barbados...	1907–1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
4	Newfoundland...	Governor's visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 616.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1908.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 579.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1909.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1909.

[Cd. 4448-25.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. Financial	4
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
III. Legislation	11
IV. Education	11
V. Government Institutions	12
VI. Judicial Statistics	14
VII. Vital Statistics	15
VIII. Postal and Telephone Services	17
IX. General Remarks	18
Sketch Map.	

No. 616.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 579.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Lucia,
3rd September, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1908, prepared by the Acting-Colonial Secretary, Mr. H. A. Smallwood.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,

(14415—2.) Wt. 26122—322. 1125. 10/09. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1908.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1909, amounted to £65,694 0*s.* 7*d.*, or £1,657 0*s.* 6*d.* less than that of 1907-8. The decrease would have been greater had not the following amounts been brought into account:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Transfer from Sinking Fund on redemption of Central Factory Six per cent. Loan	234	19	3
Vacant successions	156	17	0
Public works, materials, and stores	255	13	11
Balance of Land Sales Fund	1,752	5	11

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure, 1908-9, as compared with that of 1907-8.

Heads of Revenue.	1907–8.			1908–9.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Customs	32,621	14	10	31,289	18	10
2. Port, harbour, &c., dues	7,086	8	10	5,185	8	11
3. Licences, excise, &c.	18,955	18	9	18,259	2	7
4. Fees of Court or office, payments for specific services.	3,510	9	4	3,399	12	11
5. Post Office...	1,118	15	6	969	11	10
6. Telephones	625	19	5	755	4	0
7. Rent of Government property	846	6	1	786	5	6
8. Miscellaneous	275	1	3	1,039	4	0
9. Interest	1,398	16	9	1,414	5	0
10. Repayment of loans	175	10	0	175	10	0
11. Part proceeds of sale of reclaimed lands	21	0	4	167	11	1
11A. Land sales (balance transferred from Land Sales Fund).				1,752	5	11
12. Imperial Department of Agriculture Grant-in-aid.	715	0	0	500	0	0
Total	67,351	1	1	65,694	0	7

Heads of Expenditure.	1907–8.			1908–9.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d*
1. Charges on account of Public Debt ...	11,514	10	0	9,446	3	8
2. Pensions	1,877	12	7	1,848	5	1
3. The Governor and Legislature	2,983	2	1	3,055	19	2
4. Treasury, Customs and Inland Revenue Department.	3,439	19	3	4,878	12	2
5. Post Office...	1,178	16	11	2,056	4	3
6. Port and Marine	960	9	3	1,029	17	9
7. Audit	551	17	9	543	19	1
8. Legal Departments	4,227	16	3	3,974	15	6
Carried forward	26,734	4	1	26,833	16	8

Heads of Expenditure.	1907–8.			1908–9.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward...	26,734	4	1	26,833	16	8
9. Local Forces	446	6	7	719	7	4
10. Police	4,934	13	10	4,470	13	2
11. Prisons	2,039	15	9	2,506	13	11
12. Medical Department	2,918	7	5	3,065	13	2
13. Hospitals and Asylums	3,018	4	0	3,299	1	2
14. Charitable	553	5	10	533	2	7
15. Education	4,326	17	11	4,698	17	0
16. Ecclesiastical	1,600	0	0	1,600	0	0
17. Agriculture (from local funds)	946	3	7	1,188	15	7
18. Miscellaneous services	2,649	3	8	2,403	8	8
19. Colonial Engineer's Department ...	2,595	9	7	2,557	15	8
20. Public Works Recurrent	6,684	1	0	6,563	15	3
	59,466	13	3	60,441	0	2
21. Public Works Extraordinary	4,685	10	8	3,992	14	2
	64,152	3	11	64,433	14	4
17A. Agriculture (from Imperial funds) ...	687	11	7	604	3	10
Total	64,839	15	6	65,037	13	2

The revenue and expenditure for the last completed five years is as follows:—

	£		£
1904-5	69,273	...	65,508
1905-6	61,877	...	62,521
1906-7	60,012	...	60,294
1907-8	67,351	...	64,840
1908-9	65,694	...	65,038

Included in the above figures are the receipts on account of, and expenditure from, the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture.

The surplus and deficit account stood at £26,159 19*s.* 11*d.* on 31st March, 1909, not including the sum of £3,065 4*s.* 11*d.* to the credit of the public buildings insurance fund, making a total surplus of £29,225 4*s.* 10*d.*, or an increase of £1,187 9*s.* 6*d.* during the year. This surplus is invested in securities in England to the amount of £26,170 4*s.* 9*d.* face value, £22,953 14*s.* 5*d.* on account of surplus funds, and £3,216 10*s.* 4*d.* public buildings insurance fund.

The public debt of the Colony was £151,029 11*s.* 0*d.* on the 31st March, 1909. During the year £2,700 was paid to bondholders towards its reduction.

The Central Sugar Factory Six per cent. Loan was finally redeemed.

The sinking fund for the redemption of the public debt amounted to £14,924 14*s.* 6*d.* on the 31st March, 1909, and was fully invested.

The Spanish doubloon was demonetized; this was the only change in the currency during the year. Gold is scarce, due to the fact that there is no limit to tender of silver tokens.

The only municipality or Town Board is that of Castries. On 31st March, 1909, the amount to the credit of the Town Board was £525 0*s*. 10*d*., and its debt on same date amounted to £18,903 14*s*. 5*d*. Its revenue was £5,349 19*s*. 10*d*., and expenditure (including debt charges) was £5,188 11*s*. 11*d*.

The statement appended shows the number of licences issued for the sale of liquor during the year ended 31st March, 1909, and the revenue derived therefrom:—

Licences.	Rate of licence.	Number of licences issued quarterly.				Revenue.
		April to June.	July to September.	October to December.	January to March.	£ s. d.
Wholesale Liquor ..	£20 yearly	2	3	3	3	55 0 0
Retail Spirit ..	Castries £15 quarterly ..	12	12	12	12	720 0 0
	Soufriere £9 "	4	4	4	4	144 0 0
	Other places £5 "	28	27	27	29	555 0 0
Bottle	£40 yearly	2	2	2	2	80 0 0
Hotel	£6 "	1	1	1	1	6 0 0
Occasional	Rate fixed by Governor in Council in each case.	2	—	2	1	3 7 6
Refreshment House ..	£30 yearly	2	2	2	2	60 0 0
						1,623 7 6

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The declared value of imports during 1908 was £289,775, or £20,534 less than 1907.

The proportion of imports from the United Kingdom during 1908 was 31 per cent., from British possessions 10 per cent., and from foreign countries 59 per cent.

The following statement shows the total value of imports from the above three sources during 1907 and 1908:—

	1907. £	1908. £
United Kingdom	80,603 ...	90,177
British possessions	33,982 ...	28,927
Foreign countries	195,724 ...	170,671

The preponderance of imports from foreign countries is due to the fact that nearly all the bunker coal imported comes from the United States, and amounted in 1907 to 111,232 tons, valued at £137,200, and in 1908 to 96,373 tons, valued at £119,794.

Imports from Canada amounted to £6,077 in value; in 1907 to £6,818.

There was a marked decrease in the quantity of butter imported, being 35,843 lbs. less than in the previous year; while on the other hand oleomargarine increased by 27,667 lbs.

The importation of sugar decreased by 90,831 lbs., probably owing to increased consumption of that locally made.

The value of the exports during the year was £252,668; but included in this is the value of certain military stores shipped to Jamaica amounting to £50,000. Eliminating this amount from the value of exports, there is a decrease in the declared value of £61,733 compared with 1907. The lower price of cocoa and a less quantity—1,355,000 lbs. in 1908, against 1,719,700 lbs.—account in some measure for the decrease, and the value of bunker coal exported fell by £30,000; logwood and sugar also showed decreases. On the other hand, rum was exported to a quantity of 23,440 gallons, against only 3,360 in 1907.

Cocoa, sugar, and its products account for £88,000 of the total value of the exports the produce of the Colony.

Bunker coal was taken to the value of £102,288, as compared with £142,381 in 1907.

Canada took produce of this Colony to the value of £8,318, as compared with £8,556 in 1907.

The following table gives the values of imports and exports for the last five years:—

	Imports. £	Exports. £
1904	370,706 ...	172,030
1905	285,987 ...	211,653
1906	242,470 ...	220,313
1907	310,309 ...	264,401
1908	289,775 ...	252,668

The discrepancy between the value of imports and exports can be accounted for by various factors that should be taken into consideration, otherwise the mere figures would appear to show that over-importation was going on. The money spent by the shipping and the commissions earned are two of the most important of such factors affecting the balance in favour of imports.

Shipping.

There is only one port of entry, viz., Castries.

There was a decrease in shipping during 1908, but St. Lucia was not alone in having to show a diminution in the number of vessels calling to bunker, for there was a disposition to lay up shipping during the year, which re-acted adversely on all coaling ports.

The number of steam vessels entered was 577, with a tonnage of 1,084,203, a decrease on the previous year of 139 in number and 221,754 in tonnage.

Eighty-four per cent. or 487 of the number, and 88 per cent. of the tonnage or 957,866, was British.

The total tonnage of steam shipping, other than men-of-war, Government vessels, and yachts, that entered and cleared was 2,167,330 tons, or a decrease of 459,888 tons on that of 1907.

There also called at the Port of Castries 11 men-of-war, 1 yacht, and 6 United States Government vessels.

The following tables give the number of vessels, British and foreign, entered and cleared with tonnage during the last five years:—

VESSELS ENTERED.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1904 ...	373	544,895	231	7,349	77	98,544	45	2,899
1905 ...	452	748,494	207	6,941	99	155,846	43	4,774
1906 ...	534	931,449	246	7,310	83	124,024	38	3,749
1907 ...	615	1,169,037	245	9,772	101	136,920	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	957,866	203	7,340	90	126,337	38	2,267

VESSELS CLEARED.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.
1904 ...	374	546,795	237	7,537	77	98,544	45	2,869
1905 ...	452	748,494	207	6,941	98	153,905	43	4,774
1906 ...	534	931,449	252	7,541	84	125,965	37	3,696
1907 ...	914	1,166,991	216	7,606	100	134,803	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	958,607	201	7,387	89	124,520	38	2,267

Castries is a port of registry, and on 31st December there were 13 sailing vessels, with a net tonnage of 591 tons, remaining on the register.

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

The sulphur deposits at Soufriere were worked a little during the year, and 25 tons of a value of £75 were exported.

The sugar factories working during 1908 were the same as in 1907, viz., Cul-de-Sac, Vieuxfort, Roseau, and Dennery.

The amount of sugar exported was 4,881 tons crystallized and 101 tons muscovado.

Molascuit, which seems to be growing in favour as a food for cattle, was exported to the extent of 2,594 bags.

The two distilleries, Cul-de-Sac and Troumassee, worked during the year, and the quantity of rum manufactured, 83,532 gallons,

exceeded that of 1907 by no less than 26,319 gallons, and most of this excess was exported. This is a hopeful sign of a revival in the export trade of rum, which for the previous five years had steadily declined. The local consumption hardly varied, being 51,216 gallons for 1908, against 51,453 gallons in 1907, and is not capable of much expansion; it is also very sensitive to the circumstances of the bunkering coal trade prevailing at any given time, but it is hoped, with a continuance of the better prices now being obtained for rum, that the export trade will steadily expand.

The following table shows the quantity of rum distilled locally, consumed and exported, during the last five years:—

Year.	Distilled.	Consumed.	Exported.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1904	57,429	52,562	5,684
1905	56,150	50,337	8,655
1906 ... —	49,553	46,950	6,319
1907	57,213	51,453	3,652
1908	83,532	51,216	23,440

Agricultural Industries.

Sugar.—Although the quantities exported (the only index available to the quantities produced) of sugar and its products, except rum, were less than those exported in 1907, yet the enhanced prices ruling during 1908 resulted in an appreciable increase in value, and for their sugar, molascuit, and molasses the planters received £55,137, as compared with £54,348 in 1907. In 1907 the quantity of rum sent to the United Kingdom was only eight gallons; in 1908 the quantity rose to 12,938 gallons, of the value of £755.

Cocoa.—The year under review cannot be regarded as having been a prosperous one for the cocoa industry, which takes the second place among the industries of the Colony, for owing to short crops and a large drop in the price as compared with the previous year, the output realised only £30,487, as compared with £47,292 in 1907. The shortage in the crop is apparent from the following figures, showing the quantity of cocoa produced during each of the last five years:—

	Bags.
1904	6,768
1905	9,468
1906	7,896
1907	8,598
1908	6,775

Honey.—The amount of honey produced (252 packages) was also considerably below that of the previous year, but this was compensated by an appreciable and welcome increase in price, the product realising £356, as compared with £361 for 354 packages in 1907.

Fruit.—There appear to be indications of the growth of a promising fruit trade with the neighbouring Colony of Barbados, the value of the fruit shipped to that island during the year being £808. In 1907 the value was £672, and in 1906 £448.

Limes.—The planting of limes continued steadily during the year, and it is perhaps to be regarded as an indication of promise that the planters are now starting their own nurseries for the plants instead of relying, as hitherto, on the Agricultural Department to supply their needs in this direction.

The plantations are still young, and it will, of course, be yet a few years before the full effect of the widespread planting which has taken,—and is taking—place can be seen in the export returns. In 1908 the value of the limes and lime juice exported was £202, as compared with £192 in 1907.

Cotton.—The planting of cotton has not made the progress which was looked for, but a local firm has commenced the cultivation on a fairly large scale on an estate near Choiseul, and has erected a well-equipped ginnery in Castries. A propaganda for the encouragement of the industry has been started by the Agricultural Society, and greater progress may reasonably be expected in the coming year.

The Botanic Station and the Agricultural School and the Experiment Station were maintained in their usual good order.

The number of plants distributed was 43,492—a number largely below that for 1907, when 74,644 were distributed. The decrease is accounted for by the diminished demand from the Government nurseries for lime plants, large numbers of which, as has already been said, are being raised in private nurseries. Nevertheless, the number of lime plants issued totalled 23,610.

Several of the *Castilloa elastica* trees in the Botanic Station were tapped for the purpose of preparing an exhibit for the International Rubber Exhibition, held at Olympia in September, 1908. This sample was afterwards sent to the Imperial Institute for examination, and the report thereon states that its commercial value was about 3*s.* 6*d.* per pound in London, with fine hard Para from South America quoted at 4*s.* 3½*d.* per pound.

A new Agricultural Instructor, with special knowledge of cotton cultivation, was appointed, and assumed his duties on the 30th April, 1908.

The total expenditure on the Botanic Station was £784, and the receipts from the sale of plants amounted to £71—the highest on record from this source.

The number of pupils maintained at the Agricultural School during the year averaged 23·09. Eight new boys were admitted, four completed their course, and two were discharged—one at his own request, after being five months in the school, and the other at the end of his probationary period.

Vegetables, cocoa, and milk, in quantities sufficient to meet the requirements of the school, were produced at the station, and represent a saving of £57 on the expenditure for dietary.

The reports on the half-yearly examinations of the pupils were satisfactory, and the Medical Officer reports that the health conditions were excellent, no serious case of illness having occurred during the year.

The expenditure on the Agricultural School and Experimental Station amounted to £907 19*s*. 6*d*., but against this expenditure has to be placed the receipts from the sale of live stock, plants, and produce to the value of £81, in addition to which ground provisions were supplied to the Royal Gaol and the Victoria Hospital to the value of £105.

During 1908 the applications for grants of Crown land numbered 126 for a total acreage of 1,323 acres; this shows an increase of 31 in applications and 328 acres over 1907. The revenue derived from sale of Crown lands amounted to £817 10*s*. 9*d*.

Of surveys 77 were executed through the department, 65 of which were for Crown lands allotments.

Forty Crown grants were issued, and 63 fully completed; one remained unissued.

The acreage alienated was 252 acres 2 roods and 19 perches.

Under escheat proceedings Government resumed 793 acres 2 roods and 16 perches. Of this area 627 acres had already been applied for, and applications lodged for 75 acres.

A system of Crown traces was commenced, which are intended to serve primarily, and in an inexpensive manner, those lands which have been disposed of by the Crown, and to assist private proprietors in obtaining readier access to their properties. These traces are so selected and graded that at any future date they may be developed into byways or main roads.

The Land Sales Fund was closed as on 31st March, 1909, and the credit balance, amounting to £1,753, carried to general revenue.

Cocoa, coffee, and other plants were distributed free to purchasers of Crown lands..

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven ordinances were passed during the year.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The number of primary schools increased from 46 in 1907 to 51 open at the end of 1908.

In these 51 schools there was a total number of 7,018 pupils on the roll, being an increase of 302 over the previous year. Of the 51 schools open at the end of 1908 there were 46 Roman Catholic

with 6,141 pupils on the roll, an average attendance of 3,871, and 5,290 examined.

The three Anglican schools had 599 on the roll, an average attendance of 134, and 190 examined. The East Indian Mission school, with 37 on the roll, and an average attendance of 28, had 33 examined.

The amount of Government Grant-in-Aid of primary education was £3,648, of which sum £3,171 was paid to the Roman Catholic schools, £329 to the Anglican schools, £93 to the Wesleyan school, and £55 to the East Indian Mission.

During the year the Grant-in-Aid was increased from £3,400 to £4,000, and a change was made in the system of its distribution.

The teaching of elementary tropical hygiene was continued with fairly satisfactory results.

The Agricultural Department conducted an examination in agriculture, both practical and theoretical, in 19 schools.

Progress is undoubtedly being made in the learning of English. The importance of this to the children of St. Lucia can hardly be exaggerated, and special stress is being laid on this point by the Inspector of Schools. The introduction of hygiene and agriculture into the syllabus will also help on this most desirable object.

The two secondary schools continued during the year.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Thirteen inmates remained in the lunatic asylum at the end of 1907.

Seventeen were admitted during 1908, making a total of 30 patients treated.

In addition there were 33 lunatics under treatment in the Grenada Lunatic Asylum at the end of the year.

At the end of 1907 there were housed in the Poor Asylum 60 people; during the year 40 were admitted, making a total of 100 treated.

Deaths numbered 20.

During the year 151 persons were under treatment in the Yaws Hospital. There were four deaths—three from yaws and one from leprosy.

The Poor Asylum and the Yaws Hospital are airy and fairly commodious buildings, pleasantly situated on the sea beach, picturesquely overshadowed by the Lesser Piton. A more ideal place could hardly have been selected for those poor and afflicted people to spend what must be to many of them the sunset of their days.

The number of patients treated at dispensaries during 1907 and 1908 were as follows:—

	1907.	1908.
Castries	8,947 ...	9,099
Babonneau	132 ...	30
Gros-Islet	570 ...	610
Paix Bouche	— ...	80
Dennery	562 ...	577
Mabouya Valley	385 ...	807
Anse la Raye	379 ...	624
Soufriere	585 ...	749
Choiseul	200 ...	382
Vieux-Fort	863 ...	590
Laborie	723 ...	495
Micoud	532 ...	492
	13,878 ...	14,535

The Babonneau Dispensary was closed on the 4th September, and a new one opened at Paix Bouche on the 18th September.

The expenditure from general revenue on out-door relief and burial of paupers amounted to £524 2*s.* 2*d.*; and the number receiving relief on 31st December, 1908, was 197, an increase of 12 over same date of previous year.

260 pauper burials took place during the year, the cost of these is also defrayed from general revenue.

There were 14 new accounts opened at the Savings Bank during the year, and the amount due to depositors on 31st December, 1908, was £19,074 19*s.* 7*d.*, being an increase of £1,383 2*s.* 1*d.*, or only 7·90 per cent. since 31st December, 1907; the increase for the latter year having been 20 per cent.

The total number of open accounts at the end of the year was 1,653. The face value of securities held on account of deposits was £18,502 19*s.* 3*d.*

The following statement gives the transactions of the Savings Bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of accounts open 31st December.	Total deposits inclusive of interest.	Total withdrawals.	Amount on deposit on 31st December.
		£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1904... ...	1,642	18,990 15 5	20,568 7 1	15,633 17 3
1905... ...	1,231	15,025 16 3	16,285 13 7	14,373 19 11
1906... ...	1,584	13,750 12 6	13,397 7 1	14,727 5 4
1907... ...	1,639	15,526 2 0	12,561 9 10	17,691 17 6
1908... ...	1,653	15,411 9 0	14,028 6 11	19,074 19 7

The working account shows that £580 14*s.* 4*d.* was earned on investments (including refund of Income Tax). A sum of £490 7*s.* 4*d.* was paid to depositors as interest and a balance of £90 7*s.* 4*d.* was carried to general revenue.

The number of registered Friendly Societies as on 31st December, 1908, was 16, with a membership of 1,526, or an increase of 299 members during the year.

	£	s.	d.
The aggregate receipts during the year amounted to	1,797	13	0
which, added to balance on 31st December, 1907 ...	1,578	2	6
made a total of	3,375	15	6
The disbursements amounted to	1,668	7	8
leaving a balance on 31st December, 1908, of ...	1,707	7	10

or an increase of £129 5*s*. 4*d*.

The working expenses of the societies collectively amounted to £540, or a little over 7*s*. per capita, and varied from 27*s*. 7*d*. in one society to 2*s*. 3*d*. in another.

There were 602 male members and 924 female members on 31st December, 1908.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

During the year the number of prosecutions instituted by the police was 29 for indictable offences and 1,625 for summary offences. Of the former 25 were returned for trial and 4 were withdrawn. Of the prosecutions in summary offences convictions were obtained in 1,278 cases.

The criminal class is not as large as might appear from the number of prosecutions; the same offenders were convicted over and over again. These incorrigibles, most of whom belong to the class inseparable from a large shipping and coaling port, are really not many, but their repeated convictions help to swell the police records.

Two convictions were obtained against persons practising "obeah," in other words, sorcery. In many characteristics this form of fraudulent pretension to supernatural powers resembles that practised in some of the islands of the Western Pacific, and is there known as "drau-ni-Kau" (literally "leaf of a tree").

Sanitation is one of the multifarious duties the police perform, and during the year constant attention was exercised over tanks and other receptacles for water to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes. In many cases summonses were issued after repeated warnings.

The daily average of prisoners in the Royal Gaol was 58·49 males, 18·92 females, and ·38 juveniles. At Grenada and St. Vincent the daily average was 34·4 and 15·82, respectively, making a total daily average of all St. Lucia prisoners of 128·01.

The natives of St. Lucia only provided 57 per cent. of the convicted prisoners.

A serious epidemic of pneumonia occurred in the latter part of the year resulting in 10 deaths. Both strong and weak were attacked, and those within the prison as well as those employed on labour outside. The disease was confined to one building in which the male prisoners slept and did not reach the female division, separated only by a boundary wall; nor did it touch the police barracks to leeward of the prison. In order to thoroughly fumigate the building it was temporarily vacated and the male prisoners were transferred to a military building at La Toc on 19th September, where they remained till 12th October.

The daily average on the sick list was 2·1. There were three deaths in the prison, all from pneumonia; and eight in Victoria Hospital, seven of which were due to same disease.

The average cost of a prisoner for the year was £19 15*s*. 1*d*., in which is included pay of staff, dietary, clothing, and other charges.

The following figures summarise the criminal statistics for the last five years:--

—	1904.	1905	1906.	1907.	1908.
Offences reported	2,032	1,595	1,706	2,059	1,962
Summary Convictions—					
For offences against the person	355	405	220	380	405
„ prædial larceny	29	60	37	37	35
„ offences against property	124	226	77	138	106
„ other offences	1,059	904	1,126	950	1,134
Convictions in Superior Court—					
Child murder	—	1	—	—	—
For offences against the person	17	3	2	10	2
„ offences against property	13	23	14	27	13
„ other offences	2	5	1	110	—

In 1908 there were 1,695 convictions as against 1,642 in 1907; but of the latter, 184 were for offences connected with the disturbances of April in that year. Excluding this number for the sake of comparison would leave 1,458 convictions in 1907, or 237 less than in 1908. The increase in 1908 is due largely to the more vigorous enforcement of sanitary regulations and towns and villages by-laws.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The population on 31st December, 1908, was estimated by the Registrar of Civil Status to have been 55,095 (26,547 males, 28,548 females), or an increase of 496 during the year.

The birth-rate of the Colony was 29·8 per mille, exactly the same as in the previous year.

The death-rate was 20·7 per mille against 20 per mille for 1907. Of infants under one year 275·5 of every thousand died; this is an improvement over 1907, when the rate was 312·5 per mille.

There were 241 marriages as against 277 in 1907.

The population of the various districts into which the Colony is divided was estimated as under on the 31st December, 1908:—

Castries	20,831
Anse la Raye	3,125
Soufriere	6,234
Choiseul	4,900
Laborie	3,658
Vieuxfort	3,873
Micoud	3,492
Dennery	4,598
Gros-Islet	4,414

Considerable emigration to Colon and Cayenne continued during the year.

Public Health.

There was no case of quarantinable disease during the year. Considering that such diseases existed at one or other of the surrounding islands nearly the whole year the Colony may congratulate itself on its immunity.

The Health Officer visited 241 vessels, and 22 were fumigated with sulphur dioxide gas before being granted pratique. The existing system of fumigation by "dutch ovens" (*i.e.*, open fire pots) is not an ideal one, as it is impossible to satisfactorily treat even an empty ship, less so one with cargo, and the purchase of a Clayton disinfector was under consideration.

Attempts were made during the year to reduce the number of rats. Poisons, bacillary and inorganic, were distributed and rewards given for dead rats.

In Castries the campaign against "Stegomyia fasciata" was continued, and many hitherto unsuspected permanent breeding-places were discovered.

The Medical Officer, First Castries District, reports that his district was fairly healthy, but pneumonia was more or less prevalent throughout the year. The principal diseases treated were malaria and intestinal parasites. The malaria was, as a rule, of a mild type, and most of the cases yielded quickly to quinine.

The Medical Officer, Second Castries District, says the usual amount of malaria occurred during the year. The severer cases generally come from the country where they had had no treatment. Owing to the intense objection of the labouring class to quinine, death from malaria sometimes occurs simply because the patient refuses to take it. Ankylostomiasis showed no decrease.

In the Second District the Medical Officer states a wave of pneumonia spread over the entire district during the second quarter of the year, assuming an epidemic form and causing many deaths. Intestinal parasites (chiefly among children under 10 years) and malarial fevers head the list as usual.

The Medical Officer of the Third District reports that fevers at the beginning of the year were prevalent, but abated during the latter part of it, when influenza, accompanied by pleuro-pneumonia of a virulent type, became rife and caused several deaths.

In the Fourth Medical District the Medical Officer has a very similar tale to tell as to the prevalence of fevers and intestinal parasites. There, also, a sharp outbreak of pneumonia occurred in November and December.

It is evident that the epidemic of pneumonia took a very similar course as in 1907, when appearing first at Vieuxfort, it spread to Castries and Dennery quarters. The contributory causes assigned by the medical officers generally to the disease are bad ventilation, drink, insufficient feeding, and overcrowding. The fact that this form of disease is peculiarly fatal to the coloured race hardly needs corroboration.

Climate.

For a tropical place St. Lucia is, for most months of the year, not oppressively hot. At an elevation of even 200 feet the days and nights are comparatively cool. The prevailing wind, N.E., blows almost constantly with a force of from one to three, and it is only when this fails that the oppressiveness so typical of the tropics is felt.

The rainfall of the year varied from 48·24 inches at Rivière Dorée (situate in the south-west corner of the island) to 96·92 at Guesneau (in the north central).

The average for the whole island from observations taken at 18 stations was 76 inches, or 7 inches more than in 1907. There was a heavy rainfall in December, in which month 28 inches were registered at one station (Soucis). The mean monthly temperature was 78·5°, the mean maximum and minimum being 85·5° and 71·5° respectively, and the highest and lowest reading actual 91·5° (in August) and 63° (in January and February). The mean barometric pressure at 10 feet above sea level was 30·12. There is a remarkable steadiness in the barometric readings, the greatest difference throughout the monthly mean being only ·116 of an inch.

The climate generally is equable and, with very ordinary precautions, healthy.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Although the total receipts of the Post Office for the year, which amounted to £1,521 16*s.* 10*d.*, was £162 16*s.* in excess of 1907, the expenditure, £1,711 5*s.* 4*d.*, was £633 9*s.* 2*d.* over that of the previous year, leaving a net deficit of £189 8*s.* 6*d.* This is due to the fact that during the year the accrued payments for the new mail contract were made.

The British postal order system proved a success and was largely availed of by the public. There were 3,579 postal orders sold. The £1 orders were purchased to the number of 951.

The number of parcels received from abroad increased by 400.

The money orders issued were to the value of £4,811, and of those paid, £4,435. By far the largest amount of orders paid is from the Canal Zone Government, being remittances made by emigrants from this Colony to their relatives and families here.

There is regular and frequent postal communications between Castries and the coastal towns and villages, and the number of letters and postcards exchanged between the central and branch offices showed a considerable expansion.

The total number of letters and postcards dealt with was:—

Foreign, sent	102,463	
,, received	91,734	
		194,197
Inland		92,889
		287,086

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's intercolonial steamers carried out the fortnightly service under the new contract without a break during the year. The ocean steamers leave Southampton every alternate Wednesday, reaching Barbados on the Monday week following; here mails and passengers are transshipped into one of the intercolonial vessels which leave Barbados on the Tuesday, arriving at St. Lucia on Thursday morning.

The total mileage of the telephone system is 190 miles, consisting of 111 miles trunk lines and 79 miles of branch lines.

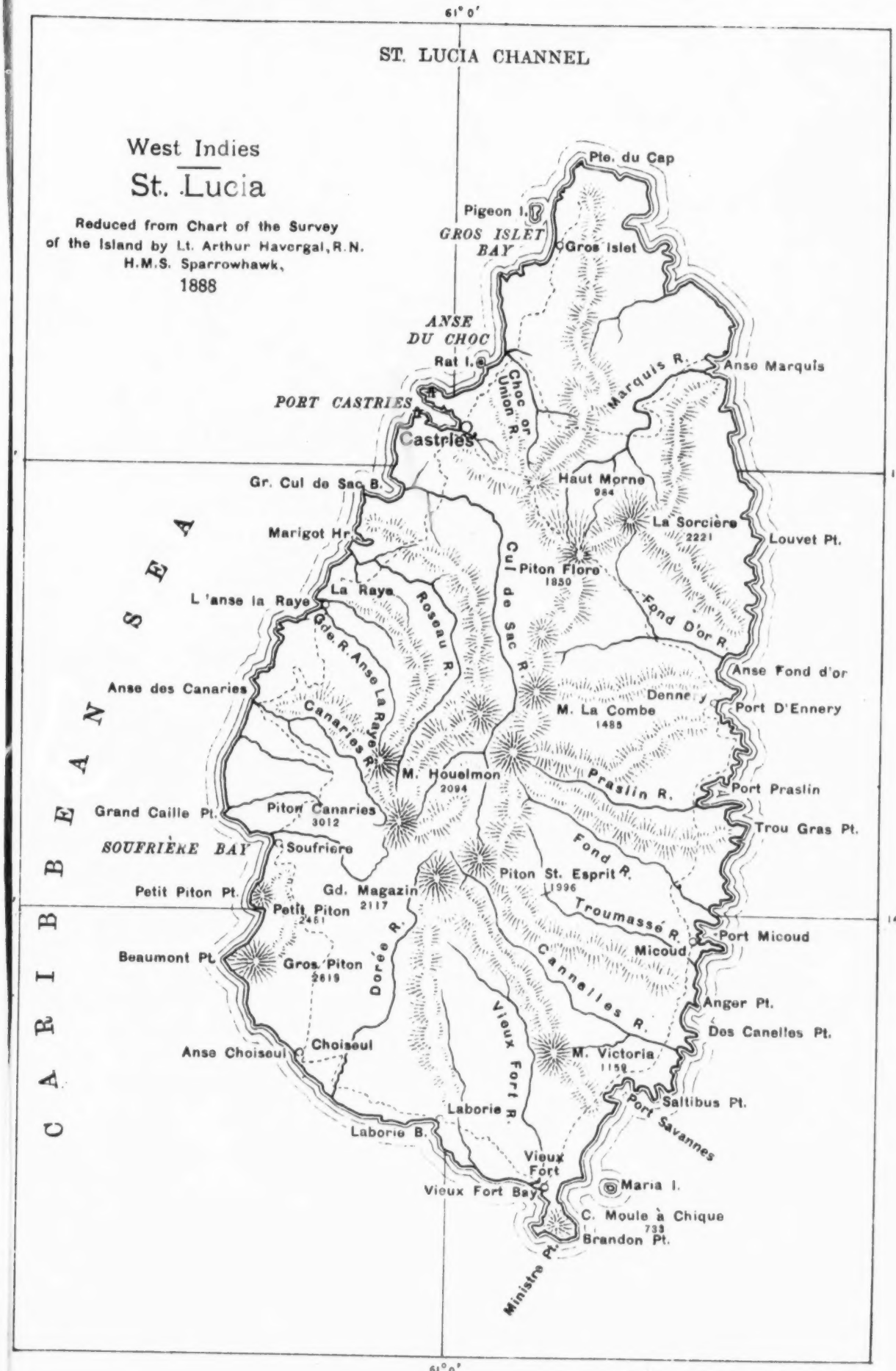
The necessary works of maintenance and reconstruction were carried out.

The revenue for the year was £749 6*s.* 3*d.*; and the expenditure, exclusive of interest and sinking fund charges on loan, was £457 3*s.* 7*d.*

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

There was no public work of great importance carried out or commenced during the year, but a good deal of solid work was done by the Public Works Department in the way of improving and perfecting inland communications. Five bridges of concrete and steel were constructed, and a start made with another over the Piail River. On main roads 99 culverts, formed with concrete pipes, were put in, and 137 open cross-drains were filled up. The cost of maintenance per mile for main roads was £22.

The usual repairs and minor alterations to public buildings were executed. "Ruberoid" as a material for roofing was tried, and proved satisfactory. The work of converting the Royal Engineers' yard into offices for the Public Works Department was practically completed.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1909.

There was no great fluctuation of trade during the year, nor any disturbing factor to the shipping, such as plague or yellow fever. For some months special precautions had to be taken, as the latter disease was prevalent in Martinique, almost at our doors.

Although fewer ships called than in 1907, this was due to the widespread depression in shipping, and not to any local circumstances. With such an excellent harbour and wharf accommodation as St. Lucia can boast of, we may confidently look forward to holding our own against other coaling ports in the West Indies, and when the Panama Canal is open to traffic, St. Lucia will undoubtedly receive a fair share of the increased trade that is bound to ensue. Ships drawing up to 30 feet can be coaled alongside more expeditiously than in any other West Indian port; they can procure excellent water, and all ships' stores can be obtained at prices that compare most favourably with those charged elsewhere. Pilotage is not obligatory; the harbour can rightly lay claim to its being "Statio haud malefida carinis," the motto of Castries.

Persistent efforts in the direction of destruction of mosquitoes continued during the whole year with fairly good results. Regulations as to screening of tanks and the keeping of receptacles for water were enforced. The people generally, however, show a strong aversion to quinine; were this to be overcome, it would be time to consider the question of free supply of that drug in order to stay the insidious march of the malarial fiend.

The future prospects of the Colony are good. There are not wanting signs of more attention being paid to the cultivation of other than the staple products, and cotton and limes are being tried seriously. The soil is rich and easily cultivable; land is cheap, and drought unknown. The climate is quite tolerable, and, with ordinary precautions necessary for all tropical places, healthy for everybody. Communications with England, Canada, and the United States are regular by comfortable and well-found vessels. Roads and byways traverse the country, and inland traffic is being steadily improved. Donkeys are being imported, and it may be hoped that gradually the human porters—in most cases women and children staggering along with heavy loads on their heads—will disappear, and be replaced by willing quadrupeds.

Mr. P. C. Cork administered the Government of the Windward Islands from the 28th July to the end of the year, during which time Mr. H. A. Smallwood acted as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. De Freitas acted as Chief Justice in St. Vincent from 4th October to the end of the year; Mr. Douglass acted as Attorney-General for the same period.

A sketch map of St. Lucia is appended.

H. A. SMALLWOOD,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Government Office,

30th August, 1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
581	Mauritius	1907
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907
585	Barbados	1907–1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	"
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
594	Northern Nigeria	"
595	Basutoland	"
596	Swaziland	"
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	"
599	Falkland Islands	"
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
603	Ashanti	"
604	Ceylon	"
605	Weihaiwei	"
606	Seychelles	"
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands...	"
613	Gold Coast	"
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 625.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1908-9.

(For Report for 1907-8, *see* No. 577.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1909.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1909.

[Cd. 4448-34.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. Financial	4
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	8
III. Legislation	15
IV. Education	15
V. Government Institutions	16
VI. Judicial	18
VII. Vital Statistics	19
VIII. Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services..	20
IX General Observations	21
Sketch Map.	

No. 625.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1907–8, *see* No. 577.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
13th October, 1909.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for transmission to the Secretary of State, my report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1908-9. There has been some delay this year in the compilation of the Customs statistics, and, consequently, of this report, owing to the adoption of the calendar year for these statistics instead of, as hitherto, the financial year.

I have, &c.,

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Governor of the Windward Islands,
Grenada.

(14752—2.) Wt. 26122—322. 1125. 11/09. D & S.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1908-9.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and tables give the heads of revenue and expenditure, and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1907-8 and 1908-9, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years, 1904-5 to 1908-9:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in the Year 1907–1908.	Amount collected in the Year 1908–1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs :—				
Import	12,167	13,645	1,478	—
Export	682	736	54	—
2. Port and Harbour Dues :—				
Tonnage	630	674	44	—
Port	116	131	15	—
3. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue :—				
Licences—Liquor	385	458	72	—
Do. —Other	1,201	1,258	57	—
Excise	3,937	4,221	284	—
Land and House Tax ...	3,129	3,125	—	4
Income Tax	529	554	25	—
Other Internal Revenue ...	742	793	51	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,345	1,200	—	145
5. Post Office	1,011	1,232	222	—
6. Telephones	454	482	28	—
7. Rent of Government Property	60	53	—	7
8. Interest and Refund of Loans	660	1,715	1,055	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	36	68	32	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands.	460	465	5	—
Total Local Revenue ...	27,544	30,810	3,422	156
Parliamentary Grants :—				
In aid of Agricultural Department.	913	585	—	328
Total General Revenue ...	28,457	31,395	3,422	484

Comparative Yearly Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates.	Expenditure 1907–1908.	Expenditure 1908–1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	787	971	185	—
2. Pensions...	1,706	1,794	89	—
3. The Governor	908	954	46	—
4. Government Office	1,216	1,175	—	41
5. Treasury, Customs, and Excise	1,403	1,361	—	42
6. Audit Department	331	291	—	40
7. Legal Departments	1,880	1,850	—	29
8. Local Forces	117	189	72	—
9. Police and Prisons	2,997	3,405	409	—
10. Medical Department	1,572	1,624	52	—
11. Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	2,470	2,690	219	—
12. Poor Relief	679	646	—	34
13. Education	1,494	1,661	167	—
14. Post Office	957	1,247	290	—
15. Telephone Department ...	337	355	18	—
16. Miscellaneous	706	1,401	695	—
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	599	590	—	8
18. Public Works Department ...	536	573	36	—
19. Do. do. Recurrent ...	2,299	2,550	250	—
20. Do. do. Extraordinary...	259	618	359	—
21. Agricultural Department ...	255	702	447	—
Total Local Expenditure ...	23,508	26,647	3,333	194
Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds).	1,145	553	—	592
Total General Expenditure..	24,653	27,200	3,333	786

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years, 1904-5 *to* 1908-9.

Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	—	Total.	—	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1904–5	Local ... ... 22,448 Imperial Grant 5,818	28,266	Local ... ... 25,228 Imperial Grant 1,287	26,515
1905–6	Local ... ... 24,928 Imperial Grant 1,972	26,900	Local ... ... 24,625 Imperial Grant 1,286	25,911
1906–7	Local ... ... 24,723 Imperial Grant 1,308	26,031	Local ... ... 23,503 Imperial Grant 1,146	24,649
1907–8	Local ... ... 27,543 Imperial Grant 913	28,456	Local ... ... 23,508 Imperial Grant 1,145	24,653
1908–9	Local ... ... 30,810 Imperial Grant 585	31,395	Local ... ... 26,647° Imperial Grant 553	27,200

° In addition to this total local expenditure, a sum of £700 was paid back to the Imperial Treasury, being the final instalment of £1,441 Deficit Grant received in previous years in excess of actual deficit.

The Colony has made a distinct advance along the road of greater prosperity, showing a clear profit on the year's working of £4,163, and this notwithstanding the fact that the expenditure exceeded that of 1907-8 by £3,139.

The figures for 1908-9 are:—Total local revenue, £30,810, being £3,362 more than the Estimate and £3,267 more than the receipts for the year 1907-8. The total local expenditure was £26,647, which exceeded the Estimate by £344.

In addition, during the year it is pleasing to be able to record the repayment to the Imperial Treasury of the final instalment of £700 of the £1,441 Deficit Grant received in previous years in excess of actual deficit.

The revival by Messrs. D. K. Porter and Company of active operations in the Carib country resulted in a somewhat abnormal expenditure and a consequent increase of collection in import duties, and this increase, therefore, cannot be regarded as permanent. Nevertheless, signs are not wanting that with the maintenance of the cotton industry on its present paying basis and a more certain market for arrowroot, towards which end efforts are being directed, the average annual revenue of the Colony may not fall far short of this year's collection.

No changes in taxation took place during the year under review.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets on the 31st March, 1909, was £9,721.

On the 31st March, 1908, the account showed an excess of £6,258. From this last sum, however, £700 is to be deducted, which amount, as has already been stated, was paid back to the Imperial Treasury. The remainder, £5,558, together with the profit, £4,163, on the year added, gives a surplus of £9,721.

In addition to the above surplus, the sum of £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruptions of the volcano, Soufrière, in 1902-3, is invested in Trust Securities.

There are also other funds of lesser importance showing assets to the Colony, some of which are extinguishable by time, while others, like the Graham Fund, the Alexander Fund, and the Thompson Home Fund, are used only in respect to the interest they bear.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony stood on the 31st March, 1909, at £2,750 as against £3,550 at the end of the previous financial year. The Colonial revenue is, however, only directly responsible for £400 of that sum (which is extinguishable in 1910). The remainder is repayable from the municipal funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown, the Colony only being responsible in case of default—an extremely remote contingency.

The Colony is similarly responsible for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury which

was at the 31st March, 1909, £12,058. This is being steadily redeemed by borrowers at the rate of about £750 per annum to the Local Government, by whom annual payments are in turn made to the Imperial Treasury.

Currency.

Gold, British and American, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Kingstown are vested in a Board, one-half of the members of which are elected by the rate-payers and the other half nominated by the Government.

The Chairman of the Board is annually elected by the members forming that body, but cannot in any circumstances be elected for more than two years in succession.

The small towns of the Colony, of which there are six, are controlled by wardens appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns during the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,657	1,664	1,708	1,706	1,695
Georgetown	164	137	105	108	118
Chateaubelair	23	32	34	34	35
Calliaqua	31	38	35	31	32
Barrouallie	29	33	40	45	38
Layou	16	19	18	19	20
Bequia	15	11	10	9	9

Expenditure.

Town.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,650	1,472	1,698	1,758	1,790
Georgetown	120	103	102	108	109
Chateaubelair	26	24	28	28	27
Calliaqua	40	24	52	30	32
Barrouallie	27	20	34	31	41
Layou	34	19	12	9	24
Bequia	4	10	27	2	4

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at the 31st December, 1908, were as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	2,000	
Kingstown town improvement ...	200	
		2,200
Georgetown water supply		250
		£2,450

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. They will be extinguished in 1912 and 1913.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

It has hitherto been the custom in St. Vincent to compile the statistics of imports and exports for the financial year, *i.e.*, from the 1st April of one year to the 31st March of the following year, but owing to certain representations which have been made by the Board of Trade, whereby it was desired that this Colony should fall into line with the United Kingdom and other British Possessions who have adopted the calendar year for trade statistics, it is not possible this year to give a true comparative table of either imports or exports. Appended, however, is a statement showing the main articles imported in 1908 and in the previous financial year 1907-8:—

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1907–8.	1908.
Class I.—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	545	485
Biscuits	2,548	3,104
Butter	1,711	1,789
Coffee	392	360
Fish, salted, &c.	5,911	6,604
Flour, wheaten	10,400	10,572
Flour, other kinds	708	636
Oilmeal and cake	435	444
Pork, salted or cured	2,129	2,213
Rice	2,702	2,604

Chief Articles.	Value. 1907-8.	Value. 1908.
	£	£
Class I.—*cont.*		
Salt	320	377
Spirits	981	962
Sugar, muscovado	139	105
Sugar, refined	633	842
Sugar, crystallized	202	461
Wine	785	829
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated	1,262	1,581
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	1,038	1,166
Class II.—		
Manure	822	1,024
Petroleum oil	1,400	1,658
Timber and shingles	7,270	7,138
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas.	22,021	27,821
Metal, manufactured	10,089	13,419
Boots and shoes	1,001	1,308
Cement	571	970
Rope, cordage, and canvas	1,540	1,261
Soap	1,747	1,378
Articles unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures.	3,979	4,651

These figures, so far as they may be taken as evidence, are an indication of growing prosperity, and in this connection notice is especially drawn to the substantial advances in the consumption of articles of luxury, such as "Food and drink, unenumerated," tobacco, cigars, &c.

The large increase, £3,300, in the item "Metal, manufactured," may probably to a large extent be accounted for by the resuscitation of the Carib country.

The annual report of the Supervisor of Customs shows an increase in value of imports of £17,159 compared with the figures of 1907-8, the distribution being as follows:—

	£
Increase from the United Kingdom ...	8,980
,, ,, British Colonies	5,954
,, ,, Foreign Countries	2,225
	£17,159

The direct import trade from Canada and the United States of America was £7,183 and £18,433, respectively, as against £8,273 and £16,686 in 1907-8. The increase from the British West Indies is £7,032, made up chiefly of merchandize of United States origin obtained at Barbados.

The value of the principal exports is given in the annexed table. As in the case of imports the table is drawn up for the calendar year 1908, the comparison being with the exportations for the financial year 1907-8:—

Exports.

Articles.	1907–8.	1908.
	£	£
Cassava starch	1,296	1,352
Whale oil	446	645
Turtle shell	449	387
Firewood	742	493
Cotton and cotton seed	33,133	31,903
Vegetables	2,213	2,593
Syrup	550	336
Sugar, crystallized	2,280	1,561
Sugar, muscovado	893	948
Pease	504	498
Molasses	889	400
Rum	99	515
Ground-nuts	1,589	1,740
Live stock	4,781	3,933
Fresh fruit	65	60
Farine	174	328
Arrowroot	25,555	27,713
Cocoa	4,960	4,989

The reduction in the value of the exports in cotton is to be accounted for by the lower prices received for this article in comparison, for instance, with those received in 1906-7, when as much as 1*s.* 11*d.* to 2*s.* 5*d.* was paid per lb. of lint, an abnormal price and unlikely to occur again. In support of this contention it may be stated that whereas in the financial year 1907-8, 388,833 lbs. of Sea Island cotton lint were exported, in the financial year under review 432,091 lbs. were exported.

While in 1907-8 the estimated value was £29,162, in 1908-9, notwithstanding the fact that 43,000 lbs. more were exported than in the previous financial year, the estimated value was only £28,971. The figures just given are exclusive of Marie Galante cotton which is grown in, and exported from, the St. Vincent Grenadines.

Arrowroot shows an appreciable advance, but as this is, unfortunately, to-day a variable market, too much stress cannot be laid upon the increase.

The total imports and exports for the five years, 1904-5 to 1908, are given below:—

Imports.

Classes.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c	32,534	31,575	32,000	38,864	41,484
II. Raw materials	8,628	6,566	12,268	11,175	14,168
III. Manufactured articles ...	33,076	30,956	33,740	46,515	58,061
Total	74,238	69,097	78,008	96,554	113,713

Exports.

Classes.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c	43,374	40,935	46,393	45,972	46,433
II. Raw materials	6,648	10,289	21,899	36,120	33,060
III. Manufactured articles ...	1,880	1,854	15,463*	12,173†	15,246‡
Total	51,902	53,078	83,755	94,265	94,739

* Includes £13,200 specie. † Includes £10,000 specie.
‡ Includes £12,855 specie.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years, 1904-5 to 1908, are shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

—	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	26,816	25,471	27,126	36,280	45,260
British Colonies	29,562	30,691	32,870	42,436	48,388
Foreign Countries	15,860	12,935	18,012	17,839	20,065
Total	74,238	69,097	78,008	96,554	113,713

Exports.

—	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	22,192	24,405	39,878	52,718	54,444
British Colonies	26,881	27,920	43,184	40,535	37,758
Foreign Countries	2,829	753	693	1,012	2,537
Total	51,902	53,078	83,755	94,265	94,739

Manufactures and Fisheries.

The Government cotton ginnery, which was erected in 1903-4, and which is under the management of the Officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, continues to gin cotton for the planters and peasants at a charge of 1*d*. per lb. for ginning and baling. The profit made during the year amounted to £365, some £200 less than last year. The reason for this substantial decrease is to be found in the increased amount of cotton sent for ginning to the private ginneries.

There are two private ginneries in the Colony, one in Kingstown with three gins, and one with two gins on the Leeward side of the island.

About 33 tons of cotton seed were crushed by the disintegrator at the Government ginnery for the purpose of manuring the cotton lands.

The price of lint varied during the year from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* a lb., this being the best price paid in the English market for the class of cotton known as Sea Island.

It is pleasing to be able again to record an increase in the export of whale oil, which rose to 13,434 gallons, valued at £645, as against 9,632 gallons in 1907-8, valued at £446. This industry was in former years of importance to the islanders of the Grenadines, the export figures, for instance, in 1903-4 showing 29,994 gallons, valued at £1,550.

The decline in this industry is said to be due to the smaller number of whales that to-day make their appearance in these waters. On the other hand, it is alleged that the sperm whale, which as an oil giver is superior to the hump-back whale, is to be seen more frequently to-day. This is encouraging, but at the same time the sperm whale being of a more determined nature than the other, the islanders have still a good deal to learn in the art of successful attack.

Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

The cotton industry continues to grow and develop, and has, from the point of view of value, become the most important industry in the Colony. The following figures are interesting and instructive:—

Table showing the Quantity and Value of Cotton exported during the Period from 1903-4 *to* 1908-9.

Year.	Sea Island Cotton.		All Cotton.	
	Weight.	Estimated Value.	Weight.	Estimated Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
1903–4...	Not known.	—	43,392	794
1904–5...	77,814	3,890	126,178	4,494
1905–6...	121,174	6,059	138,150	7,674
1906–7...	225,632	16,922	263,036	18,169
1907–8...	388,833	29,162	427,819	30,787
1908–9...	432,091	28,971	459,303	29,878

These figures speak for themselves. The area, however, in which cotton can be cultivated is one limited, practically, to the coast lands. In these circumstances it is not to be expected that there can be much further expansion of the industry. So

long as prices range from 1*s*. 3*d*. to 1*s*. 8*d*. per lb. of lint, it will pay planters to grow cotton, and if planters are careful in cotton-plant selection and in cultivation, there is apparently no reason why those prices should not be maintained.

In regard to cultivation of cotton a good deal more might be done. There has been a tendency in the past to underrate the value of organic manures. Every effort is being made by the Agricultural Department to induce planters to devote more attention to crop rotations, to grow larger areas of leguminous plants for green dressing purposes, and to utilise all available manure, bush, grass, &c., and cotton seed. It has been clearly demonstrated that unless lands for cotton are well cultivated and manured, poor yields and deterioration of the class of cotton grown result.

In the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Union, Canouan, and Mayreau, the common " Marie Galante " type is still cultivated. It is grown as a perennial, and produces a short coarse lint, valued at from 6*d*. to 8*d*. per lb. The exports of this cotton during the past five years amounted to 168,942 lbs., valued at £5,998. In several of the other islets—*i.e.*, Bequia, Mustique, Battowia, and Balliceaux—the cultivation of Sea Island cotton has been taken up exclusively, and with very satisfactory results. In time no doubt the other islets will fall into line.

Arrowroot still tops the list in regard to area under cultivation, while the export value increased over £2,000 during the year. The market was a fair one, but with a tendency to drop. Although occasional individual attempts have at various times been made to advertise this product of the Colony, no combined efforts of exporters have been directed to this end. The result is that notwithstanding the unrivalled excellence of the St. Vincent arrowroot, both as an article of diet for children and sick persons and also in the manufacture of chocolate and for general starch purposes, the consumption has hardly increased, while the wholesale value is declining to a basis when it will not pay to grow it. St. Vincent grows practically the whole of the arrowroot produced in the West Indies, soil and climate being apparently more suited to this cultivation than in any other of the islands, except, perhaps, Bermuda. Arrowroot is exported from here to nearly all the other West Indian islands.

An increased area in sugar was put under cultivation in the Carib estates, probably about 400 acres, but in the rest of the island the growth of sugar, except for the purposes of making rum, has practically ceased. The export figures in this article show a decrease of about £500—*i.e.*, from £3,172 to £2,509.

During the year the water supply canal in the Carib estates, referred to in last year's annual report, was completed, and, as arranged, the sum of £1,600, from the balance of the Eruption Fund, was handed to the proprietor as the Government's contribution towards the work of restoration of the estates. A small area of the estates was planted in cotton with good results. This is satisfactory as showing that the land is gradually returning to the ante-eruption state, and that the fine ash which was thickly

deposited during the eruptions is being absorbed into the original soil.

The cultivation of cocoa begins to be more favourably regarded by planters and peasants. It is, however, uphill work. They have much to learn yet in regard to the art of preparation for market, while a number of the diseases which attack the trees, or the remedies, are not yet familiar to them. Every endeavour is being made by the Agricultural Department to give assistance in these respects.

Vaccination has proved a great success in decreasing the death rate in stock owing to anthrax. There are many persons yet who do not take advantage of this remedy, with the result that there was still an appreciable and widespread loss from the effects of this disease.

Land Settlement and Crown Lands.

The sales during the year under the Land Settlement Scheme were 26 in all:—Rural lots of about 5 acres, 19; acre or small lots, 2; and township lots, 5. Altogether 5,671 trees were distributed to allottees, of which 4,034 were cocoa. In addition, 94 acres of Crown land was sold out in small lots. Available Crown land consists of mountain lands, which are only suitable for small holdings for growing provisions and native produce.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands, not including Eruption Estates, was £465, as against £460 in the previous year, while the revenue from Eruption Lands aggregated £98, as against £167 in 1907-8.

Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1907-8, and 1908, is appended, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping during the last five years. These figures do not include ships of war, of which one British visited the Colony during 1908:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationalty.	1907-8.				1908.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	410	11,575	410	10,180	437	12,191	433	11,885
Venezuelan ...	2	36	2	36	6	199	5	180
Dutch	2	134	3	193	4	264	4	264
Totals ...	414	11,745	415	10,409	447	12,654	442	12,329

Steamers.

Nationalty.	1907–8.				1908.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	96	135,533	96	135,533	100	143,145	100	143,145
Danish	4	6,379	4	6,379	9	14,355	9	14,355
Totals ...	100	141,912	100	141,912	109	157,500	109	157,500

Total Shipping for the last Five Years.

—	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	249,341	235,153	154,088	153,657	170,154
Outwards	249,246	235,366	154,070	152,321	169,829
Totals ...	498,587	470,519	308,158	305,978	339,983

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twelve Ordinances were passed during the year 1908, of which the most important were an Ordinance to regulate the sale of poisons and an Ordinance to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a free public library in the town of Kingstown.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1907-8 and 1908-9 are as follows:—

—	1907–8.	1908–9.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number on roll	4,578*	4,862†
Average attendance	2,265	2,258
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid	1,357	1,438

* During the March quarter of the year.
† At 31st March, 1909.

In September, 1908, the secondary school was reopened with a resident master, who is also inspector of primary schools of the Colony. The necessity for this school was at once apparent by the manner in which the places for pupils were filled. The fees charged are £2 per term for each scholar, except those under ten years of age in the lowest form, for whom the fees are £1 6*s*. 8*d*. per term. But when two or more brothers in forms above the lowest attend there is a reduction made of 6*s*. 8*d*. for the second and 13*s*. 4*d*. for the third.

The attendance at the primary schools continues about the same. Greater efficiency in teaching and otherwise is to be expected in the future as the result of the appointment of the inspector. Such close supervision of the working of these schools as will now be possible was unavoidably absent in the past.

The Agricultural School maintained an average of 21·6 pupils during the year. Special effort is being made to instruct pupils in the cultivation of cotton and in its diseases—very few of the overseers on estates to-day having any technical or expert knowledge of this subject beyond what they have gained by practical experience since the introduction of the Sea Island plant into St. Vincent only five years ago.

The small stock farm which continued to be worked as an adjunct to the school affords a valuable practical illustration of how stock should be kept and fed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 696 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 735 cases treated, as against a total of 656 in 1907-8.

The daily average was 60·7, as against 55, 52·4, and 55·8 in the previous three years.

The death rate was 5·3 of the total cases.

Operations numbered 194, as against 153 in 1907-8.

The Medical Officer is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron selected by the Colonial Nursing Association.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is set aside for detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies. Other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the Pauper Asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is, by arrangement with that Government, sent to Grenada, but sometimes the

asylum there has not got the requisite accommodation and the transfer is delayed.

There were 19 cases under treatment during the year (12 being new admissions), of whom 4 were discharged cured, 2 died, and 5 were transferred to the Grenada Asylum.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 32, at a cost of £471 to the Colony.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1908, was 6; during the year there was 1 admission and 1 death, leaving the same number (6) in the asylum at the end of the year.

There is no compulsory segregation.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte at a considerable elevation overlooking the town of Kingstown.

At the commencement of the year under review there were 96 inmates of the asylum, and the admissions and discharges during the year were:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	33	31	64
Discharged	8	16	24
Died	18	19	37
	26	35	61

leaving 99 on the 31st March, 1909.

The total expenditure in 1908-9 was £966 on the Pauper and Leper Asylums including the cost of lunatics kept locally, as against £919 in 1907-8.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Appended is a statement of the working of the Savings Bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including Interest Capitalized).
		£	£	£
1904...	976	5,012	5,467	12,465
1905...	933	4,883	5,276	12,232
1906...	907	5,282	5,687	12,095
1907...	1,010	7,629	6,757	13,247
1908...	1,121	6,693	5,929	14,313

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

	At 31st December, 1907.	At 31st December, 1908.
Kingstown	£11,837 ...	£12,845
Georgetown	828 ...	766
Chateaubelair ...	582 ...	702
Totals	£13,247 ...	£14,313

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £24.

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1908, the sum of £13,005.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The St. Vincent Police Force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, and 50 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates.

They are drilled and have some training in the use of arms and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles.

In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties in connection with excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges. The prison is worked entirely by the police save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs outside.

In Kingstown a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Town Board.

Two hundred and eighteen persons were committed to prison in the year, of whom 123 were men, 80 women, and 15 juveniles. The daily average was 45·1, as against 34·7 in 1907-8.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1908-9 was 1,038, as against 1,015 in 1907-8.

Of the offences reported in 1908-9, 250 were for offences against the person, 65 for prædial larceny, 173 for offences against property other than prædial larceny, and 550 for other offences.

The total number of convictions in the Inferior Courts was 684, as against 676 in 1907-8.

These convictions are classed as follows:—

For offences against the person...	135
,, malicious injury to property	6
,, prædial larceny	52
,, other offences against property	89
,, offences against Revenue Acts	148
,, other offences	254
Total	684

The convictions in the Supreme Court were 7 for offences against property and 8 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—

In the Inferior Courts	119
In the Supreme Court	2

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in the position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1909, was 52,592. This figure is probably over-estimated, as it takes no account of the flow of emigration, which in recent years has taken place, to Panama.

The births registered in 1908-9 were 1,778 (921 males and 857 females), as against 1,668 in 1907-8; of these 1,006 or 56·58 per cent. were illegitimate.

Still births were 98, 32 legitimate and 66 illegitimate, the figures for the previous year having been 37 and 75 respectively.

Marriages were 205, an increase of 26 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908–9.
Church of England	64	78	105
Roman Catholic	23	22	18
Wesleyan	46	68	68
Church of Scotland	6	11	14
Plymouth Brethren...	2	—	—

The total registered deaths were 965, as against 898 in 1907-8, being 18·34 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still births) was 220, being 22·79 of the estimated population. The similar figure in 1907-8 was 230, or 25·61 per cent.

The public health has been passably good during the year, except in Bequia, one of the islands of the Grenadine group, where a serious epidemic of enteric fever broke out. The source of the infection was traced to the water supply, when steps were at once taken to eliminate the danger by thoroughly cleaning the well from which the supply was obtained. The water supply in the Grenadines is in all cases from wells; there must, consequently, be a possibility of recurrent epidemics of enteric until such time as all the public wells of these islands are cleansed, covered in,

and provided with pumps. This matter is engaging the attention of the Government, and a small start has been made to achieve this somewhat expensive undertaking.

Appended is a table of the causes of death:—

General diseases (includes syphilis, 113; tubercle, 64; tetanus, 35; malarial fevers, 26; dysentery, amœbic, 22)	359
Diseases of nervous system	28
,, ,, circulatory system	27
,, ,, respiratory system	15
,, ,, digestive system	234
Parasites	45
Age	98
Still-born	98
Other diseases	61
Total	965

In the towns the authorities are realising more and more the importance of stricter sanitation, and are taking steps accordingly. In the villages, however, sanitary matters are still on a most primitive basis, although the Government, through their District Officers, spare no pains to impress upon the population generally the necessity for care in this direction.

The rainfall for the year 1908-9 was 101·42 inches, as against 93·17 inches in 1907-8.

Rain fell on 269 days throughout the year.

The maximum fall in 24 hours was 5·79 inches on the 24th December.

December was the wettest month, with 21·81 inches. A good deal of damage was done to the roads during that month owing to the heavy rain, while the effect on the cotton crop was also somewhat disastrous.

March was the driest month, with 3·58 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 77·1° F. Maximum for the year was 88°, in June to November, and the minimum, 62° F., which was experienced in December.

Except in August and September, when the atmosphere is uncomfortably hot, although not even in those months unsalubrious, the climate may be regarded as most healthy for both Europeans and coloured persons. Malaria is hardly known, while yellow fever has proved itself to be a disease of the past.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly mail service from and to England continued to be performed by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At Barbados the mails are transferred into the inter-Colonial ships,

which call weekly at St. Vincent on regular days—one week with outward mails on the way round the islands, and the following week on the way to Barbados with homeward mails. The service was carried on in a satisfactory manner, although much dissatisfaction is felt by the whole community at the lateness of the hour (after dark) at which the steamer is scheduled to, and does, call at Kingstown. Representations were made to the Colonial Office and Company to have this defect remedied. It is hoped that they will be successful.

The steamers of the Pickford and Black Line, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, while occasional calls were made by the steamers of the Direct and Quebec Steamship Lines. The East Asiatic Line of steamers, from Copenhagen viâ London, and the Danish West Indies, also made occasional calls.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward District of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward District daily, and the Grenadines once a week.

The postal order system continues to grow in popularity, and its extension to the district towns will soon be necessary.

The volume of work in the Post Office also continues to expand, which is a sure sign of the upward march of the Colony.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £482, including £198 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure, £355. The main installation is in Kingstown with branch lines all over the island. The service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony in May, 1908, for a period of 12 days. During the absence on leave, from 24th January, 1909, to the 6th February, 1909, of the Administrator, Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., the Government was administered by Mr. Anthony De Freitas, Acting Chief Justice.

The Free Public Library, the funds for the erection of which were so generously given by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, was completed and opened in February, 1909. The building is of stone, obtained locally, and very substantial. In addition to the large room set aside for the library and reading room, there is a fine, airy chamber upstairs, in which lectures or other entertainments of the like nature may be given. Some of the leading daily newspapers of the United Kingdom and monthly magazines and periodicals are to be found in the reading room, and, while the number of books at present is not large, there is the nucleus of an excellent collection. Every effort is being made to add to the supply.

As I did not take over the administration of the Colony until the 26th May of this year, this report has naturally been written solely upon the information supplied in the annual reports and otherwise by the local officers. The deduction to be made from that information is in accord with the prophecy of continuance of quiet prosperity contained in the Annual Report for 1907-8. In fact, the year under review may be said to be a bumper year in the modern annals of St. Vincent.

The total revenue collection of £30,810, showing a surplus revenue, after the year's expenditure, of £4,163, and the excess of assets of £9,721 on the 31st March, 1909, are all signs of the returning stability of the Colony's finances. Granting that cotton maintains its present value, that the arrowroot market expands, and that the elements are kind, all of which it is not unreasonable to believe may happen, St. Vincent has not an unhappy nor adverse future in front of her.

The resuscitation of the Carib estates has had much to do with the pronounced augmentation of the local revenues, the larger amount spent in wages for labourers, and the consequent increase of the spending power in the neighbourhood of Georgetown, inducing merchants of that district to largely replenish their stock in trade. There is no doubt, though, that a proportion of the revenue-producing expenditure has been abnormal and of a non-recurring nature, and that allowance must be made for this next year and until such time as the Carib country is in full working swing again, when the difference may be made good from natural causes.

St. Vincent is a beautiful island, with lovely scenery, charming rides and drives, magnificent tropical vegetation, a good main road all round the island, and passable bridle paths in the interior, excellent sea fishing and sea bathing, and a salubrious and pleasant climate. In addition, a nine-holed golf course on good natural ground will very shortly be added to the list of amusements.

Tourists and others who do not regard a first-class hotel as a first necessity in life, but are content with a clean room and plain food, may find much to interest them. The more active can scale the volcano, Soufrière, not difficult of ascent, and, on reaching the top will be rewarded by a sight of the crater which was in eruption only seven years ago.

A sketch map is attached to this report, which will serve to give an idea of the size, configuration, and settlement of the island.

C. Gideon Murray,

Administrator.

Ordnance Survey Office, South

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
586	Somaliland Protectorate	1907–1908
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	"
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
594	Northern Nigeria	"
595	Basutoland	"
596	Swaziland	"
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	"
599	Falkland Islands	"
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
603	Ashanti	"
604	Ceylon	"
605	Weihaiwei	"
606	Seychelles	"
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
613	Gold Coast	"
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	"
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	"
618	Fiji	"
619	Nyasaland Protectorate	1908–1909
620	Barbados	"
621	Trinidad and Tobago	"
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland Protectorate	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.
60	Nyasaland Protectorate	" " 1907–8.
61	South Africa	Agriculture and Viticulture.
62	Uganda	Cotton Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 628.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1908.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 590.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1909.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1909.

[Cd. 4964-2.] *Price* 3½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
Legislation	12
Education	12
Government Institutions	14
Judicial Statistics	15
Vital Statistics	16
Postal and Telephone Services	17
General Remarks	17
Sketch Maps of Grenada and Carriacou.	

No. 628.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 590.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
26th October, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1908.

I have, &c.,

J. HAYES SADLER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G ,
&c., &c., &c.

(14848—2) Wt. 26122—322. 1125. 12/09. D & S.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1908.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of the year ended 31st March, 1909, £73,182, although less by £6,689 than that of the preceding year, which was abnormal, exceeded that of all other previous years. The shrinkage as compared with 1907-8 was due to the Colony's staple crop, cocoa, returning to normal prices during 1908.

2. Classified as usual, the revenue was as follows:—

	£
Customs	38,883
Licences, Excise, and internal revenue	26,120
Fees of office, &c.	2,214
Post Office	2,270
Telephones	1,578
Water supply, Richmond Hill, &c.	300
Rent of Government property	530
Refunds of interest and sinking funds	850
Miscellaneous receipts	127
Land sales	60
Total local revenue	72,932
Imperial Grant for Agricultural Department ...	250
Total revenue	73,182

3. Compared with the revenue of 1907-8 Customs receipts were less by £6,078, for the cause above indicated, and internal revenue less by £1,511. In the latter case the falling off is chiefly under excise duty on rum manufactured, and points to the presence of determined smuggling, the existence of which is evidenced by occasional seizures by the police of illicit stills. The other heads all show increases on the previous year, that under Post Office, £708, being due to large sales of new issues of stamps.

4. The expenditure, £72,661, is the highest recorded, a result chiefly attributable to outlay on the erection of a large quarantine observation station, the purchase of a Clayton disinfector, to large expenditure on quarantine measures, caused by the presence of plague in Trinidad and Venezuela, and of yellow fever in Martinique and Barbados, and the unexpected expense of repairing damages done to roads by abnormal rainfall in December, 1908. It is satisfactory to note that the first two items, although permission was actually obtained for them to be charged to surplus funds, were paid for from current revenue, which proved more than adequate to cover the year's expenditure.

5. The details of the expenditure are as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of debt	6,197
Pensions	2,441
The Governor	2,172
Colonial Secretary	1,651
Colonial Treasury, Customs, &c.	4,122
Inland Revenue Department	1,382
Post Office	2,863
Audit	656
Port and marine	372
Legal Departments	4,215
Police	4,956
Prisons	533
Medical Department	4,466
Hospitals and asylums	6,119
Education	5,919
Ecclesiastical	444
Charitable	576
Telephones	1,418
Carriacou District	925
Water supply, Richmond Hill, &c.	233
Miscellaneous	4,824
Agricultural Department	626
Public Works Department	1,360
Public Works Recurrent	10,742
Public Works Extraordinary	3,199
Total expenditure from Colonial funds ...	72,411
Expenditure on Agricultural Department from Imperial funds	250
Total expenditure	72,661

6. The principal increases, compared with 1907-8, appear under Post Office, £540, due to payment of mail subsidy; Medical Department, £879, chiefly due to quarantine and sanitary expenses; hospitals and asylums, £571, caused by increased number of patients in the institutions; Public Works Recurrent, £770, following on necessary expenditure on roads, storm damages, &c.; and Public Works Extraordinary, £2,115, arising from a larger programme of public works, including the quarantine station referred to above.

7. The revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1904-5	69,993	69,510
1905-6	69,954	71,968
1906-7	71,786	70,379
1907-8	79,871	68,383
1908-9	73,182	72,661

8. At 31st March, 1909, the pecuniary assets were £61,432, and the liabilities £26,238, leaving a surplus of assets amounting to £35,194, as compared with £33,928 at the commencement of the financial year. Of this surplus £15,546 was invested by way of reserve fund, and the following assets were also in effect local investments of a portion of the surplus:—

	£
St. George's water supply extension	5,000
Sauteurs water supply extension	3,247
Gouyave water supply extension	351
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund	3,499
Carriacou jetty advance	1,155
Gouyave jetty advance	300
	13,552

9. The loan debt of the Colony is £123,670, in 4 per cent. inscribed stock, and the sinking fund in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies for its redemption in due course amounted, at the end of the financial year, to £23,786.

10. The revenue and expenditure of the District Boards in the financial year ended 31st March, 1909, were as under:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,308	3,840
St. Andrew's	2,539	2,516
St. Patrick's	1,583	1,437
St. John's	2,080	1,648
St. Mark's	696	603
St. David's	743	743
Totals	11,949	10,787

11. The revenue of the town of Hillsborough, in Carriacou, which is administered by Town Wardens and not by a Board, was £90, and its expenditure £94.

12. The loan debts of the District Boards, all borrowed from Government and repayable either by sinking fund contributions or annual instalments, amounted at 31st March, 1909, to £17,060, and were as shown below:—

	£
St. George's	10,981
St. Andrew's	1,010
St. John's	3,550
St. Mark's	1,439
St. Patrick's	80

13. On 1st August, 1908, the doubloon (value £3 4*s*.) ceased by Royal Proclamation dated 4th June, 1908, to be current or legal tender in the British West Indies and British Guiana.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

14. The total values of imports and exports in the last five years are as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1904	256,269	321,766
1905	237,256	283,955
1906	233,448	210,149
1907	288,665	417,299
1908	303,783	359,245

The improved conditions of trade, arising from the high price of the Colony's staple product, cocoa, were continued for a part of 1908, and were nourished, notwithstanding a gradual fall in those prices, by a larger crop being reaped than in 1907. The drop in value both of cocoa and nutmegs during the year is evidenced by the value of the exports being less by £58,054 than in 1907.

15. The value of the principal articles imported in the two years is given hereunder:—

	1907.	1908.
Class I.—	£	£
Bread of all kinds (biscuits)	4,446	4,373
Butter	2,559	2,357
Fish (dried or preserved)	14,146	12,761
Flour (wheaten)	33,998	38,438
Meat (salted and preserved)	10,747	9,446
Medicinal extracts and preparations ...	3,215	3,319
Oats	5,107	4,421
Oil (olive and other for cooking) ...	4,291	4,176
Oleomargarine and butterine	4,246	3,445
Rice	7,078	7,373
Spirits	4,369	5,104
Sugar:—		
Refined	2,725	2,694
Muscovado	8,355	7,786
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes ...	3,662	3,099
Class II.—		
Coal	2,480	3,216
Manures	3,167	5,762
Petroleum oil	3,728	3,385
Timber and shingles	8,719	20,484
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery ...	11,229	11,447
Textiles	51,150	73,466
Metal manufactures	15,290	17,579
Earthen and glassware	3,078	3,371
Furniture	3,310	3,718
Leather (manufactured):—		
Boots and shoes	5,407	5,889
Other	2,727	2,706
Soap	3,914	5,060
Class IV.—		
Silver coin	16,600	400
Bank notes	—	4,681

16. Two marked features present themselves in these figures, both evidencing the increased spending power conferred by the enhanced value of exports in the two years, and both showing the tendencies of the mass of the people under present conditions. These are the steady increase in the importation of wheaten flour and the quantity of house-building materials (timber and shingles) introduced in 1908. The latter item indicates the deep-rooted desire among the better type of peasant for improved dwellings, shown by their expenditure in that direction as soon as they have the money for it; while the former, taken with a steady increase in the quantity of "ground provisions" and corn imported, shows only too clearly that with the gradual absorption of the cultivable land by permanent cultivation, such as cocoa and nutmegs, the peasant is losing the source of his natural food, and is finding the conditions of his life more arduous than in bygone days, when the presence of abundance of native food made the pauper dependent on public support a rarity in Grenada.

17. Imports from the United Kingdom formed 45 per cent. of the total, indicating a steady increase, the proportions in 1907 and 1906 being 43 and 39. They may be classified, in value, as follows:—

	£
Live animals, food, drink, &c.	26,627
Raw materials	4,616
Manufactured articles (including textiles £64,135)	104,998
Coin, bullion, &c.	400
Total	136,641

18. Of the balance, British Colonies contributed 26 per cent. and foreign countries 29 per cent., the latter having fallen from 31 per cent. in 1906. The United States of America is, of course, Grenada's principal foreign customer, 95 per cent. of the total foreign imports being from that source, representing an increase from 90 per cent. in 1906. A small portion of this is, however, undoubtedly of Canadian origin, and reaches the Colony in the absence of a direct steamer service with Canada, through New York.

19. The discontinuance in 1906 of the subsidised steamer service with the Dominion, even such as it was, has proved a serious obstacle to the growth of trade with Canada. Until proper facilities are provided for transport there can be no real progress in this direction, even if preferential treatment of Canadian imports were conceded, as is the desire of some Colonies in the West Indies. The total value of imports from Canada in 1908 was, according to the returns, £20,907, of which £14,482 was timber, for house-building, imported direct in sailing vessels; the statistics relating to other articles cannot be taken as representing the correct importation.

20. Exports in 1908 fell in value by £58,054, as compared with 1907, the cause being a steady descent of cocoa from the

abnormally high price it had reached in 1907, and a serious fall in the price of nutmegs. A comparison of the principal articles of Colonial produce exported in the two years is here given:—

	1907.	1908.
	£	£
Cocoa	361,128	311,519
Spices (nutmegs and mace) ...	39,954	19,970
Cotton and cotton seed ...	7,731	12,756
Live animals	1,289	1,995

21. £1,620 in gold coin was exported to the United States of America, this being the second consecutive year in which this unusual item occurs. £2,556 was the amount sent in 1907.

22. On account of the unreliability of the export returns relating to cocoa shipped to Havre, optional for London, it is not possible to give exact figures showing the direction of the Colony's export trade; it may safely, however, be stated that the bulk of it is now, as in the past, with the mother country. There was a marked diminution in the volume of exports to the United States of America, the value being £32,172, as compared with £95,063 in 1907, when cocoa to the value of £85,470 was sent there. This is probably attributable to nervousness of shippers on account of the revision of the United States tariff, and to doubt as to its effect on the consumption of cocoa there. It is noteworthy that the consumption of this article in the States in 1908 fell off by about 1,700 tons as compared with 1907.

Agricultural Industries.

23. *Cocoa.*—The crop for the year ended 30th September, 1908, 64,398 bags, was in excess of that for the preceding year and all previous years, with the exception of 1904 (67,225 bags), and was just about three times the quantity produced thirty years ago 21,864 bags). If the exceptional prices of 1907 had continued, this would have, indeed, been a record year for the planters, but it opened with a fall of about 10*s*. per cwt. in the London market, and this downward course continued almost progresively to the end of the year, when values showed a reduction of over 40*s*. per cwt. on the record of 1907, the highest quotation for Grenada cocoa being then 56*s*. per cwt., which is about normal.

24. *Spices.*—The year was unsatisfactory for this product. Not only did the crop for the year ended 30th September fall off in quantity, only 6,867 barrels and 514 half-barrels being exported as compared with 7,284 barrels and 735 half-barrels in 1907, but prices were so low as to be almost unremunerative. Mace fortunately retained its value, but only 400 cases were shipped as against 876 in the preceding year.

25. The decline in price of nutmegs is said to be largely due to the substitution of some other lubricant for delicate machinery in place of the oil extracted from this nut. As the spice industry is the second in value in the Colony to cocoa, and has reached £36,000 in amount in one year, the drop in prices is a matter for serious concern, and it is hoped that it will not be permanent.

26. *Cotton.*—The result of attention to Sea Island cotton in Carriacou, the seat of this industry, appears in this year's returns, for although the quantity of all kinds shipped, about 740 bales with 4,298 bags of seed, was less than in 1907 (934 bales and 4,742 bags), the value largely increased, as will be seen on reference to paragraph 20 of this report. Much improvement remains to be effected by the peasants in their methods of reaping and sorting, and many complaints were made by London merchants as to the lower prices resulting from carelessness in these respects. A leaflet with advice has been issued by the Government this year in the hope of remedying this in some measure. A feature of the cotton industry in 1908 was the extraordinary delay in obtaining sale for the product in London.

27. *Limes.*—It is satisfactory to record that in 1908 the commencement of a new agricultural industry was made in Carriacou. Following upon the advice of the Commissioner of the district, Mr. Whitfield Smith, who has repeatedly urged the introduction of lime cultivation into the dependency, where conditions are eminently suitable to it, and encouraged by the marked success of the experimental plot which he planted as an object lesson, Mr. Tom Archer, the leading planter of that island, established 50,000 young trees during the year under review, and proposes to extend the cultivation to 100,000 trees. His example will doubtless be followed by many with advantage to themselves and to the Colony.

28. The Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme had been in working for five years in 1908, and the following brief statement of its money transactions is evidence of its continued success:—

		£
Total expenditure on the scheme to 31st December, 1908		8,448
Received in cash to that date		4,735
Balance due to Colonial Treasury		3,713
		£
Total value of lots (368) surveyed for sale		7,466
	£	
Cash received for lots sold (364)	3,571	
Balance due by allottees, payable by instalments bearing interest at 5 per cent. ...	3,789	
Value of unsold lots (4)	106	
		7,466
		£
Approximate value of reserves and other property resulting from purchase of the estates		3,679

29. In his Annual Report the Commissioner of the District states in regard to the scheme: "It is my pleasing duty again to record steady progressive and most satisfactory work along the lines indicated in previous reports. . . . Owing to a

most unusual delay in receiving account sales for cotton, shipped to England since May of the year under review, several of the allottees are slightly in arrears with regard to payment of their yearly interest and instalments. This, however, is a matter which will right itself as soon as cotton sales reopen in the northern markets."

30. A noteworthy feature of the general effect of the scheme on the prosperity of the island is the fact that the leading dry goods and grocery merchants of the Colony, The Stores (Grenada), Limited, found it desirable to open a branch of their business in Carriacou during 1908, to the mutual advantage, it is understood, of the people of the Dependency, and of their shareholders.

31. 52,948 gallons of rum were manufactured during the year at the thirteen distilleries licensed, representing an increase of 6,273 gallons on the results of 1907, and of 16,970 gallons on those of 1906. The bulk of this was, however, warehoused, and only 6,620 gallons were duty paid for consumption, yielding a revenue of only £9,884, or a decrease of £1,122 on that of the preceding year. When it is remembered that so far back as 1892 the excise revenue on rum was, by active exertions, brought up to £11,775, and that the population of the Colony has increased from 55,333 in that year to 72,988, some estimate of the probable extent to which the revenue is being defrauded by smuggling can be formed. If fully realised, the revenue from excise duty on rum under present conditions should be at least £15,000 a year.

32. One hundred and eighty-five dealers were licensed to sell intoxicating liquors, 4 being wholesale and 181 retail licences; the revenue was £3,724 from this source.

33. There is an ice factory in St. George's, but no returns of the amount manufactured are available. In addition to the quantity made for home consumption in 1908 there were exported 378 tons, valued at £577.

Shipping.

34. The total tonnage inwards and outwards of the shipping in the last five years was:—

	Tons.
1904	632,291
1905	639,348
1906	595,534
1907	513,902
1908	566,245

35. 555,919 tons of the total in 1908 was British shipping, as usual. The slight falling off in volume of late years is attributable to the Canadian subsidised steamers being withdrawn in 1906 from their former bi-monthly call at Grenada.

LEGISLATION.

36. Twenty-eight Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, but of these only 25 were brought into operation in 1908. Of those which became law the most important were Ordinances (1) relating to the sale of poisons, (2) providing for dealing with unseaworthy vessels and with the equipment of the small craft engaged in inter-colonial trade, (3) vesting real estate in the personal representatives of a deceased person, (4) making special provision in respect of certain contracts entered into by peasant proprietors, and (5) amending the law relating to quarantine.

37. The third Ordinance mentioned above was a preliminary step towards the levying of duty on the estates of deceased persons, a measure providing for which was also passed, and has become law in the current year. The fourth arose from the evidence taken before the Peasant Proprietary Commission in 1907, and secures that contracts between a peasant proprietor and a dealer in local produce shall be in writing, and attested before a Magistrate or the Supreme Court Registrar, who are required to explain the contract to the peasant, and to certify that he understands and agrees to it; it is further provided that a duplicate of each such contract shall be filed for record in the office of the Magistrate or the Registrar. Power is given to the Courts to reopen "harsh and unconscionable" contracts, and to set aside or revise them. The effect of this law should be far-reaching and beneficial.

38. The Quarantine Amendment Ordinance gives effect to certain recommendations of the Central Quarantine Authority at its meeting in June, 1907, which had been adopted by the Colonies signatory to the Convention of 1904.

EDUCATION.

39. *Primary.*—The new Primary Education Ordinance and Code thereunder were brought into operation on the 1st of April, 1908, inaugurating a complete change from previous systems in force in the Colony. Payment by results was abolished, and schools of primary education are classed as (*a*) infant schools, (*b*) lower division schools, (*c*) combined schools, and (*d*) industrial schools. To class (*a*) only children under the age of six are to be admitted; (*b*) is a school wherein reading, writing, and arithmetic are to be thoroughly and exclusively taught within certain limitations of standards and ages of pupils; (*c*) is a school in an important centre of population whereat, in addition to a lower division, as above, an upper division of pupils is to be maintained, and taught exclusively within the higher standards; and (*d*) is a school to be established in an important centre of population, at which practical instruction in agriculture or

industrial occupations is to be given. Combined schools are of two grades, the object being to establish a high type of school upon which pattern those of lower type may endeavour to model themselves, and into which it is possible for them to evolve by proper effort of the teaching staff. The staff of all schools and their pay are definitely fixed, better pay being provided for teachers with higher certificates; and the head teachers of combined schools are made eligible under certain conditions for pensionable allowances upon retirement.

40. As the new system was only in operation for nine months of the year, it is too early to comment upon its working. It may be remarked, however, that the Ordinance creating it provides for such flexibility in arrangement of details by the Governor, acting with consent of the Legislative Council, that both expansion and improvement may be effected, as occasion requires, with comparative ease, and without the disturbing effect of the enactment of a fresh law for each change.

41. The grant in aid from public revenue in 1908 was £5,038, as compared with £5,215 in 1907, and with an average of £5,715 in the three years 1905-7. Forty-five schools were in existence (21 Roman Catholic, 9 Anglican, 4 Wesleyan, 2 Church of Scotland, and 9 Government schools); the total expenditure so far as it is returned was £5,192, the number on roll 9,048, and the average attendance 4,518. The attendance and number on roll are below the normal rates, having been continuously affected by the conditions of uncertainty and transition which have operated since 1905.

42. *Secondary.*—Important progress was made with this question, which has also been in an unsettled state since 1905. An Ordinance was passed in 1906 to settle it on lines recommended by a Special Committee of the Legislative Council, but it did not come into operation, as it was found impracticable to provide funds for the construction and equipment of a proper boys' school, and the Board of Management created was considered to be too elaborate and unwieldy. In the result the Secretary of State, on the Governor's recommendation, sanctioned an outlay of £4,000 from surplus assets of the Colony for providing a boys' school, which was voted by the Legislative Council in November, and a fresh Ordinance was passed in December creating a smaller and more effective Board of Directors, and simplifying the procedure generally. This Ordinance has not yet commenced to operate, as it was not finally dealt with by the Council until May, 1909, but meanwhile work on the road to the site of the new boys' school is proceeding.

43. The Government grants to the existing boys' and girls' schools were continued as a temporary measure in 1908, the schools being carried on by the present governing bodies with an acting staff; the attendance at the boys' school averaged 29, and at the girls' school 25.

44. The St. Joseph's Convent School, which is not affected by the difficulties connected with the other two, continued the

even tenor of its way. It receives a Government grant of £100 a year, for the conditions of which it regularly and satisfactorily qualifies. The average attendance in 1908 was 64, and the expenditure £327.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

45. *Colony Hospital.*—Nine hundred and eighty-six patients were treated during the year, of whom 649 were discharged cured, 197 relieved, and 48 died. The daily average was 96, and the cost of each patient for the year was £21 7*s*. Thirty-nine of the patients paid for their treatment, £59 being received under this head. In the out-patient department there were 2,744 attendances, as compared with 1,953 in the previous year.

46. *Yaws Hospital.*—The number treated, 266, was in excess of previous years, and so were the admissions, 207. The daily average was 72, and the cost per patient for the year £13 17*s*. 6*d*. Two hundred and sixteen cases were discharged cured, and three died (two from heart failure, and one from asthenia).

47. *St. Andrew's District Hospital.*—One hundred and seventy-six cases were under treatment, of whom 123 were discharged cured, 39 relieved, and 4 died. The daily average was 11, and the cost of a patient in the year £33 10*s*. 2*d*. Receipts at the dispensary amounted to £183 15*s*., 9,782 prescriptions being compounded, of which 3,675 were paid for. It is worthy of note that the number of free prescriptions, *i.e.*, to paupers, labourers' children, and aged labourers, has increased from 1,857 in 1902 to 5,102, while the patients admitted to the hospital in 1902 numbered 92, as against 166 in the year under review.

48. *Carriacou District Hospital.*—One hundred and forty-seven cases were under treatment, of whom 90 were discharged cured, 32 relieved, and 4 died. The daily average was 15, and the cost per patient £33 5*s*. The receipts from dispensary sales were £60 7*s*. 10*d*., but no return has been made by the District Medical Officer of the number of prescriptions compounded, and other details.

49. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The number under treatment was 179, 36 cases being admitted during the year (6 from St. Vincent and 30 from Grenada), and of these 24 were discharged as cured, and 4 as relieved. The daily average was 145, and the number of deaths 16. The cost per patient per annum was £18 18*s*. 1*d*. Two cases of typhoid fever occurred at the institution, one being an inmate and the other an officer; every effort was made to trace the source of infection, but without result, and the precautions taken proved adequate to prevent its spread.

50. *Poor Asylum.*—This asylum can accommodate 58 paupers, and the daily average in 1908 was 55. There were 23 admissions, 18 deaths, and 11 inmates who left of their own accord.

The cost of each inmate for the year was £10 9*s.* 1*d.* The institution has been much improved of late years under Dr. E. F. Hatton's administration.

51. *Savings Bank.*—As forecast in the Annual Report for 1905, the Savings Bank is being steadily utilised more and more by the people, as the difficulty of investing savings in real property increases. At 31st December, 1908, the balance at credit of depositors amounted to £18,443, as compared with £15,419 at end of 1907, and with £8,451 at end of 1898. £16,000 of this was invested in Colonial securities, and £2,000 held on deposit by the Colonial Bank. The number of depositors was 1,728, as against 1,638 in 1907 and 1,053 in 1898.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

52. *Police.*—The Chief of Police reports of the force in 1908 that "conduct and discipline were satisfactory." The men were put through the trained men's course, militia, at rifle practice, and the result showed considerable improvement. The force was inspected in July by Brigadier-General Marshall, C.B., who expressed his satisfaction.

53. *Prisons.*—The committals were 228 in number, all from Grenada, and the daily average was 75, of which only 36 were Grenada prisoners—35 being from St. Lucia, and 4 from St. Vincent. The cost of a prisoner for the year was certified to be £18 17*s.* 3*d.*

54. Mr. C. Riggs, Keeper of the Royal Gaol, St. Lucia, assumed the duties of Superintendent of Prisons on 26th October, *vice* Mr. Heels, retired on pension at 31st March; Mr. S. Buckland acted *ad interim.* A water sewerage system was introduced during the year, and the water supply was increased by means of larger pipes from the main.

55. *Criminal Statistics.*—A feature of the statistics is the increase in convictions for prædial larceny, the result of an effort made by the Governor to deal thoroughly with this growing class of offence; the number of convictions has in consequence risen from 79 in 1905 to 139 in 1908. Of the figures relating to crime as a whole, the Attorney-General reports that they may be "accepted as affording striking testimony to that high reputation for peaceful and law-abiding qualities which has always attached to the people of Grenada."

VITAL STATISTICS.

56. The estimated population at 31st December, 1908, was 72,988; males 34,883, females 38,105. The movement of the people to and from the Canal Zone of Panama has become normal and does not seriously affect the estimate, which is based on the natural increase since the last census. There are, of course, many Grenadians still on the Isthmus, but now that health conditions there are satisfactory they will most of them return in due course.

57. According to this estimate the population has increased by 9,550 since the census of 1901, the increase being most marked in the districts of Carriacou and St. David's, where it amounts to about 18 per cent.; in St. George's the increase has been only about 11 per cent.

58. The birth-rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 39·22, as compared with an average in the preceding decennial period of 41·09; and the death-rate was 21·19, against an average of 21·49. Although no disease was epidemic in the year, it was by no means as healthy as 1907, and the number of deaths was 1,533, against 1,386 in that year. Typhoid fever, from which the Colony has hitherto been almost exempt, made its appearance in St. George's, being doubtless imported from a neighbouring Colony where it was epidemic. Twenty-two cases occurred, with five deaths, but it was held in check by the opening of an isolation hospital for cases which could not be properly treated, and with due regard for sanitary precautions in their own houses.

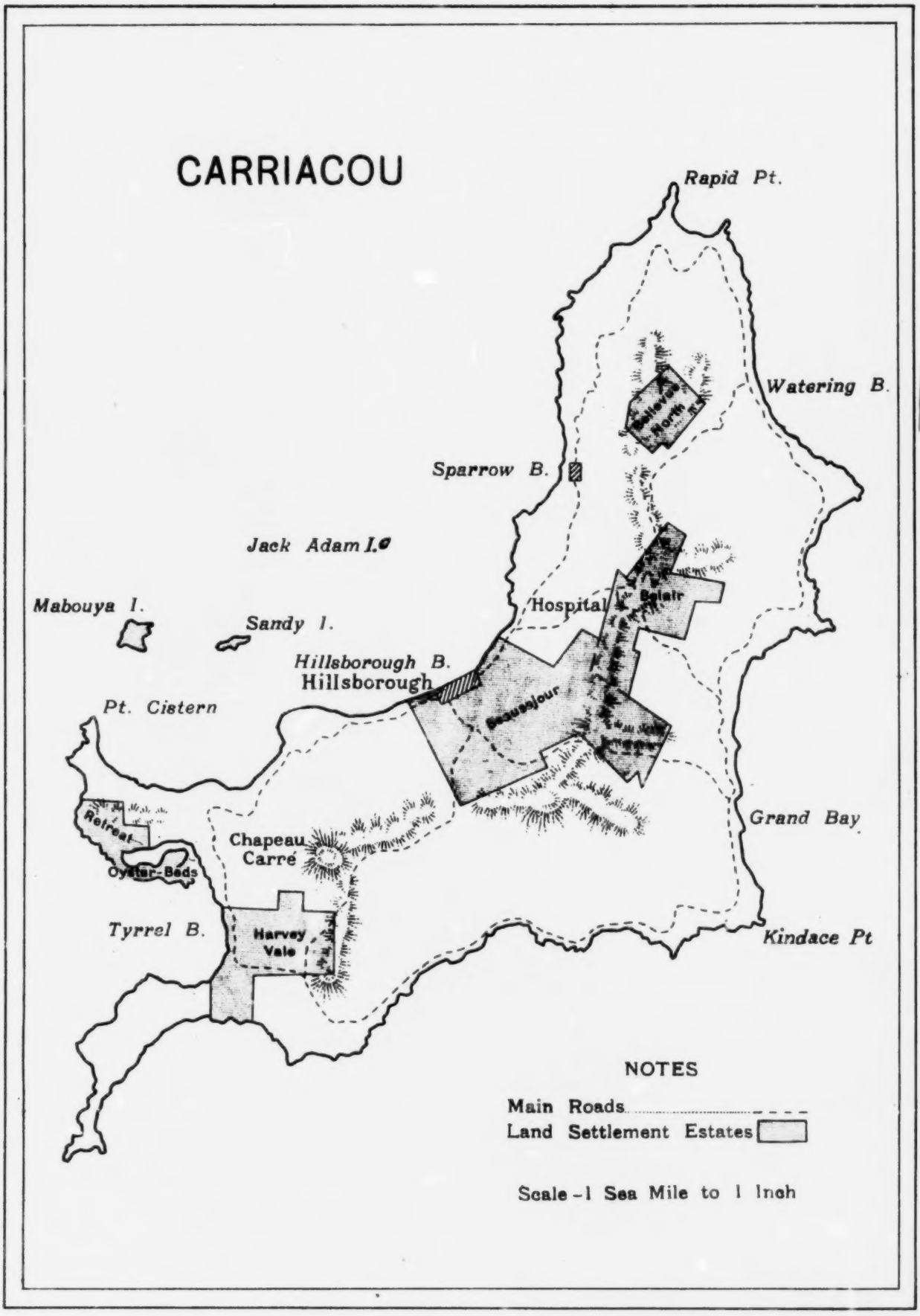
59. The distribution of the rainfall over the year was abnormal, only 39·28 inches out of a total of 68·44 being recorded at Richmond Hill in the first three quarters of the year. The average at that station for 18 years has been 77 inches, and only 59 inches were recorded in 1907, which was accordingly an exceptionally healthy year. There were floods in St. John's and St. Mark's Districts in December, 1908. At Plaisance, in St. John's, five inches were recorded on Christmas Day in two hours, the total record for the month there being no less than 40 inches.

60. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are:—

Rainfall:—	Inches.
North of the Island	52·81
Centre of the Island	160·17
*South of the Island	68·44
Carriacou	55·70
*Mean relative humidity, 6 p.m.	73·11
*Maximum temperature (8th September) ...	89·0°
*Minimum temperature (20th March) ...	68·2°
*Mean pressure	29·994 ins.
*Days of rain	242

* At the Richmond Hill Station.

61° 40
GRENADA
Irwin's B.
L. Levera I.
Green I.
Sandy I.
Duquesne B.
Sauteurs
L. Levera
St. Mark's B.
Victoria
ST. MARK'S
Duquesne River
St. Patrick's R.
ST. PATRICK'S
L. Antoine
St. Marie R.
River Antoine
Gouyave
Charlotte R.
St. Catherine
Gouyave B.
Conference B.
10′
ST. JOHN'S
Great River
Telescope Pt
Grenville
Grenville B.
Halifax B.
ST. ANDREW'S
Grand Etang
Beausejour River
Bacolet Pt.
R. St. John
ST. GEORGE'S
St. George's
St. George's Har.
ST. DAVID'S
Requin B.
River Cheapie
Quarantine Stn.
12°
Salines
Glover I.
Prickly Pt.
Port Egmont
Pt. of Fort Jeudy
Main Roads
Parish Boundaries
Crown Lands
Police Stations
Scale = 1/218880
Sea Miles
10 0 1 2 3 4 5 6
61° 40′
Ordnance Survey, Southampton, '09.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, '09.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

61. A slight decrease in the number of ordinary letters, &c., dealt with is shown in the post office statistics for 1908, as compared with 1907, but the number of registered articles and insured letters increased. There was also a satisfactory increase in the money order transactions, the total issued and paid amounting to £26,642, as against £24,807 in 1907 and £20,287 in 1906; while the British postal orders issued and paid increased in amount to £3,522, as against £2,856 in 1907 and £2,442 in 1906.

62. Remittances through the post office from Grenadians on the Canal Zone of the Isthmus of Panama amounted to £7,475, as compared with £6,235 in the preceding year.

63. There was no change or development of the telephone service in the year worthy of special notice. The service was maintained in the face of difficulties arising from a vacancy in the office of Supervisor during the year, which it took some time to fill satisfactorily.

GENERAL REMARKS.

64. The Governor was absent on leave from the 27th of July to the end of the year, the Government of the Windward Islands being administered from St. Lucia by Mr. P. C. Cork, C.M.G., and the local Government by the Colonial Secretary.

65. The Colony was represented by the Colonial Secretary at the Canadian Trade Conference, held in Barbados in January.

66. The important extensions and improvement of the water supply to the principal town, commenced in the preceding year, were completed under the supervision of the Public Works Department, the cost being provided by a loan of £5,000 from Colonial funds to the District Board of St. George's. The construction of waterworks for the town of Sauteurs from a similar loan of £4,236 to the St. Patrick's District Board was commenced by the Department in the second half of the year, and vigorously pushed forward.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
21st October, 1909.

P.N. - 11 28 589643 F.O.C. Black 800 X - 11

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1907–1908
594	Northern Nigeria	"
595	Basutoland	"
596	Swaziland	"
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	"
599	Falkland Islands	"
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
603	Ashanti	"
604	Ceylon	"
605	Weihaiwei	"
606	Seychelles	"
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
613	Gold Coast	"
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	"
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	"
618	Fiji	"
619	Nyasaland Protectorate	1908–1909
620	Barbados	"
621	Trinidad and Tobago	"
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland Protectorate	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	"
627	Swaziland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.
60	Nyasaland Protectorate	" " 1907–8.
61	South Africa	Agriculture and Viticulture.
62	Uganda Protectorate	Cotton Industry.

LE Mr '10

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 658.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 628.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1910.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1910.

[Cd. 4964-32.] *Price* 3*d*.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
Legislation	11
Education	11
Government Institutions	12
Judicial Statistics	13
Vital Statistics	13
Postal and Telephone Services	14
General Remarks	15
Sketch Maps of Grenada and Carriacou.	

No. 658.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 628.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
15th September, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1909.

I have, &c.,

J. HAYES SADLER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

(17819—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 & 85. 11/10. D & S. A 2

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1909.

FINANCIAL.

The financial year 1909-10 opened with a balance of surplus assets of £35,195 and closed with one of £33,240, so that there was a loss of £1,955 on the year's transactions. The cause of this was the failure of the revenue from Customs and Excise duties to reach the estimate, while at the same time necessary expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary, amounting to £3,531, had to be disbursed during the year.

2. The shrinkage of imports, which brought about the reduced revenue from Customs, appears chiefly under foodstuffs (such as wheaten flour and rice), and under house-building materials (timber and shingles), and clothing (textiles). The latter indicates that the purchasing power of the people was affected by the fall in prices of the staple product, and the former is probably due in some measure to temporary favourable conditions inducing a larger production of "ground provisions" for use as food in place of imported articles.

3. All reasonable economy was exercised in expenditure, and as soon as it was clear that the loss to the revenue, unless arrested, would seriously affect the year's work, an Ordinance was passed (January, 1910) fortifying the Customs revenue by the addition of 10 per cent. on all import duties in force, which had the effect of checking the fall in receipts.

4. The loss under Excise duty on spirits is due, as stated in last year's report, to extensive smuggling. A determined effort has been made in the current year to deal with this, and numerous seizures have been made and illicit transactions detected, which cannot fail to have an effect in the right direction. Even in the financial year under review that effect showed itself, as the revenue from this source increased from £9,884 in the preceding year to £10,126.

5. A new source of revenue was tapped in 1909 in the shape of estate duties, which are estimated to bring in about £1,500 per annum. As the law permits of the duty being paid in five annual instalments the full benefit will not be derived until 1914, and as it only commenced to operate on 15th July, 1909, only £88 was received in 1909-10.

6. A change was made in the export duties during the year. At the request of the agricultural community the duty on cocoa was raised 2½*d.* per cwt. to 7½*d.*, so as to provide funds for the administration of the re-organised local Agricultural Department. At the same time, in view of the low prices now realised by nutmegs, the duty on them was reduced by one-half, that on mace remaining unaltered; and the duty on logwood, which has practically ceased to be exported, was removed.

7. The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1910, was £71,224, as follows:—

	£
Customs	36,864
Licences, Excise, and internal revenue	27,738
Fees of office, &c.	1,834
Post Office	1,395
Telephones	1,683
Water supply, Richmond Hill, &c.	237
Revenue from Government property	1,030
Interest and Sinking Funds	1,013
Miscellaneous receipts	162
Land sales	18
Total local revenue	70,974
Imperial grant in aid of Agricultural Department ...	250
Total revenue	£71,224

As compared with the preceding year a net decrease of £1,958 is shown, and this has been explained above.

8. The expenditure was £73,282, the highest recorded, and its details are as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of debt	6,196
Pensions	2,636
The Governor	2,227
Colonial Secretary	1,774
Treasury Department	5,630
Post Office	2,548
Audit	641
Port and marine	541
Legal Departments	4,780
Police	5,366
Prisons	1,125
Medical Department	3,671
Hospitals and asylums	5,654
Education	5,986
Ecclesiastical	444
Charitable	603
Telephones	1,553
Carriacou District	936
Water supply, Richmond Hill, &c.	240
Miscellaneous	4,687
Agricultural Department	641
Public Works Department	1,397
Public Works Recurrent	10,306
Public Works Extraordinary	3,531
Total expenditure from Colonial Funds ...	73,113
Expenditure on Agricultural Department from Imperial Funds	169
	£73,282

9. The net increase on the preceding year was £620, chiefly due to heavy expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary. Details under this head may be classified under "roads and bridges" (chiefly in repair of storm damages in 1908, and including the new road to the proposed site of the Secondary School for boys), £1,150; buildings (principally reconstruction of officers' quarters), £995; and other works (swamp drainage, water supplies, and jetties), £1,386.

10. The total revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1905-6	69,954	71,968
1906-7	71,786	70,379
1907-8	79,871	68,383
1908-9	73,182	72,661
1909-10	71,224	73,282

11. The most important assets in the surplus at 31st March, 1910, which was, as has been already stated, £33,240, were:—

	£
Reserve Fund, invested	12,730
St. George's Board Water Supply Loan... ...	5,827
St. Patrick's Board Water Supply Loan... ...	4,150
Carriacou Land Settlement Advance	2,639
Carriacou Jetty Advance	855
Gouyave Jetty Advance	200

12. The loan debt of the Colony remains at £123,670, in 4 per cent. inscribed stock, redeemable between 1917 and 1942 by means of a sinking fund which at 31st March, 1910, amounted to £25,827. The Colony is now also liable for repayment of a loan of £550 borrowed, at 6 per cent. interest, by the late Governing Body of the Girls' High School to repair the school premises.

13. The accounts of the several District Boards, except St. David's which is entirely dependent upon grants from Colonial revenue, closed at 31st March, 1910, with balances of surplus assets. Their revenue and expenditure were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	3,918	4,059
St. Andrew's	2,565	2,585
St. Patrick's	1,616	1,775
St. John's	1,529	1,838
St. Mark's	679	620
St. David's	764	764
Totals	£11,071	£11,641

The town of Hillsborough, in Carriacou, is administered by Town Wardens. Its revenue for the financial year was £85 and its expenditure £79.

14. The loan debts of the District Boards at 31st March, 1910, amounted to £16,328, as under; they are all due to the Government, and are repayable by instalments or sinking fund contributions:—

	£
St. George's	11,808
St. John's	3,450
St. Andrew's	990
St. Patrick's	40
St. Mark's	40

At the close of the financial year the loan to St. Mark's District for a jetty at Victoria was written off and the liability assumed by the Government, the jetty having been completely destroyed by high seas and there being no possibility of replacing it effectually at reasonable cost.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

15. The imports and exports of the Colony in the last five years are valued as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1905	237,256	283,955
1906	233,448	210,149
1907	288,665	417,299
1908	303,783	359,245
1909	268,236	284,846

As will be seen there was a marked fall in value in 1909 from the results of the two preceding years both in regard to imports and exports. The fall in price of both cocoa and nutmegs, evidenced by the shrinkage of the exports in value, is the principal cause of the corresponding shrinkage of the imports.

16. From the subjoined statement of the value of the principal articles imported in 1908 and 1909, it will be noted that the falling off in the latter year chiefly appears under wheaten flour, rice, timber and shingles, textiles, and soap. The last item was possibly affected in some measure by the appearance of a local soap factory:—

	1908.	1909.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Bread of all kinds	4,373	5,042
Butter	2,357	2,500
Fish (dried and preserved)	12,761	13,561
Flour (wheaten)	38,438	34,046
Meat (salted and preserved)	9,446	9,341
Medical extracts and preparations ...	3,319	2,905
Oats	4,421	5,637
Oil (olive and others for cooking) ...	4,176	3,702
Oleomargarine and butterine	3,445	3,824
Rice	7,373	5,875

	1908. £	1909. £
Class I.—		
Spirits	5,104	5,248
Sugar:—		
Refined	2,694	4,078
Muscovado	7,786	7,748
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	3,099	4,423
Class II.—		
Coal	3,216	1,957
Manures	5,762	8,014
Petroleum oil	3,385	4,478
Timber and shingles	20,484	8,133
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery ...	13,810	13,450
Textiles	57,982	39,156
Metal manufactures	17,579	16,715
Earthen and glassware	3,371	3,142
Furniture	3,718	3,231
Leather (manufactured):—		
Boots and shoes	5,889	5,343
Other	2,706	2,294
Soap	5,060	3,866
Class IV.—		
Silver coin	400	1,150
Bank notes...	4,681	8,807

17. 42 per cent. of the imports were from the United Kingdom (45 per cent. in 1908 and 43 per cent. in 1907), 26 per cent. (the same as in the preceding year) from British Possessions, and 32 per cent. from foreign countries (29 per cent. in 1908). The imports from the United Kingdom may be classified as under:—

	£
Live animals, food, drink, &c.	27,411
Manufactured articles (including textiles, £44,286)	78,605
Raw materials	4,900
Coin, bullion, &c.	150
Total	£111,066

The corresponding total for 1908 was £136,641, the falling off being under manufactured articles, which (including textiles, £64,135) amounted to £104,998 in that year.

18. The exports of the Colony were valued at £74,399 less than in 1908, a further fall in price of the staple product, cocoa, having taken place, and the price of nutmegs and of cotton being unsatisfactory. The values of the principal articles of local produce exported in the two years compare as follows:—

	1908. £	1909. £
Cocoa	311,519	248,398
Nutmegs and mace	19,970	18,135
Cotton and cotton seed	12,756	8,971
Live animals	1,995	1,922

19. The exports to the United States of America continued to diminish in value in the year under review, when the total of such exports only amounted to £29,847 (of which £26,420 was cocoa), as against £32,172 in 1908 and £95,063 in 1907.

20. The cocoa crop for the year ended 30th September, 1909, 67,329 bags, was the largest recorded at that date, the nearest approach to it being the similar year in 1904, when 67,225 bags were reaped; it exceeded that of the preceding year by 2,931 bags. This satisfactory output was unfortunately accompanied by a further decline in prices, till 54*s*. 6*d*. per cwt. was reached at the end of 1909. An examination of the world's statistics of the trade in this article shows that consumption is not at present keeping pace with production, but that at the same time consumption is steadily on the increase in all the great cocoa-consuming countries, especially in the United States of America, where its use, as compared with tea and coffee, is evidently becoming more popular.

21. With the growth of competition, far greater attention is now paid to both cultivation and curing of cocoa in Grenada than in byegone years, and improvement both in quantity and quality of the crops is resulting. In 1909 a cocoa polisher was invented and placed on the market by a prominent local planter, Mr. W. M. Malins-Smith, both simplifying and improving on prevailing methods in that direction.

22. The crop of nutmegs was unsatisfactory both in quantity and in prices. 6,740 barrels and 346 half-barrels were reaped, as compared with 6,867 barrels and 514 half-barrels in the preceding year ended 30th September, 1908; while only 306 cases of mace were received, as against 400 the year before.

23. A radical change in the administration of the Agricultural Department was effected in June, 1909. Following upon the final withdrawal of the Imperial grant-in-aid, which had been notified, the agricultural community offered to pay an increased export duty of 2½*d*. per cwt. on cocoa towards the support of the local department, on the understanding that it was controlled by a Board with a strong unofficial element. This was adopted by the Government; and the Agricultural Board, having the same control (except disciplinary) over the local department as that ordinarily vested in the head of a Government Department, was appointed, with the Colonial Secretary as Chairman, and consisting of one official member and six unofficials, to be selected biennially by the Governor from the members of the Agricultural and Commercial Society. The local department is affiliated to the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, and the Commissioner of that Department is entitled to sit as a member of the Board whenever he is present in the Colony. He is also closely associated with the general working of the department, and kept in touch with it by regular correspondence. A Superintendent of Agriculture was then appointed, Mr. G. G. Auchinleck, B.Sc., being selected for the office, and assumed his duties at the end of the year.

24. These important changes coincided with the appointment of Dr. Francis Watts, C.M.G., to be Commissioner of the Imperial

Department of Agriculture in the West Indies. On his first visit to the Colony, in February, 1909, they were discussed by the Agricultural and Commercial Society with the Governor and himself, and agreed to by that body.

25. The Agricultural and Commercial Society's scheme of giving prizes to peasants for the best kept and cultivated cocoa holdings, which was referred to in the report for 1907, has been extended to the whole island, with the most happy results. Arrangements were made by the new Board to initiate a similar scheme in Carriacou in 1910.

26. Of the Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme, the Commissioner of the District states in his report for 1909:—

> "A few allottees have forfeited their lands for non-compliance with the residential clause of the Land Regulations, otherwise, I have again to record progressive work along the lines indicated in former reports."

The Treasury returns show that of the total amount advanced on the scheme from Colonial Funds, viz., £8,450, only £2,901 remained unpaid at 31st December, 1909, and this is amply secured on the land. The great success of the scheme has enabled proposals to be made for a similar venture in Grenada itself, action on which is being taken in the current year.

27. 40,773 gallons of rum were made in 1909, being 12,175 gallons less than in 1908. The large output of the latter year, combined with the serious failure in the consumption of duty-paid rum, due, as has been already noted, to smuggling, caused a restriction of manufacture. It is hoped that the measures now in progress will place this industry upon a more secure footing.

28. 167 liquor licences were issued during the year, as compared with 185 in 1908, and the revenue derived from this source was £3,635, as compared with £3,724 in that year.

29. The ice factory in St. George's exported 339 tons of ice, valued at £537, in addition to supplying the quantity used for home consumption. As has been mentioned above, a soap factory was started in 1909, and a very satisfactory quality of common soap appears to be produced thereat.

SHIPPING.

30. In the last five years the total tonnage of shipping inwards and outwards was:—

	Tons.
1905	639,348
1906	595,534
1907	513,902
1908	566,245
1909	586,074

568,112 tons of the total in 1909 was steam tonnage, and of both sailing and steam tonnage 551,738 tons was British. The falling off in volume since 1905 is due to the Canadian subsidised line of steamers ceasing in 1906 to call at Grenada under their present contract.

LEGISLATION.

31. Sixteen Ordinances became law during the year. The most important were those relating to (1) Secondary Education, which will be dealt with in the next section; (2) the Agricultural Board, which has been referred to in paragraph 23; (3) Export Duties; and (4) Estate Duty, explained in paragraphs 5 and 6; and (5) Medical Practitioners and Dentists, which provides more fully for registration of such practitioners, and, in the case of medical men, requires them in future to be exclusively persons who are registered under the provisions of the Medical Acts of the Imperial Parliament. A simple measure was also enacted, authorising the framing of regulations for guarding the Colony against infection by rats and other vermin, which, now that bubonic plague has made its appearance in this part of the world, should prove useful.

EDUCATION.

32. *Primary.*—Forty-six schools of primary education were on the legal list at the end of 1909, an infant school of the Anglican Denomination having been added during the year. Nine of these schools were Government schools, 21 Roman Catholic, 10 Anglican, 4 Wesleyan, and 2 of the Church of Scotland; and they were classified as 30 Combined, 10 Lower Division, and 6 Infant Schools. To the Infant Schools only children under the age of six are admitted; at Lower Division Schools reading, writing, and arithmetic are exclusively taught within certain limitations of standards and ages of pupils; and a Combined School is one in an important centre of population, whereat, in addition to a lower division of pupils, as above, an upper division is taught exclusively within the higher standards.

33. The grant-in-aid of these schools from Colonial funds in 1909 was £4,725, as compared with £5,038 in 1908; the number on the roll was 9,356, and the average attendance was 4,538, the corresponding figures in 1908 being 9,048 and 4,518.

34. *Secondary.*—On 31st December, 1909, an Ordinance became law, abolishing the Governing Bodies of the Boys' and Girls' Schools then in existence, and creating a Board of Secondary Education, consisting of the Governor, the members of the Executive Council (which includes two unofficials), and two unofficial members of the Legislative Council to be appointed every two years by the Governor. It enables the Governor, acting with the consent of the Legislative Council, to establish schools of secondary education, to be provided and maintained either from public funds, or partly from public funds and partly from donations from private individuals or grants from local bodies, and from the school fees. This is the first definite and necessary step towards a new system of secondary education in Grenada, and in the current year provision is being made for the requisite buildings and staff for a boys' school, a temporary

school having meanwhile been established under the law; when this is well in hand a girls' school will also be dealt with.

35. In the year under review the boys' and girls' schools then in existence were continued. The average attendance at the boys' school was 29·5, and the expenditure £400, of which £380 was the Government grant; at the girls' school the average attendance was 25, and the expenditure £119, of which £51 was the Government grant. The expenditure of the St. Joseph's Convent Secondary School was £325, of which £100 was Government grant, and the daily average attendance was 63.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

36. *Colony Hospital.*—872 patients were treated during the year (114 less than in 1908), of whom 495 were discharged cured, 247 relieved, and 44 died. The daily average was 84, and the cost per patient £23 11*s.* 5*d.* £85 was received from paying patients, of whom there were 48. In the out-patient department there were 1,575 attendances given, as compared with 2,744 in 1908.

37. *Yaws Hospital.*—The number treated again this year showed a marked increase, being 420, as compared with 266 in 1908, and the admissions were 361 as against 207. Of these, 339 were discharged cured. The daily average was 55, and the cost per patient £11 17*s.* 3*d.* There was one death, its cause being general tuberculosis.

38. *St. Andrew's District Hospital.*—159 patients were treated, 128 discharged cured, and 10 relieved; the daily average was 9·25, and the cost per patient £33 10*s.* 2*d.* The receipts at the District Dispensary, which is attached to this institution, amounted to £180, and 9,951 prescriptions were compounded, of which 3,549 were paid for. In this connection the District Medical Officer remarks: "The free prescriptions have increased from 1,857 in 1902 to 6,402 in 1909, an increase of charitable relief of 4,545. The payment prescriptions in the same period are 2,970 in 1902 and 3,549 in 1909, a difference of 579 only."

39. *Carriacou District Hospital.*—278 patients were under treatment, of whom 203 were discharged as cured, 35 as relieved, 5 as not improved, and 12 died; while the daily average was 23. These figures represent a large increase on those for the preceding year, as an outbreak of enteric fever in the Dependency necessitated the treatment in the hospital of 64 cases of that disease. The cost per patient is stated to have been less than in 1908, but the Medical Officer does not give the necessary data, inclusive of all expenditure, in his report.

40. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The admissions to the asylum were 52 in number (35 from Grenada, 15 from St. Lucia, and 2 from St. Vincent), and the daily average was 141, which is more than the buildings can properly accommodate. 35 were discharged and 13 died. The cost per patient was £18 18*s.* 3*d.*

41. *Poor Asylum.*—This is practically an asylum for incurables, and contains accommodation for 58 inmates. During the year 31 were admitted, 23 died, and 7 left the institution. The daily average was 48, and the cost per patient £11.

42. *Savings Bank.*—The balance at credit of depositors at the end of 1909 amounted to £20,673, as compared with £18,443 at end of 1908. At the close of the financial year (31st March, 1909) this had increased to £21,058, and £21,000 of it was invested.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

43. *Police.*—The police duties were on the whole satisfactorily performed during the year under review. At rifle practice the militia course of 1905 for trained men was carried out, and the average was 121·55. Brigadier-General Marshall, C.B., inspected the force in July.

44. *Prison.*—The committals numbered 270, all from Grenada, and the daily average was 55, of which 43 were from Grenada. The remaining 31 St. Lucia convicts were sent back there early in the year, as the prison of that Colony was then able to accommodate them, and the St. Vincent convicts were discharged in the ordinary course, so that only Grenada prisoners remained. The lowest number on record* was reached in November, when there were but 27 males in custody, and the Female Prison was empty on three occasions during the year. These small numbers caused a marked increase in the cost per prisoner, as it is not possible to largely reduce the staff, and the certified cost was accordingly £23 12*s.* 3*d.*, as against £18 17*s.* 3*d.* in 1908.

45. *Criminal Statistics.*—The Acting Attorney-General reports that the statistics for the year "indicate an increase of crime, which, however, is slight, except in the case of prædial larceny. The increase in the number of convictions for this offence is partly due to the fact that special efforts are being made to stamp out the evil, but I regret to say that at present it shows no signs of diminution."

VITAL STATISTICS.

46. The population of the Colony at the end of 1909 was estimated to be 74,160 (males 35,463, females 38,697), being an increase of 10,722 since the Census of 1901. It should be borne in mind that this estimate is liable to be affected by any emigration and return of the labouring class, of which no reliable returns are available. In 1909, however, the incoming and outgoing are believed to have been normal.

---

* The highest is 84 in 1894.

47. The birth-rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 34·76, a very low figure for Grenada, and the death-rate was 18·82, also very low. Although the health of parts of the Colony was disturbed by outbreaks of enteric fever and influenza, the death roll of the year was small. The first-mentioned disease was practically confined to the Carriacou and St. George's Districts, 66 cases with 9 deaths occurring in the former, and 14 cases with 1 death in the latter. In the past Grenada has been little troubled with this disease. Influenza was epidemic towards the end of the year, and its effects seem to have been most felt in St. Andrew's, where 26 of the 39 deaths attributed to it were recorded.

48. The rainfall was heavy, but was fairly evenly distributed over the year, in marked contrast to the preceding year. At the Richmond Hill Observation Station, in the south of the island, 80·54 inches were received, as compared with 68·44 in 1908, while at Plaisance, an estate in the mountains to the leeward of Mt. St. Catherine, no less than 212 inches are returned as having been recorded. In Carriacou 67 inches were registered, and on three occasions there was an abnormal downpour. On 22nd April, in the "dry season," 3½ inches fell there; on 21st August 5 inches fell in three hours; and on 16th September 3 inches in less than an hour.

49. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are:—

Rainfall:—	
North of Grenada (Sauteurs)	70·01 inches.
Centre of Grenada (Grand Etang) ...	170·09 ,,
South of Grenada (Richmond Hill) ...	80·54 ,,
Carriacou	67·07 ,,
At Richmond Hill Station:—	
Mean pressure	29·979 ,,
Maximum temperature (20th September)	90·8° F.
Minimum temperature (1st April) ...	68·6 ,,
Relative humidity, 6 p.m.	77·1
Days of rain	273

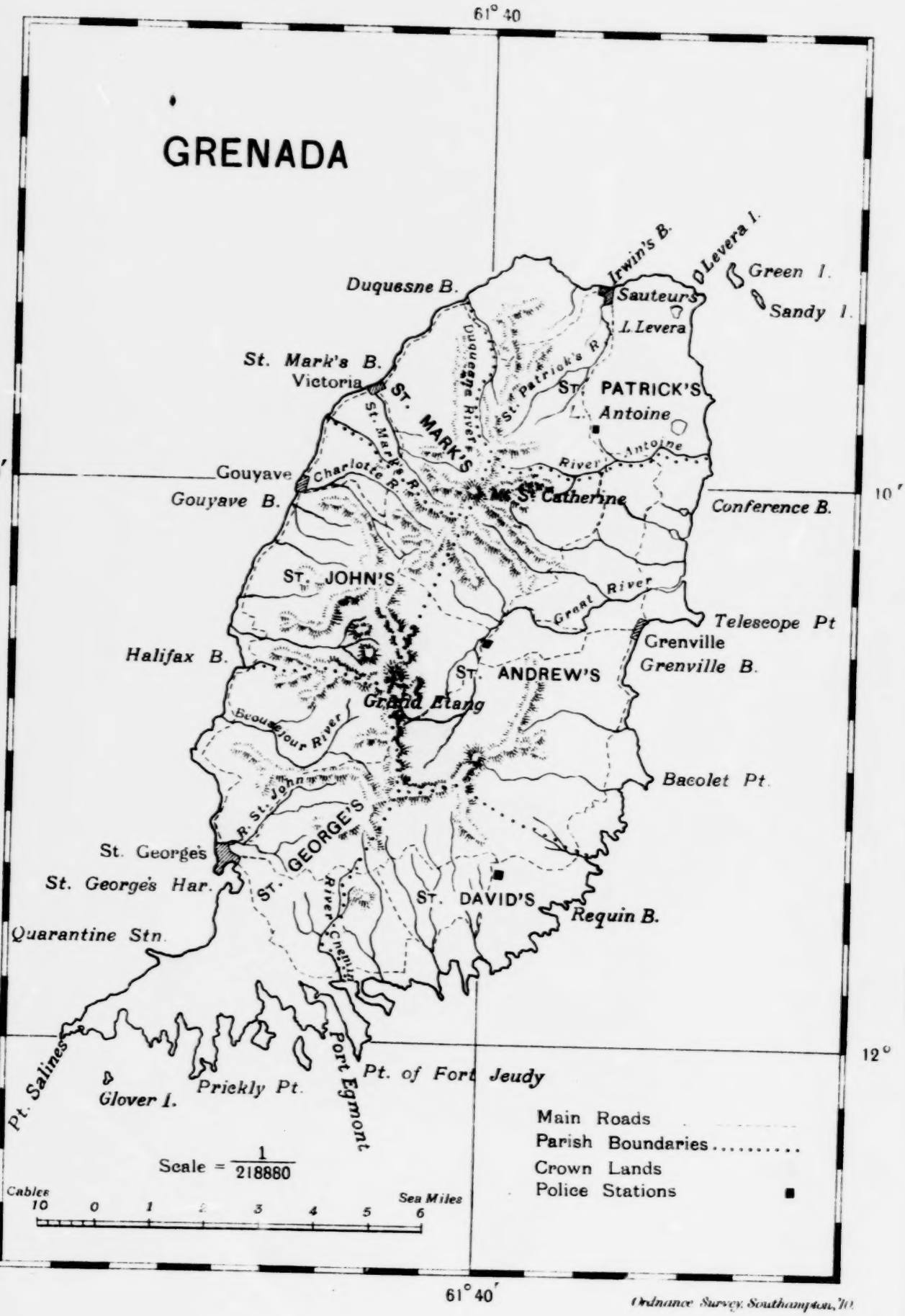
POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

50. The business transacted at the Post Office may be stated as follows:—

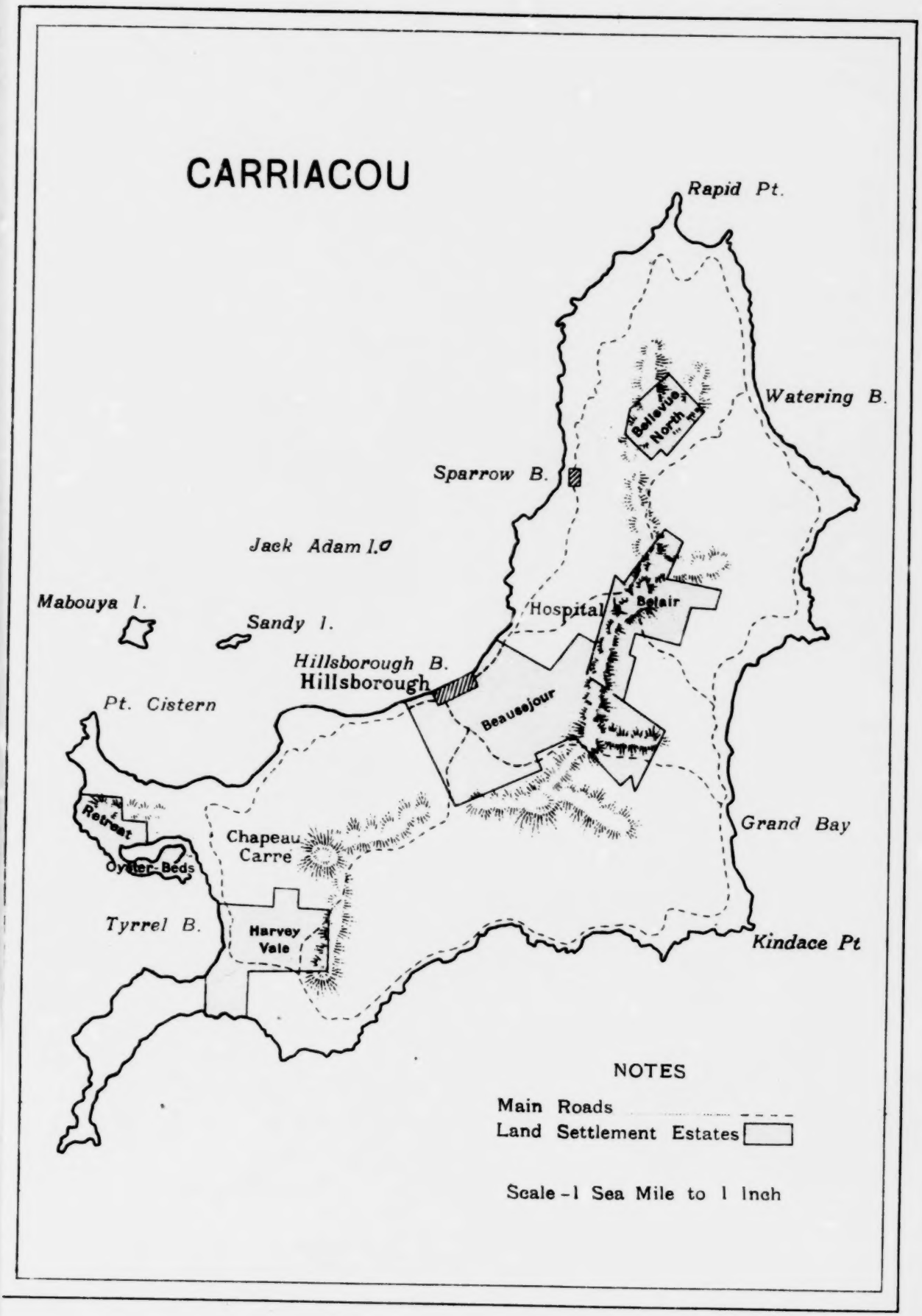
Letters and post cards dealt with	509,510
Newspapers, books, &c., dealt with	201,721
Parcels dealt with	7,702
Registered and insured letters, &c.	12,130
Money and postal orders issued and paid ...	£27,960

The amount of British postal orders issued and paid has increased from £1,250 in 1905 to £4,018 in the year under review.

51. The remittances through the Post Office by Grenadian emigrants on the Panama Canal Zone amounted in 1909 to £6,191, as against £7,475 in 1908 and £6,235 in 1907.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, '10.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton.'10

52. The revenue of the Telephone Department in the financial year was £1,683, and the expenditure, including loan charges, £1,553. Twenty-seven new installations were connected up, and 299 instruments were in use. During a severe thunderstorm on 15th September, 80 fuses were burnt out at the principal exchange, and several instruments were damaged.

GENERAL REMARKS.

53. The appointment of the Governor, Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., to be Governor of Newfoundland was announced on 27th March, and His Excellency left the Colony on the 14th June to proceed to his new command. His Excellency Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., who succeeded him, arrived at Grenada and assumed the Government of the Windward Islands on 13th October; in the interval the general government was administered from St. Lucia by Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., by virtue of his dormant commission to that effect, and the local government by the Colonial Secretary.

54. In November, Mr. R. S. Johnstone was appointed to be Chief Justice in succession to Mr. J. B. Walker, who retired on pension; and Mr. Herbert Ferguson, the first holder of the newly combined offices of Treasurer and Supervisor of Inland Revenue, arrived and assumed their duties.

55. The Colony was visited in April by Sir Rubert Boyce, Professor of Pathology in the Liverpool University, to investigate local conditions as regards yellow fever, which was prevalent during the year at Barbados and had been engaging his close attention there.

56. A large quarantine observation station was erected, and an additional ward added to the Isolation Hospital at Morne Rouge, while a fumigator for the disinfection, when necessary, of passengers' luggage was constructed at a suitable spot on the wharf in St. George's.

EDWARD DRAYTON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,

12th September, 1910.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
618	Fiji ...	1908
619	Nyasaland ...	1908–1909
620	Barbados ...	1908–1909
621	Trinidad and Tobago ...	"
622	Straits Settlements ...	1908
623	Somaliland ...	1908–1909
624	Mauritius ...	1908
625	St. Vincent ...	1908–1909
626	Jamaica ...	1908–1909
627	Swaziland ...	"
628	Grenada ...	1908
629	Leeward Islands ...	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria ...	1908
631	British Honduras ...	1908
632	British Guiana ...	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria ...	"
634	Basutoland ...	"
635	East Africa Protectorate ...	"
636	Uganda ...	"
637	Weihaiwei ...	1909
638	St. Helena ...	"
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	"
640	Ashanti ...	"
641	Gambia ...	"
642	Malta ...	1909–1910
643	Seychelles ...	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee ...	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands ...	1909
646	Turks and Caicos Islands ...	"
647	Gibraltar ...	"
648	Sierra Leone ...	"
649	Somaliland ...	1909–1910
650	Bahamas ...	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate ...	1909
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate ...	1909–1910
653	Ceylon ...	1909
654	Gold Coast ...	"
655	Nyasaland ...	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute ...	"
657	Fiji ...	1909

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
65	Uganda...	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast ...	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do. ...	Do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena ...	Fisheries.
70	Colonies ...	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute ...	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji ...	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica ...	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon ...	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 668.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1909-10.

(For Report for 1908-9, *see* No. 625.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1911.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LIMITED, BACON STREET, E.
1911.

[Cd. 5467-4.] *Price* 3*d*.

CONTENTS.

		Page
I.	Financial	
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	
III.	Legislation	1
IV.	Education	1
V.	Government Institutions	1
VI.	Judicial	2
VII.	Vital Statistics	2
VIII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	23
IX.	General Observations	24
	Map	

No. 668.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1908–9, *see* No. 625.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
15th November, 1910.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1909-10.

I have, &c.,

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lieut.-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Governor of the Windward Islands,
Grenada.

(18367—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 1/11. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1909-10.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The following comparative statements and tables give the heads of revenue and expenditure and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1908-9 and 1909-10, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years 1905-6 to 1909-10:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in the year 1908–9.	Amount collected in the year 1909–10.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs:				
Import	13,644 19 8	10,767 2 1	—	2,877 17 7
Export	735 16 6	778 12 2	42 15 8	—
2. Port and Harbour Dues:				
Tonnage	674 0 9	584 15 9	—	89 5 0
Port	130 18 0	108 0 0	—	22 18 0
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:				
Licences, Liqnor	457 10 0	457 0 0	—	10 0
Do. Other	1,257 16 4	1,150 1 1	—	107 15 3
Excise	4,221 6 0	3,725 12 0	—	495 14 0
Land and House Tax ...	3,125 6 9	3,112 8 1	—	12 18 8
Income Tax	553 16 11	563 3 1	9 6 2	—
Other Internal Revenue ..	793 3 7	823 17 6	30 13 11	—
4. Fees of Court or Office. Payments for Specific Services, and Re-imbursements-in-aid	1,199 18 10	1,207 13 3	7 14 5	—
5. Post Office	1,232 6 3	1,615 10 3	383 4 0	—
6. Telephones	482 7 6	483 17 7	1 10 1	—
7. Rent of Government Property.	52 10 0	40 11 2	—	11 18 10
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans.	1,714 17 2	1,548 16 8	—	166 0 6
9. Miscellaneous Receipts...	67 18 4	254 11 8	186 13 4	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands.	465 4 10	633 0 9	167 15 11	—
Total Local Revenue...	30,809 17 5	27,854 13 1	829 13 6	3,784 17 10
11. Parliamentary Grants:				
In aid of Agricultural Department.	585 0 0	585 0 0	—	—
Total General Revenue	31,394 17 5	28,439 13 1	829 13 6	3,784 17 10

Comparative Yearly Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates.	Expenditure 1908–1909.	Expenditure 1909–1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	971 5 0	820 15 0	—	150 10 0
2. Pensions	1,795 13 10	2,146 0 9	350 6 11	—
3. The Governor	953 18 0	1,148 4 6	194 6 6	—
4. Government Office	1,175 1 7	1,188 15 8	13 14 1	—
5. Treasury, and Customs ..	1,287 17 1	1,439 0 2	151 3 1	—
6. Audit Department	290 18 5	285 3 8	—	5 14 9
7. Legal Departments	1,850 8 5	1,914 18 3	64 9 10	—
8. Local Forces	188 11 11	156 5 9	—	32 6 2
9. Police, Prisons, Port, and Excise	3,478 7 1	3,266 2 9	—	212 4 4
10. Medical Department	1,624 8 4	1,765 2 3	140 13 11	—
11. Hospitals and Asylums ...	2,689 11 7	2,679 13 10	—	9 17 9
12. Poor Relief	645 10 6	662 9 10	16 19 4	—
13. Education	1,660 10 7	1,694 0 5	33 9 10	—
14. Post Office	1,246 17 1	1,157 1 8	—	89 15 5
15. Telephone Department ...	354 14 9	453 5 10	98 11 1	—
16. Miscellaneous	1,401 2 3	1,528 16 11	127 14 8	—
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	590 7 5	624 19 2	34 11 9	—
18. Public Works Department ...	572 12 8	564 8 3	—	8 4 5
19. Do. do. —Recurrent ...	2,549 14 9	2,900 11 5	350 16 8	—
20. Do. do. —Extraordinary	617 17 5	3,591 10 3	2,973 12 10	—
21. Agricultural Department ...	701 17 2	744 18 0	43 0 10	—
Total Local Expenditure ...	26,647 5 10	30,732 4 4	4,520 9 5	435 10 11
Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds).	552 16 6	598 7 3	45 10 9	—
Total General Expenditure	27,200 2 4	31,330 11 7	4,566 0 2	435 10 11

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1905-6 to 1909-10.

Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	—	Total.	—	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1905–6	Local 24,928		Local 24,625	
	Imperial Grant 1,972		Imperial Grant 1,286	
		26,900		25,911
1906–7	Local 24,723		Local 23,503	
	Imperial Grant 1,308		Imperial Grant 1,146	
		26,031		24,649
1907–8	Local 27,543		Local 23,508	
	Imperial Grant 913		Imperial Grant 1,145	
		28,456		24,653
1908–9	Local 30,810		Local 26,647	
	Imperial Grant 585		Imperial Grant 553	
		31,395		27,200
1909–10	Local 27,855		Local 30,732	
	Imperial Grant 585		Imperial Grant 598	
		28,440		31,330

In the Annual Report for 1908-9 mention was made of the revival of active operations in the Carib country by Messrs. D. K. Porter and Company, the general revival of trade throughout the Colony, the consequent increase in spending power on the part of the community generally, and the distinct advance in Customs and other receipts. At the same time a note of warning was sounded that a proportion of the revenue-producing expenditure of 1908-9 had been abnormal and of a non-recurring nature, and that allowance would have to be made for this during the financial year under review.

The early part of the year saw a heavy blow inflicted upon the Colony financially and industrially in the sudden departure of the firm of D. K. Porter and Company and in the disposal of all their business and property in the Island. This in the case of the Carib estates signified the total cessation of work for nearly three months, the throwing out of employ of a large number of labourers, a decrease in the spending power of the community, and a desertion of growing crops. The general effect was a temporary loss of confidence upon the part of all business men, the diminution of merchants' stocks, and a tendency to save rather than spend until the fate of the estates in question had been settled. This spirit permeated all classes of the community and when considering this statement of the operations of the financial year 1909-10 it must be borne in mind throughout. Since the acquisition of the Carib estates by Mr. W. H. Barnard of St. Lucia in September, 1909, and the evident intention of that gentleman and those others who purchased Messrs. Porter and Company's other estates to work them to the fullest extent they can, confidence has been greatly restored. The effect of this restoration of confidence did not, however, begin to be felt until the close of the financial year under review, with the unfortunate result that the receipts for the year, especially in import duties, fell considerably below the amount estimated.

The total local revenue for the year was £27,854 13*s.* 1*d.*, exclusive of the Imperial grant-in-aid to the Agricultural Department which was £585. The revenue fell short of anticipations by £893, and considering that owing to the causes already stated there was a drop on the estimated receipts for the year in import duties of £2,082 17*s.* 11*d.* (£2,877 17*s.* 7*d.* less than actually received in 1908-9) and in excise duties of £274, this is a shortage not to be regarded as altogether unsatisfactory. Under nearly every other head of revenue the estimate of receipts was exceeded. This applies especially to the Post Office, which shows the substantial excess over estimate of £421, an excess of over 33 per cent. While there is little doubt that the greater part of this increase was due to an abnormal sale of new issues of stamps to philatelists, nevertheless the standard of the prosperous year 1908-9 has been more than maintained, and granting that Post Office receipts may be regarded as a barometer of trade, this is gratifying as proving that the volume of business is not stationary.

The total local expenditure for the year under review was £30,732 4*s.* 4*d.*, being £181 in excess of the Estimates and

£4,085 in excess of 1908-9. With few exceptions the expenditure was kept within the Estimates and in a number of instances savings were effected. Included in the expenditure for Public Works Recurrent was a sum of £400 for extensive repairs to the Government Office, which are being continued in the present financial year. In addition to the setting aside of £250 towards the repair of the Colonarie Bridge (to take place in 1911-12), the following important works were undertaken and brought to a satisfactory conclusion during the year:—construction of new Kingstown Jetty at a cost of £2,100; construction of new Police Station at Mesopotamia, £850; enlargement of the Post Office at a cost of £75. The following works unestimated for were also carried out; repairs and painting and refurnishing Government House, £474; and repairs and painting of the Medical Officer's quarters at the Cedars, £85.

No changes in taxation took place during the year under review.

The excess of assets on the 31st March, 1910, was £6,843. On the 31st March, 1909, the account showed an excess of £9,721. The estimated deficit for the year 1909-10, on account of the number of Extraordinary Public Works to be undertaken, was £1,803. This deficit actually became £2,891, namely, £1,088 more than estimated. When, however, it is considered that in addition to an over-estimation of £2,356 in Customs and Excise duties there was unforeseen expenditure amounting to £1,013, making a total of £3,369, and showing a possible deficit of £2,281 over and above estimated deficit as against an actual deficit of £1,088 over and above estimated deficit, then the Colony is to be congratulated in having emerged in such a creditable manner, without cutting down of estimates, from the difficult industrial and financial situation created by Messrs. Porter and Company's withdrawal.

In addition to the surplus of £6,843, the sum of £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruption of the Soufrière volcano in 1902-3, is invested in Trust Securities, and held as a Reserve or Insurance Fund against any possible future disaster which may result from the violence of the elements.

There are also other funds of lesser importance showing assets to the Colony, some of which are extinguishable by time, while others, like the Graham Fund, the Alexander Fund, and the Thompson Home Fund, are used only in respect of the interest they bear.

The public debt stood on the 31st March, 1910, at £2,050, as against £2,750 at the end of the previous financial year. The Colonial revenue was, however, only directly responsible for £200 of that sum, which debt has been extinguished at date of writing this report, leaving the Colony with no direct public debt, a most satisfactory state of affairs. The remainder, £1,850, is repayable from the municipal funds of the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown, the Colony only being responsible in case of default, an

extremely remote contingency. This will all be redeemed by the year 1913.

The Colony is similarly responsible for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which was at 31st March, 1910, £11,254, but against which amount, however, there is a Sinking Fund of £2,406. This loan is being steadily redeemed by borrowers at the rate of £750 per annum to the local Government, by whom annual payments are in turn made to the Imperial Treasury.

Gold, British and American, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

The management of the affairs of Kingstown are vested in a Board, one-half of the members of which are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government.

The Chairman of the Board is annually elected by the members forming that body, but cannot in any circumstances be elected for more than two years in succession.

The small towns of the Colony, of which there are six, are controlled by wardens appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns during the last five years:—

REVENUE.

Town.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,664	1,708	1,706	1,695	1,736
Georgetown	137	105	108	118	143
Chateaubelair	32	34	34	35	33
Calliaqua	38	35	31	32	32
Barrouallie	33	40	45	38	37
Layou	19	18	19	20	26
Bequia	11	10	9	9	9

Credit balance on 1st January, 1909, £6.

EXPENDITURE.

Town.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,472	1,698	1,758	1,790	1,778
Georgetown	103	102	108	109	126
Chateaubelair	24	28	28	27	21
Calliaqua	24	52	30	32	27
Barrouallie	20	34	31	41	20
Layou	19	12	9	24	17
Bequia	10	27	2	4	17

The debts of the towns at the 31st December, 1909, were as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	1,600	
Kingstown town improvement	150	
		1,750
Georgetown water supply		200
		£1,950

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. They will be extinguished in 1912 and 1913.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

Chief Articles	Value. 1908.	Value. 1909.
Class I:—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	485	381
Biscuits	3,104	3,467
Butter	1,789	1,745
Coffee	360	309
Fish, salted, &c.	6,604	6,347
Flour, wheaten	10,572	9,487
Flour, other kinds	636	559
Oilmeal and cake	444	466
Pork, salted or cured	2,213	2,132
Rice	2,604	1,969
Salt	377	203
Spirits	962	937
Sugar, muscovado	105	378
Sugar, refined	842	667
Sugar, crystallized	461	877
Wine	829	700
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated ...	1,581	1,259
Tobacco, cirgars, &c.	1,166	1,186
Class II.:—		
Manure	1,024	1,059
Petroleum oil	1,658	2,018
Timber and shingles	7,138	3,507
Class III.:—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas	27,821	16,931
Metal, manufactured	13,419	7,454
Boots and shoes	1,308	1,582
Cement	970	1,119
Rope, cordage, and canvas	1,261	739
Soap	1,378	1,551
Articles, unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures	4,651	3,400

In the course of his Annual Report the Supervisor of Customs states as follows:—

"Of the total imports into the Colony, 34 per cent. (£30,232) came from the United Kingdom, 49 per cent. (£43,026 from British Colonies, and 17 per cent. (£14,551) from foreign countries.

"Imports from the United Kingdom have decreased to the extent of £15,028, from British Colonies they have decreased £5,362, while from foreign countries the decrease has been £5,514 in value.

"The decrease under the head 'British Colonies' has been from British West Indies, principally Barbados, the value of imports from British North America being about £400 in excess of that for 1908.

"Under 'Foreign Countries' the decrease has been in goods imported from the United States of America.

"The following is the classification of imports showing values:—

	£
"Class I.—Live animals, food and drink supplies, &c.	37,999
"Class II.—Raw materials	9,807
"Class III.—Manufactured articles	40,003

"Under Class I. there has been a decrease in value of £3,485, under Class II. a decrease of £4,360, and under Class III. a decrease of £18,058 in value. Nearly 70 per cent. therefore of the decrease has taken place under the head 'Manufactured articles,' and this is principally under 'Textiles.'

"The decrease in importation under Class I., in the shape of 'Food Supplies,' and the decrease in Class III., under 'Textile Manufactures, other than Wearing Apparel,' can be with reason attributed to a diminution in the purchasing power of the people, consequent on the sudden check in the circulation of money caused by the closing up of Messrs. D. K. Porter and Company's business and the sale of all the firm's property."

The values of the principal exports are shown in the annexed table:—

EXPORTS.

Articles.	1908. £	1909. £
Cassava starch	1,352	1,109
Whale oil	645	272
Turtle shell	387	515
Firewood	493	472
Cotton and cotton seed	31,903	23,218
Vegetables	2,593	2,485
Syrup	336	1,139
Sugar, crystallized	1,561	455
Sugar, muscovado	948	3,717
Pease	498	289
Molasses	400	656
Rum	515	160

Articles.	1908.	1909.
	£	£
Ground-nuts	1,740	1,480
Live stock	4,144	4,870
Fresh fruit	60	48
Farine	328	229
Arrowroot	27,713	31,792
Cocoa	4,989	4,088

The total value of exports for the calendar year 1909 was £88,697 as against £94,740 in 1908, a decrease of £6,043. As, however, the value of specie exported in 1908 was £12,855 as against £9,462 in 1909, £3,393 was represented by a decrease in the value of specie. The decrease in the value of cotton may be regarded as a nominal one. Anticipating a rise in the price, owners of cotton held back, until the early part of 1910, cotton which would, under ordinary circumstances have been exported in December, 1909. Another factor in the decrease is to be found in the lower prices paid as compared with the previous year. The exportation of arrowroot in 1909 shows an increase of £4,078 over that of 1908. This is accounted for to some extent by the forced shipments of arrowroot to England which took place at the time of Messrs. Porter and Company's withdrawal.

The total imports and exports for the five years 1905-6 to 1909 were as follows:—

IMPORTS.

Classes.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	31,575	32,000	38,864	41,484	37,999
II. Raw materials	6,566	12,268	11,175	14,168	9,807
III. Manufactured articles ...	30,956	33,740	46,515	58,061	40,004
Total	69,097	78,008	96,554	113,713	87,810

Exports.

Classes.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	40,935	46,393	45,972	46,433	52,213
II. Raw materials	10,289	21,899	36,120	33,060	24,760
III. Manufactured articles ...	1,854	15,463*	12,173†	15,246‡	11,725§
Total	53,078	83,755	94,265	94,739	88,698

* Includes £13,200 specie.
† Includes £10,000 specie.
‡ Includes £12,855 specie.
§ Includes £9,462 specie.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1905-6 to 1909 are given below:—

Imports.

—	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	25,471	27,126	36,280	45,260	30,232
British Colonies	30,691	32,870	42,436	48,388	43,027
Foreign Countries	12,935	18,012	17,839	20,065	14,551
Total	69,097	78,008	96,554	113,713	87,810

Exports.

—	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	24,405	39,878	52,718	54,444	46,328
British Colonies	27,920	43,184	40,535	37,758	40,386
Foreign Countries	753	693	1,012	2,537	1,984
Total	53,078	83,755	94,265	94,739	88,698

Manufactures and Fisheries.

The Central Cotton Ginnery was established by the Government in the year 1903-4, and is under the management of the Officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. This ginnery has been of great assistance in the development of the cotton industry. It is extremely improbable that the industry would without it have reached its present successful state. Owing to private ginneries being erected and entering into competition with it, the profits are gradually and annually decreasing. With a charge of 1*d*. per lb. for ginning and baling in 1907-8, the accounts showed a balance in favour of the Ginnery of about £600, in 1908-9 this had decreased to £365, while during the year under review the profits amount to only about £240. The Government is at a grave disadvantage with the private ginner, who, not unnaturally, makes it part of his business to "tout" for cotton to be brought to his ginnery. The Government cannot, or rather does not, do this, and so there appears on the horizon the possibility of having to shut down and lose a large part of the outlay on a factory which has been of the greatest use to the planting community, and could still continue to be so if it were allowed to live.

An important development of the uses of the Government Cotton Ginnery occurred during the year by the passing of the Agri-

cultural Products Protection Ordinance of 1909. This Ordinance aims at the suppression of cotton theft from the fields. Bound up in the general scheme of suppression contained in the Ordinance is the compulsory sale of small lots of seed cotton of anything less than 100 lbs. weight to the Government Central Ginnery. Any amounts up to 4,000 lbs. weight of seed cotton, in the aggregate during one season, may also be sold by anyone to the Government Ginnery. This cotton is bought on a profit-sharing basis, laid down by Regulations made by the Governor in Council. The law, which came into force on the 1st January, 1910, is most popular amongst the small growers of cotton, and has given a tremendous impetus to cultivation of this product by peasants. Owing to its late promulgation the full effect of the law was not felt during the last season, but it is pleasing to record that as a start £980 worth of cotton was purchased in this manner from peasants. The coming season should show a large augmentation in this account. There are three private ginneries in the Colony, the largest of which is situated in Kingstown and is fitted up with three gins.

About 33 tons of cotton seed were crushed by the disintegrator at the Government Ginnery for the purpose of manuring cotton lands. The price of lint during the year was extremely good, reaching as high for some special bales as 26*d*. per pound. The average sale price was, however, from 19*d*. to 23*d*. for Sea Island cotton, while Marie Galante sold from 10*d*. to 1*s*. a pound, the highest price that has ever been known.

The export in whale oil, after an increase last year, has again fallen to low figures, the export value being only £272, as against £645 in 1908-9. This would seem to be a dying industry, owing, it is said, to the gradual reduction in the number of whales appearing in these waters. This is much to be deplored, as the islanders who carry on this industry can ill-afford to lose what has been at a certain season of the year one of their most remunerative employments.

Enquiries are at present being conducted into the possibility of creating a sponge industry in the Grenadines. Numerous species of sponges are to be found there, some of which are said to be of a commercial value. If such an industry could be established the loss of the whaling industry would in a great degree be compensated for.

The turtling industry accounts for an export value of £515, as against £387 in 1908-9 and £449 in 1907-8.

Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

Owing to the comparatively low prices received for cotton in 1908 the area under this crop in 1909 was reduced. According to a rough estimate prepared by the Cotton Inspector, in the early part of 1910 not more than 2,000 acres were put under that cultivation, as compared with an estimated area of nearly 3,000 acres in 1908.

The following figures are interesting and instructive:—

Table showing the Quantity and Value of Cotton exported during the period from 1903-4 *to* 1909.

Year.	Sea Island Cotton.		All Cotton.	
	Weight.	Estimated Value.	Weight.	Estimated Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
1903–4	Not known	—	43,392	794
1904–5	77,814	3,890	126,178	4,494
1905–6	121,174	6,059	138,150	7,674
1906–7	225,632	16,922	263,036	18,169
1907–8	388,833	29,162	427,819	30,787
1908–9	432,091	28,971	459,303	29,878
1909	330,936	20,684	350,186	21,325

The area in which cotton can be cultivated is one limited, practically, to the coastal lands. So long as prices do not fall below from 1*s*. 3*d*. to 1*s*. 6*d*. per lb of lint, it will pay planters to grow cotton. It is highly important, however, that careful seed selection and cultivation be carried out. Every effort is being made by the Agricultural Department to induce planters and small growers to devote more attention to burning of old cotton stalks, to crop rotations, to grow larger areas of leguminous plants for green-dressing purposes, and to utilise all available manure bush, grass, &c., and cotton seed. It has been clearly demonstrated that unless lands for cotton are well cultivated and manured, poor yields and deterioration of the class of cotton grown result. It is satisfactory to note the annual improvement in cultivation and the evident desire on the part of the growers to assimilate and utilise all the scientific and expert information that can be afforded them by the Department.

In the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Union, Canouan, and Mayreau, the common Marie Galante type of cotton, is grown. It is cultivated as a perennial, and produces a short, coarse lint valued usually at from 8*d*. to 9*d*. per lb. During the past year this class of cotton has fetched as much as 1*s*. a lb. The exports of this cotton during the past five years amounted in the aggregate to 139,828 lbs. weight, valued at £6,036. In several of the other islets, Bequia, Mustique, Battowia, and Balliceaux, the cultivation of Sea Island cotton has been taken up exclusively, and with very satisfactory results.

Arrowroot again tops the list in regard to area under cultivation and also in regard to export value, which showed an increase of £4,000 over 1908. For reasons already stated, the market was pecuniarily a particularly disappointing one during 1909-10. Successful efforts have been made to combine locally in order to attempt to resuscitate the demand and improve the price for this article, for which St. Vincent is so famous, and which has for nearly 100 years formed an important and prominent item on the export list of the Colony. The St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and

Exporters' Association has been formed, with headquarters in Kingstown. The objects of this Association are threefold:—

(*a*) to promote and encourage the arrowroot industry in St. Vincent generally;

(*b*) to administer an Advertisement Fund to be created by means of a small tax of 6*d*. on every barrel of arrowroot exported from the Colony after the 1st December, 1910;

(*c*) to fix a moderate and reasonable minimum gross price, under which no arrowroot will be sold in the United Kingdom.

It is believed that the operations of this Association, on which is represented the interests of practically all the growers and exporters of any importance in the Colony, will have a beneficial influence upon the industry and render it once more a source of profit to the community. St. Vincent arrowroot is unrivalled not only as an article of diet for invalids and children, but also in the manufacture of chocolate and for general starch purposes. The soil and climate of the Colony are apparently more suited to this cultivation than that of any of the other islands except, perhaps, Bermuda.

Apart from that point of view, however, it is evident that the market for arrowroot is of such a limited nature that St. Vincent will by herself for many years to come be able to fully satisfy all the requirements of it.

The export figures in sugar show an increase of about £1,663. As the total value exported only reached £4,172, it will be seen that this is no longer an important industry. Most of the sugar grown is on the Carib estates. Elsewhere in the Colony it is only cultivated in small quantities for the purpose of making rum. The soil and climate of St. Vincent are no doubt as suitable for the growth of sugar as any other of the West Indian Islands, and there is no reason why, if that crop again becomes profitable, it should not rank as one of the Colony's foremost exports. Annual and not permanent crops must be the soundest and safest cultivation in these parts of the West Indies, which are yearly exposed to the danger of hurricanes. A hurricane to the cotton or sugar planter means a year lost, to the cocoa planter seven years. The annual-crop policy speaks for itself. The cultivation of cocoa has never been taken up very heartily since the hurricane of 1898, when a large number of trees were destroyed. Except in selected parts of the Colony the soil does not generally appear to be well suited for its growth. The export figures for 1909 are only £4,088, as compared with £4,989 for 1908, a drop of £901. Since the inauguration of the Land Settlement Scheme in 1900, many trees have from time to time been distributed to peasants by the Agricultural Department. The results have been disappointing. They will not pay sufficient attention either to cultivation or diseases, or to the preparation of the beans for market. Some very good cocoa, nevertheless, is exported from three or four of the large estates, which holds its own, it is alleged, with some of the best Trinidad.

Vaccination has proved a great success in decreasing the death-rate in stock owing to anthrax. There are many persons yet

who do not take advantage of this remedy, with the result that there was still an appreciable loss from the effects of this disease.

In August, 1909, the Agricultural Instructor, accompanied by one skilled labourer, was sent to Antigua to study the form of improved implemental tillage employed in that Colony, with a view to its introduction into St. Vincent. On his return a set of implements was ordered from the United States of America for experimental purposes. Mr. G. R. Corea, of the Arnos Vale Estate, kindly put ten acres of that estate at the disposal of the Government, in order that the experiment might be conducted on a practical scale. These efforts to demonstrate the working of implemental tillage have been so successful that planters, benefiting by the knowledge obtained, are now systematically importing and using implements in their general agricultural practice. It is extremely gratifying that there should have been such a successful issue to this experiment, for it is calculated to have a lasting and beneficial effect on local agriculture.

Land Settlement and Crown Lands.

The sales during the year under the Land Settlement Scheme were 10 in all:—Rural lots of about 6 acres, 1; 4-acre lots, 4; acre or small lots, 1; and township lots, 4. Altogether 3,504 trees were distributed to allottees, of which 3,272 were cocoa. In addition, 74 acres of Crown land was sold out in small lots. Available Crown land consists of mountain lands, which are only suitable for small holdings for growing provisions and native produce.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands was £633, as against £465 in the previous year. During the year certain estates, acquired at the time of the Eruption, were, with the consent of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, created Crown lands pure and simple.

Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1908 and 1909, is appended, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping during the last five years. These figures do not include ships of war, of which two British visited the Colony during 1909:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1908.				1909.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	437	12,191	433	11,885	386	9,249	379	9,233
Venezuelan ...	6	199	5	180	1	16	1	16
Dutch	4	264	4	264	3	325	3	325
Totals ...	447	12,654	442	12,329	390	9,590	383	9,574

Steamers.

Nationality.	1908.				1909.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	100	143,145	100	143,145	100	145,532	100	145,532
Danish	9	14,355	9	14,355	4	6,383	4	6,383
Totals ...	109	157,500	109	157,500	104	151,915	104	151,915

Total Shipping for the last five years.

—	1905-6.	1906-7.	1907-8.	1908.	1909.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	235,153	154,088	153,657	170,154	161,505
Outwards	235,366	154,070	152,321	169,829	161,489
Totals	470,519	308,158	305,978	339,983	322,994

III.—LEGISLATION.

Sixteen Ordinances were passed during the year 1909, of which perhaps the most important was The Agricultural Protection Ordinance (1906) Amendment Ordinance, 1910. This Ordinance has already been referred to in detail under the head "Manufactures and Fisheries" of this report.

Other Ordinances passed were:—

Magistrates.
Appropriation.
Marriage.
Registration of Births and Deaths.
Explosives and Petroleum.
Quarantine.
Offences against the Person (Amendment).
Registry Ordinance (1883) Amendment.
Supplementary Appropriation.
Licences Ordinance (1896) Amendment.
Income Tax Ordinance (1904) Amendment.
Stock Trespass Ordinance (1880) Amendment.
Companies Act (1874) Amending.
Summary Offences Ordinance (1880) Amendment.
Customs Duties.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1908-9 and 1909-10 are as follows:—

	1908-9.	1909-10.
Number of schools	27	27
Number on roll	4,862	4,620*
Average attendance	2,258	2,222
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid ...	1,428	1,466

In September, 1908, the secondary school was re-opened with a resident master, who is also inspector of primary schools of the Colony. The necessity for this school was at once apparent by the manner in which the places for pupils were filled. The fees charged are £2 per term for each scholar, except those under ten years of age in the lowest form, for whom the fees are £1 6*s*. 8*d*. per term. But when two or more brothers in forms above the lowest attend there is a reduction made of 6*s*. 8*d*. for the second and 13*s*. 4*d*. for the third.

The attendance at the primary schools continues about the same. Greater efficiency in teaching and otherwise is to be expected in the future as the result of the appointment of the inspector. Such close supervision of the working of these schools as will now be possible was unavoidably absent in the past.

During the year the Code of Regulations for primary schools was thoroughly revised. The most important alteration effected was that appertaining to the salaries of teachers. These, with the consent of the Legislative Council, have been placed on a higher and more equitable scale than has hitherto been possible with the funds at the disposal of the Board of Education, while such improvements have been made through this increase in the grading and certificating of teachers as should lead to greater efforts on their part to attain a higher standard of teaching. Generally the Code as now passed should prove of material benefit to the cause of primary education in the Colony.

The Agricultural School maintained an average of nineteen pupils during the year. Special effort is being made to instruct pupils in the cultivation of cotton and in its diseases—very few of the overseers on estates to-day having any technical or expert knowledge of this subject beyond what they have gained by practical experience since the introduction of the Sea Island plant into St. Vincent only six years ago.

It is pleasing to record that several planters have during the past year engaged as overseers on their estates pupils who have finished their course of instruction at this school. They find that the expert and scientific knowledge in the cultivation of cotton and its diseases, gained by these boys at the school is of great assistance to them in the propagation of this plant. At the same time it must be noted that a good deal more could be done by planters in the direction of employment of these boys than is done to-day, both with advantage to themeslves and to the boys. It

* At 31st March, 1910.

is perhaps not realised by those planters who appear apathetic in the matter that the boys undergo a good sound practical grounding in agriculture as well as a scientific one. The fifteen acres of land attached to the school is all fully worked up in various products such as cotton, sugar, &c., by the boys themselves, while each pupil is allowed a small piece of ground as a vegetable garden, the produce of which may be disposed of for his own benefit.

The small stock farm, which continued to be worked as an adjunct to the school, affords a valuable practical illustration of how stock should be kept and fed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 703 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 760 cases treated, as against a total of 735 in 1908-9.

The daily average was 55, as against 52·4, 55·8, and 60·7 in the previous three years.

The death rate was 6·8 of the total cases.

Operations numbered 203, as against 194 in 1908-9.

The Medical Officer is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron selected by the Colonial Nursing Association.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is set aside for the detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies. Other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the Pauper Asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is, by arrangement with that Government, sent to Grenada, but sometimes the asylum there has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were 17 cases under treatment during the year (10 being new admissions), of whom 2 were discharged cured, 1 died, and 1 was transferred to the Grenada Asylum.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care there was 32 at a cost of £510 to the Colony.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1910, was 6; during the year there were 2 admissions and 2 deaths, leaving the same number (6) in the asylum at the end of the year.

Under a new Public Health Ordinance which has just been passed compulsory segregation of pauper lepers is now provided for.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte at a considerable elevation, over-looking the town of Kingstown.

At the commencement of the year under review there were 100 inmates of the asylum, and the admissions and discharges during the year were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	28	34	62
Discharged	19	17	36
Died	20	17	37
Total	39	34	73

leaving 89 on the 31st March, 1910.

The total expenditure in 1909-10 was £953 on the pauper and leper asylums, including the cost of lunatics kept locally, as against £966 in 1908-9.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Appended is a statement of the working of the Savings Bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including Interest capitalized).
		£	£	£
1905	933	4,883	5,276	12,232
1906	907	5,282	5,687	12,005
1907	1,010	7,629	6,757	13,247
1908	1,121	6,693	5,929	14,313
1909	1,063	6,624	7,371	13,869

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

	At 31st December, 1908.	At 31st December, 1909.
	£	£
Kingstown	12,845	12,770
Georgetown	766	437
Chateaubelair ...	702	662
Totals ...	£14,313	£13,869

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £150.

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1909, the sum of £13,654.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The Saint Vincent Police Force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, and 50 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates.

They are drilled, and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles.

In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties in connection with excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges. The prison is worked entirely by the police save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs outside.

In Kingstown a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Town Board.

Three hundred and four persons were committed to prison in the year, of whom 200 were men, 91 women, and 13 juveniles. The daily average was 38·36, as against 45·1 in 1908-9.

The number of cases reported to the police in 1909-10 was 551; of these 87 were for offences against the person, 27 for prædial larceny, 111 for other offences against property, and 326 for other offences. Only 463 of the above cases were brought before a magisterial court.

The total number of persons brought before the magisterial courts was 945; of these 237 were for offences against the person, 74 for prædial larceny, 183 for other offences against property, 103 for offences against revenue laws, municipal, road, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, and 348 for other offences. These figures are inclusive of the cases reported by the police.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 653, as against 684 in 1908-9.

These convictions are classed as follows:—

For offences against the person	152
,, malicious injury to property	8
,, prædial larceny	53
,, other offences against property	112
,, offences against Revenue Acts	81
,, other offences	247
Total	653

The convictions in the Supreme Court were 9 for offences against property and 4 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—

In the Inferior Courts	105
In the Supreme Court	2

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in the position to afford. By the estimate of the Registrar-General, the population at 31st March, 1910, was 53,448. This figure is probably over-estimated, as it takes no account of the flow of emigration which, in recent years, has taken place to Panama and Brazil.

The births registered in 1909-10 were 1,687 (859 males and 828 females), as against 1,778 in 1908-9; of these 951 or 56·37 per cent. were illegitimate.

Still births were 88—32 legitimate and 56 illegitimate; the figures for the previous year being 32 and 66 respectively.

Marriages were 161—a decrease of 44 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1907–8.	1908–9.	1909–10.
Church of England	78	105	64
Church of Scotland	11	14	11
Wesleyan	68	68	65
Roman Catholic	22	18	21
Plymouth Brethren	—	—	—

The total registered deaths were 831, as against 965 in 1908-9, being 15·54 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 191, being 22·98 of the estimated population. The similar figure in 1908-9 was 220 or 22·79 per cent.

Public health has generally been good during the year. In Union and Mayreau Islands, however, two of the Grenadine Group, an epidemic of enteric broke out. Fourteen cases occurred, each of which was removed to the Carriacou Hospital to be treated there. Efficient disinfective and other precautionary measures were at once adopted, with satisfactory results. It appears that the infection was introduced from Carriacou, the largest of the group of Grenadines attached to the Grenada Government, where an epidemic prevailed almost throughout the year.

The water supply in the Grenadines is in all cases from wells or tanks. There must consequently always be a possibility of recurrent epidemics of enteric until such time as all the public wells of these Islands are cleansed, covered in, and provided with pumps. Since last year a good deal has been accomplished by the Government in this direction.

Appended is a table of the causes of death:—

General diseases (includes syphilis, 48; tubercle, 60; tetanus, 38; malarial fevers, 10; dysentery, 24) ...	240
Diseases of nervous system	32
Diseases of circulatory system	42
Diseases of respiratory system	20
Diseases of digestive system	206
Parasites	46
Age	83
Still-born	88
Other diseases	74
Total	831

In the towns the authorities are realising more and more the importance of stricter sanitation, and are taking steps accordingly. In the villages, however, sanitary matters are still on a most primitive basis, although the Government, through their District Officers, spare no pains to impress upon the population generally the necessity for care in this direction.

The rainfall for the year 1909-10 was 106·77 inches, as against 101·42 inches in 1908-9.

Rain fell on 286 days during the year.

The maximum fall in 24 hours was 3·43 inches on the 19th June.

June was the wettest month, with 20·12 inches. A good deal of damage was done to the roads during that month owing to the heavy rain, while the effect on the cotton crop was also somewhat disastrous.

December was the driest month, with 2·91 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 77·2° F. Maximum for the year was 80·4° (in December), and the minimum 74·6° F., which was experienced in January.

Except in August and September, when the atmosphere is uncomfortably hot, although not even in those months insalubrious, the climate may be regarded as most healthy for both Europeans and coloured persons. Malaria is hardly known, while yellow fever has proved itself to be a disease of the past. During the year there was a complete absence of all diseases notifiable under the Intercolonial Sanitary Convention.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly mail service from and to England continued to be performed by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At Barbados the mails are transferred into the inter-Colonial ships, which call weekly at St. Vincent on regular days—one week with outward mails on the way round the islands, and the following

blishing company, inc.

week on the way to Barbados with homeward mails. The service was carried on in a satisfactory manner. A great improvement to be recorded is that the steamers now arrive in daylight instead of at night as hitherto.

The steamers of the Pickford and Black Line, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, while occasional calls were made by the steamers of the Direct and Quebec Steamship lines. The East Asiatic line of steamers from Copenhagen viâ London and the Danish West Indies also made occasional calls.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward District of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward District daily, and the Grenadines once a week.

The postal order system continues to grow in popularity, and its extension to the district towns has during the year been accomplished.

The volume of work in the Post Office also continues to expand, which is a sure sign of the upward march of the Colony.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £484, including £227 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £453. The main installation is in Kingstown with branch lines all over the Island. The service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

During the year Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands was transferred as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Newfoundland. He departed from the Windward Islands on the 15th June, 1909, to take up his new post. On the 13th October, 1909, Lieut-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., arrived in the Windward Islands as successor to Sir Ralph Williams. In May, 1909, Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., was transferred to St. Lucia as Administrator. The Honourable C. Gideon Murray, his successor, arrived in the Colony on the 26th May, 1909. From the 18th December until the 27th December, 1909, Mr. Murray was absent in Grenada on duty, during which time His Honour W. S. Shaw, Chief Justice, acted as Administrator.

The most important event during the year affecting this Colony and the West Indies generally was the appointment by His Majesty's Government of the Royal Commission on nearer trade relationship between Canada and the West Indies. Their report is awaited with much anxiety, for upon it and its recommendations great issues in the development of this and the other Colonies may depend. The most weighty matters laid before the Commission by the St. Vincent representatives included the improvement of steamship communication with Canada, the lowering of cable rates generally, and a desire to give reciprocal

treatment to produce of Canada on condition that arrowroot be given greater preferential advantages than afforded to that article to-day. The present rate of duty on arrowroot imported into Canada, even with the preferential rebate of 25 per cent., is prohibitive and acts as an effectual barrier against an increase in trade in that staple product of St. Vincent. As St. Vincent produces so little sugar the preference given by Canada in that article is of no practical value to her. As was very properly pointed out to the Commission, if St. Vincent is to give preferential treatment to Canadian goods she should receive some tangible return for such consideration. The only way that Canada can do this is by remitting the duty on arrowroot altogether or lowering it to such an extent as to allow a trade in that product to grow up between the two places. In this event St. Vincent would be most happy to reciprocate and would welcome the opportunity for closer trade relationship with Canada.

It is clear that the sudden departure of Messrs. D. K. Porter and Company from the Colony has, as was stated in the commencement of this Report, affected the whole history of the year's proceedings. Had no such unfortunate incident occurred there is every reason believe that the tendency, financially and industrially, would have again been upwards and that the Treasury receipts would have, if not exceeded, certainly equalled those of 1908-9. As it is the Report for 1909-10 is one of a suspension of progress, which, however, all present signs point to as temporary, if not past. Much has been done during the year to improve and to put the cotton industry upon a more stable basis. The Agricultural Department are especially to be commended for their untiring and strenuous efforts in this direction. The formation of the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers and Exporters Association is an equally important step in the consolidation and promotion of that industry. If planters can find a third staple annual crop industry to supplement the two first mentioned their conditions should compare favourably with any in the West Indies. In addition, it is pleasing to note that during the year a number of estates' buildings have been repaired, while new ones have been erected, and that gradually the extraordinary ravages of the hurricane of 1898 and the eruption of 1902-3 are disappearing.

Some good recuperative work has been accomplished by the new proprietor on the Carib estates, but there is still much hard uphill work to be completed before these estates can be restored to their former prosperous state.

An attempt was made during the year to promote a Company for the erection of a really good hotel in the chief port of Kingstown. For the moment the matter is in abeyance, but so soon as the question of steamship communication is settled it will be taken up again. St. Vincent is without good hotel accommodation, which is highly essential if she is to become a resort for health seekers and travellers, the qualifications for which she possesses in a large degree. The scenery is beautiful, the views are magnificent, the climate, moreover, is one of the

healthiest in the West Indies, and from December to April compares favourably with the French or Italian Riviera. There are charming walks, rides, and drives and many objects of historic interest may be seen. A fair main road runs all round the Island, and there are good bridle paths in the interior. The sea fishing and sea bathing are excellent, while a picturesque natural nine holed golf course has just been established in one of the prettiest situations in the Island. The more actively inclined will be rewarded by climbing the quiescent volcano Soufrière, which is not difficult of ascent. This volcano has erupted only three times in the last 300 years, namely, in 1718, 1812, and 1902.

A sketch map is attached to this Report, which will serve to give an idea of the size, configuration, and settlement of the Island.

C. Gideon Murray,
Administrator.

20th October, 1910.

Ordnance Survey Office, Sc

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	"
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	"
634	Basutoland	"
635	East Africa Protectorate	"
636	Uganda	"
637	Weihaiwei	1909
638	St. Helena	"
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
640	Ashanti	"
641	Gambia	"
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	"
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	1909
647	Gibraltar	"
648	Sierra Leone	"
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	"
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	"
658	Grenada	"
659	Hong Kong...	"
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	1909
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	"
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
64	Uganda	Botany and Forestry.
65	Do.	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica...	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 672.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 616.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1911.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LIMITED, BACON STREET, E.
1911.

[Cd. 5467-8.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. Financial	4
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	8
III. Legislation	15
IV. Education	15
V. Government Institutions	16
VI. Judicial Statistics	19
VII. Vital Statistics	20
VIII. Postal and Telephone Services	21
IX, General Remarks	22
Sketch Map	

No. 672.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 616.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
14th December, 1910.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book for 1909, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lieut.-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.
Grenada.

(18720—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 2/11. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE ST. LUCIA BLUE BOOK FOR 1909.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1910, including £500, the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture, amounted to £65,739 18*s.* 11*d.*, an increase of £45 18*s.* 4*d.*, as compared with the revenue for the preceding year, and £1,254 0*s.* 7*d.* above the Estimate.

The following statement gives the details of the revenue for 1909-10, as compared with that for 1908-9:—

Heads of Revenue.	1909-10.			1908-9.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Customs	31,644	1	3	31,289	18	10
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	5,005	0	3	5,185	8	11
3. Licences, Excise, &c.:						
(*a.*) Licences—						
Retail Spirit, &c.	1,648	0	0	1,624	0	0
Distillery	100	0	0	100	0	0
Carts, Carriages, Animals, and Guns	579	17	6	613	2	6
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boat, &c. ...	535	14	7	555	4	0
(*b.*) Excise—						
Duty on Rum ...	12,293	7	11	13,053	2	9
(*c.*) Taxes—						
Road Tax	2,003	5	8	1,894	15	4
(*d.*) Stamp Duty—						
Sale of Revenue Stamps	441	7	5	418	18	0
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	4,158	13	1	3,399	12	11
5. Post Office	1,195	8	5	969	11	10
6. Telephone	784	18	1	755	4	0
7. Rent of Government Property	797	12	0	786	5	6
8. Miscellaneous	1,008	13	1	1,039	4	0
9. Interest	1,399	16	5	1,414	5	0
10. Repayment of Loans ...	175	10	0	175	10	0
	63,771	5	8	63,274	3	7
11. Part proceeds of Sales of Reclaimed Lands ...	119	18	2	167	11	1
12. Land Sales	1,348	15	1	1,752	5	11
Total Local Revenue	65,239	18	11	65,194	0	7
13. Imperial Department of Agriculture—						
Grant-in-aid ...	500	0	0	500	0	0
Total Revenue ...	£65,739	18	11	£65,694	0	7

The increase of £759 under Head 4, is due to larger receipts of fees by the Legal Departments and on account of pilotage; the decrease of an almost identical amount, under Excise—duty on rum—is attributable in part to the higher price for the commodity which obtained during the year and to some extent to greater sobriety of the people. The other increases and decreases disclosed by the statement are due to the ordinary fluctuations of business and call for no special comment.

The following are the figures of the revenue for the last completed five years, distinguishing the receipts from local sources from those from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture:—

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1905-6.	Local	60,649	16	10			
	Imperial Grant	1,227	8	1			
					61,877	4	11
1906-7.	Local	59,169	1	7			
	Imperial Grant	843	0	0			
					60,012	1	7
1907-8.	Local	66,636	1	1			
	Imperial Grant	715	0	0			
					67,351	1	1
1908-9.	Local	65,194	0	7			
	Imperial Grant	500	0	0			
					65,694	0	7
1909-10.	Local	65,239	18	11			
	Imperial Grant	500	0	0			
					65,739	18	11

The number of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor, issued during the year ended the 31st March, 1910, as well as the revenue derived therefrom, is shown below:—

Description of Licence.	No. issued during quarter ended on				Revenue		
	30th June, 1909.	30th September, 1909.	31st December, 1909.	31st March, 1910.	£	s.	d.
Wholesale Liquor ...	3	3	3	3	60	0	0
Retail Spirit	44	46	46	44	1,448	0	0
Bottle	2	2	2	2	80	0	0
Refreshment House ...	2	2	2	2	60	0	0
Hotel	1	1	1	1	6	0	0
Occasional	4	—	—	3	2	12	6
					1,656	12	6

The expenditure was £64,446 5*s.* 8*d.*, which included £398 3*s.* 11*d.* paid out of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture. The local expenditure was therefore £64,048 1*s.* 9*d.*, which was £1,792 18*s.* 6*d.* less than the Estimate, and £385 12*s.* 7*d.* below the expenditure of the previous year.

	£	s.	d.
The local revenue was	65,239	18	11
and the local expenditure	64,048	1	9
leaving a net gain on the year's transactions of	£1,191	17	2

The following statement details the expenditure for 1909-10, as compared with that for 1908-9:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1909-10. £	s.	d.	1908-9. £	s.	d.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	9,390	12	6	9,446	3	8
2. Pensions	2,059	4	5	1,848	5	1
3. The Governor and Legislature	3,137	5	10	3,055	19	2
4. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department	4,636	10	8	4,878	12	2
5. Post Office	1,955	0	0	2,056	4	3
6. Port and Marine Department	1,028	12	9	1,029	17	9
7. Audit Department ...	561	9	5	543	19	1
8. Legal Departments ...	4,218	17	2	3,974	15	6
9. Local Forces	820	1	4	719	7	4
10. Police	4,396	14	1	4,470	13	2
11. Prisons	1,541	2	5	2,506	13	11
12. Medical Department ...	3,505	17	11	3,065	13	2
13. Hospitals and Asylums ...	3,437	18	4	3,299	1	2
14. Charitable	572	12	10	533	2	7
15. Education	5,094	10	6	4,698	17	0
16. Ecclesiastical	1,600	0	0	1,600	0	0
17. Agriculture (from local funds)	1,114	0	9	1,188	15	7
18. Miscellaneous Services ...	2,416	12	9	2,403	8	8
19. Colonial Engineer's Department	3,001	10	2	2,557	15	8
20. Public Works Recurrent	7,237	1	11	6,563	15	3
	61,725	15	9	60,441	0	2
21. Public Works Extraordinary	2,322	6	0	3,992	14	2
Total Local Expenditure	64,048	1	9	64,433	14	4
17a. Agriculture (from Imperial funds)	398	3	11	604	3	10
Total Expenditure ...	£64,446	5	8	£65,037	18	2

The following figures show the expenditure of the Colony for the last completed five years, both on account of local expenditure and from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture:—

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1905-6.	Local	61,323	10	5			
	Imperial Grant	1,197	17	11			
					62,521	8	4
1906-7.	Local	59,567	15	6			
	Imperial Grant	726	3	4			
					60,293	18	10
1907-8.	Local	64,152	3	11			
	Imperial Grant	687	11	7			
					64,839	15	6
1908-9.	Local	64,433	14	4			
	Imperial Grant	604	3	10			
					65,037	18	2
1909-10.	Local	64,048	1	9			
	Imperial Grant	398	3	11			
					64,446	5	8

As a result of the year's transactions, a sum of £1,191 17*s.* 2*d.* was added to the Colony's surplus, making it, on the 31st March, 1910, £27,351 17*s.* 1*d.* At the same date, the amount to the credit of the Public Buildings Insurance Fund was £3,478 4*s.* 7*d.*, making a total surplus of £30,830 1*s.* 8*d.*, of which £24,268 15*s.* 3*d.* is invested in securities in England, £1,500 is on deposit locally at the Colonial Bank, and £1,235 14*s.* 5*d.* is loaned to the Castries Town Board.

The public debt at the 31st March, 1910, amounted to £149,029 11*s.* 0*d.*, apportioned as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Colony's share—						
Castries Harbour Loan	52,350	0	0			
Central Factory ...	8,200	0	0			
Public Works	50,579	11	0			
Water-works	12,000	0	0			
Immigration	8,900	0	0			
				132,029	11	0
Castries Town Board's share				17,000	0	0
				£149,029	11	0

In addition to the £17,000, the Castries Town Board is also responsible for a further sum of £550, being a portion of the £50,579 11*s.* 0*d.* loan for Public Works which was allotted to it.

The invested accumulated sinking fund for the redemption of the loans amounts to £16,296 12*s.* 3*d.*, making the net liability £132,732 18*s.* 9*d.*

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper.

Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents in commercial accounts, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.*

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates and dues, market dues and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the towns and villages, the amount of their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1910, and the balance standing to their credit at the same date:—

Town or Village.	1905–6.		1906–7.		1907–8.		1908–9.		1909–10.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1910.	Credit Balance at 31st March, 1910.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries ..	5,936	5,683	5,217	5,601	5,470	5,404	5,350	5,189	5,006	5,508	18,786	23
Soufrière ...	513	550	508	446	529	532	557	516	504	504	1,700	179
Vieux Fort ...	150	152	165	131	177	183	172	219	168	152	—	71
Laborie ...	61	55	66	54	69	84	69	49	71	43	—	83
Canaries ...	30	25	38	28	38	32	39	112	52	48	—	59
Dennery ...	119	106	140	100	126	119	130	123	133	172	—	230
Gros Islet ...	104	58	104	93	103	99	105	97	109	84	—	225
Anse la Raye ...	67	98	66	46	70	83	78	49	62	50	—	109
Choiseul ...	38	27	44	17	45	13	45	144	43	21	—	35
Micoud... ...	72	40	73	61	74	87	77	57	74	61	—	63

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The following comparative statement gives the value of the chief articles of imports in 1909 and 1908:—

	1909.	1908.
Class I.—	£	£
Ale and beer	1,019	1,391
Bacon and hams	736	650
Beans and peas	1,155	1,002
Biscuits, common and fancy... ...	1,444	1,296
Butter	2,057	1,508
Cattle	2,162	1,188
Cheese	700	823
Coffee	1,474	1,471
Confectionery	971	1,038

	1909. £	1908. £
Class I.—*continued.*		
Corn and maize and cornmeal ...	930	883
Fish, all kinds...	8,823	8,994
Flour, wheaten	19,657	20,706
Fruit and vegetables	1,513	1,368
Lard and its compounds	1,308	1,109
Meats: salted, pickled, and preserved	3,180	3,449
Oats	1,500	1,088
Oleomargarine	2,478	2,555
Oils:		
Cotton Seed	3,832	3,783
Lard	1,018	898
Preserves	769	673
Rice	2,479	2,824
Sugar	489	596
Tobacco:		
Cigars and cigarettes	731	493
Manufactured	1,576	1,511
Unmanufactured	1,239	1,259
Whiskey	1,295	1,434
Wines, all kinds	2,766	2,976
Class II.—		
Coal	100,112	119,794
Oil, petroleum	1,971	1,991
Pitch pine	1,546	1,320
White pine	748	1,591
Class III.—		
Bags, empty	1,376	2,486
Boots and shoes	4,783	4,853
Candles, tallow and sperm	763	659
Carriages, carts, &c.	732	516
Cement	687	1,213
Chemicals and acids	1,064	1,346
Chinaware, earthenware, &c... ...	856	1,032
Cottons and woollens	26,497	30,688
Furniture	2,415	1,490
Glassware and glass bottles	1,399	1,318
Haberdashery	6,395	7,100
Hardware	4,302	3,660
Hats and bonnets	2,241	2,592
Implements, agricultural	1,472	229
Iron, galvanised	2,118	904
Machinery	2,100	3,307
Manure	4,807	6,336
Medicines	2,125	1,578
Paints, dyes, and varnishes	660	748
Paper, all kinds	530	499
Perfumery, &c.	849	679
Rope and cordage, including twine...	975	838
Saddlery and harness...	595	476
Silks and satins	538	733

	1909. £	1908. £
Class III.—*continued.*		
Soap, common...	2,330	2,878
Stationery	1,013	936
Toys	468	817
Class IV.—		
Horses	729	468

The total value of the imports was £266,228, a decrease of £23,547 as compared with 1908. Commenting in his annual report on the decreases thus shown, the Treasurer states "that, apparently, stocks were allowed to go down slightly," and he adds that there was also a tendency to restrict expenditure.

Excluding the importations by parcel post, the value of which was £2,890, the following figures indicate the proportions of the total imports contributed by the

	Per cent.
United Kingdom	32·4
British Possessions	12·6
Foreign Countries (of which more than one-half consists of bunker coal)	55·0

In 1908 the proportions were, respectively:—

	Per cent.
United Kingdom	31·0
British Possessions	10·0
Foreign Countries	59·0

The following table gives the total value of the imports for the last five years:—

	£
1905	285,987
1906	242,470
1907	310,309
1908	289,775
1909	266,228

The declared value of the total exports during 1909 was £250,674, made up of:—Domestic produce, to the value of £124,901; bunker coal, to the value of £115,754; and the produce and manufactures of other countries, to the value of £11,258. The total value of the exports was less by £1,994 than the value of the exports of 1908, but the latter included Ordnance stores, to the value of £50,000, which were removed from the Colony during that year. Eliminating this item, the value of the exports during the year under review shows a substantial increase.

The chief articles of export show the following variations:—

Articles.	1909. £	1908. £
Class I.—		
Cocoa	54,275	30,487
Fruit, all kinds	1,151	1,034
Honey	479	356
Lime juice	297	126

Articles.	1909.	1908.
	£	£
Class I.—*continued.*		
Rum	2,324	1,367
Sugar:		
Usine	59,628	53,691
Muscovado	1,140	707
Molasses	1,104	90
Class II.—		
Cotton, raw	432	11
Fuel, wood	651	566
Hides and skins	962	811
Logwood	384	998
Pimento logs, &c.	489	636

As regards cocoa, it should be noted that the figures for 1909 include a considerable amount of the crop of the previous year.

The distribution of the exports, exclusive of bunker coal, was as follows:—

	1909. Per cent.	1908. Per cent.
To United Kingdom	66·4	62·4
British Colonies	10·4	12·1
Foreign Countries	23·2	25·5

The figures given below show the total value of the exports for the last five years:—

	£
1905	211,653
1906	220,313
1907	264,401
1908	252,668
1909	250,674

Trade with Canada showed a slight improvement, as evidenced by the figures hereunder, which also show the total trade with that country for the five years commencing with 1905:—

Year.	Imports.	Domestic Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1905	10,261	5,678	15,943
1906	7,730	9,755	17,536
1907	6,818	8,556	15,404
1908	6,077	8,318	14,395
1909	6,321	9,062	15,449

Neither in 1909, however, nor in previous years, was Canada credited with all goods that originated there, and as steps have now been taken to ascertain more correctly the country of origin of goods imported, it is anticipated that from 1910 onwards it will be possible to determine with greater accuracy not only the value of the trade with Canada, but also of that with all other countries.

Coaling Trade.

The year 1909 was, on the whole, a good one for the coaling business. The figures hereunder give the quantity and value of the coal shipped during the last five years:—

Year.	Tons.	£
1905	81,320	102,626
1906	86,733	105,696
1907	118,503	142,381
1908	85,460	102,288
1909	96,462	115,754

This business affords steady and remunerative employment to some 500 carriers, male and female, by whom the ships are discharged and loaded, and it is a matter of great importance to the island to preserve and foster it.

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The sulphur deposits at Ventine, in the Soufrière District, continued to be worked during the year, and 29½ tons of sulphur, valued at £120, were shipped, as compared with 25 tons, valued at £75, shipped in the previous year. There are, however, no signs at present of the industry attaining dimensions of any importance.

The sugar factories working during 1909 were the same as in previous years, namely, Cul-de-Sac, Vieux Fort, Roseau, and Dennery; the same remark applies to the distilleries at Cul-de-Sac and Troumassee, where 72,633 gallons of rum were produced. The export of rum again shows an increase, as evidenced by the figures appended:—

Year.	Distilled.	Consumed.	Exported.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1905	56,150	50,337	8,655
1906	49,553	46,950	6,319
1907	57,213	51,453	3,652
1908	83,532	51,216	23,440
1909	72,633	46,949	27,883

The manufacture of molascuit, the production of which was commented on in the report for 1908, was displaced in 1909 by molasses, the higher prices obtainable for the latter commodity stimulating the resumption of its manufacture, while the quantity manufactured of molascuit dropped to a negligible amount.

Fishing around the coasts of the island is carried on entirely for the supply of the local market, and no attempt at preserving for export is made. The scarcity of fish, and also of turtle, has formed the subject of complaint for some time past, it being stated that the fishermen employ dynamite for the capture of fish, which is having the effect of driving them from the sur-

rounding waters, and that both fish and turtle are caught in an immature state. Remedial measures are at present under consideration.

Agricultural Industries.

Sugar and cocoa are the principal products of the Colony, but no reliable statistics are available of the area of each under cultivation, and the value of the industries can be estimated at present only by the quantities exported.

Besides the sugar exported in 1909, 5,360 tons, valued at £59,623, all the usine sugar consumed locally is the produce of the factories.

The cultivation of cocoa is extending gradually, but the annexed export figures for the last five years do not show any very marked increase in production:—

	Bags of 200 lb.
1905	9,468
1906	7,896
1907	8,598
1908	6,775
1909	10,850

In regard to what may be termed the minor industries, namely, honey, limes, and cotton, the year under review was encouraging. The values of these products for 1909 and 1908 were as follows:—

	1909.	1908.
	£	£
Honey	479	356
Lime juice	297	126
Cotton, raw...	432	11

The expenditure in connection with the Botanic Station and special agricultural services amounted to £723 14*s.* 5*d.*, of which £398 3*s.* 11*d.* was paid from the Imperial grant in aid. Receipts from the sale of plants, seeds, &c., amounted to £30 11*s.*

During the year, plants to the number of 4,204 were distributed from the nurseries at the station.

The average number of pupils maintained at the Agricultural School during 1909 was 18. Three new boys were admitted, ten pupils were discharged after completing their course of training, and two on proving to be physically unfit.

The medical officer reports that there was no serious case of illness among the boys during the year, and that sanitary details were carefully attended to.

Half-yearly examinations were held in June and December, the papers being set and examined under the direction of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture. The examiner's reports, in both instances, were satisfactory.

The expenditure on the school in 1909-10, exclusive of the emoluments of the Officer-in-Charge, which appear in the expenditure on the Botanic Station, amounted to £688 10*s.* 3*d.* The

receipts derived from the sale of plants, produce, and livestock, were £78 0*s.* 7*d.*; provisions supplied to the Victoria Hospital and the Royal Gaol were valued at £35 16*s.*, and those used as food at the school at £44 10*s.* 8*d.*—an aggregate of £158 7*s.* 3*d.*

The plants, mostly lime plants, distributed from the nurseries number 73,358.

The applications during the year for the purchase of Crown Lands numbered 121 in respect of an aggregate area of 1,609 acres. The same figures in 1908 were, respectively, 126 and 1,323.

Forty-nine surveys for grants in respect of an aggregate area of 1,145 acres were completed during the year; 20 grants were issued, and 56 were unissued at the close of the year.

Fifty-three surveys were executed through the Crown Lands and Survey Department, one of which was a survey for a private person.

The system of tracks styled Crown Traces, commenced in 1908 for the purpose, primarily, of giving purchasers of Crown Lands ready means of getting to and from their properties, was continued during the year by the opening of a Trace at Colombette on the high road between Soufrière and Canaries and going across country in such a direction as to admit of it being extended, if necessary in future, to the Canaries River. The expenditure on the work was £32 7*s.* 5*d.*, and the cost of maintenance of the four Traces previously opened, £48 17*s.* 4*d.*

The revenue derived from the sale of lands was £1,059 7*s.* 4*d.*, the expenditure being £1,367 2*s.* 7*d.*

The Land Sales Fund was closed as on the 31st March, 1909, and the balance to its credit carried to general revenue. From that date, the revenue and expenditure of the Department appear in the Colony's annual Estimates.

Economic plants, comprising cocoa, coffee, nutmegs, and limes, to the number of 2,124, were distributed free of cost to purchasers of Crown Lands.

Shipping.

The number of sailing vessels that entered at Castries, the only port of entry, was 246, with a tonnage of 3,734, an increase of 5 in number, but a decrease of 873 in tonnage. 82 per cent. of the number, and 68 per cent. of the tonnage was British, as against 84 per cent. and 77 per cent. respectively, in 1908.

The number of steam vessels entered was 645, with a tonnage of 1,248,798—an increase of 68 in number and of 164,595 in tonnage. 80 per cent. of the number, and 83 per cent. of the tonnage, was British, against 84 per cent. and 88 per cent. respectively, in 1908. The total tonnage of steam shipping entered and cleared was 2,498,944, which is the highest on record with the exception of that of the year 1907, when it was 2,627,218.

The above figures do not include ships of war and yachts, of which 12 of the former and 3 of the latter called at the port during 1909.

The tables hereunder summarize the statistics relating to shipping for the last five years:—

VESSELS ENTERED.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1905 ...	452	748,494	207	6,941	99	155,846	43	4,774
1906 ...	534	931,449	246	7,310	83	124,024	38	3,749
1907 ...	615	1,169,037	245	9,772	101	136,920	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	957,866	203	7,340	90	126,337	38	2,267
1909 ...	518	1,027,837	201	6,003	127	220,961	45	2,731

VESSELS CLEARED.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1905 ...	452	748,494	207	6,941	98	153,905	43	4,774
1906 ...	534	931,449	252	7,541	84	125,965	37	3,696
1907 ...	614	1,166,991	216	7,606	100	134,803	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	958,607	201	7,387	89	124,520	38	2,267
1909 ...	517	1,025,251	197	5,574	129	224,895	44	2,662

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of the year there were 13 vessels, with a tonnage of 616, on the register.

III.—LEGISLATION.

During the year twelve Ordinances were passed.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1909 and 1908 compared as follows:—

	1909.	1908.
Number of schools	57	51
Number on rolls	7,674	7,018
Average attendance	4,866	4,447
Number examined	6,629	6,071
Government Grant-in-Aid ...	£3,862	£3,648

Of the total number of schools open at the close of 1909, 50 were Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 of the East Indian Mission.

The Inspector of Schools, in a special report on the teaching of hygiene in the schools, states: "The teaching of tropical hygiene has been taken up in all the juvenile schools of the Colony. The new code makes it obligatory in every class from Standard II. upwards. Everything possible has been done to make the teaching of the subject intelligent and practical, and to impress upon the children the necessity of observing in their home life the rules they learn in school. There the action of the school needs must cease. I am glad to be able to report that I am extremely pleased with the 1909 results, as far as the school work is concerned. The subject matter taught was, in general, well chosen, and the answering of the children, especially if the language difficulty be taken into account, very satisfactory."

A series of lectures in elementary agricultural science were delivered in April, 1909, by the Agricultural Superintendent to the Teachers of the Primary Schools, the course being the fifth of its kind which has been held. The teachers were assembled at the Agricultural School at Union for the purpose of the lectures, and during their residence there, Dr. L. Nicholls delivered to them a lecture on "Sanitation and Hygiene."

During the year, the schools were examined by an officer of the Agricultural Department on the teaching of agriculture, the results of which were encouraging.

There are two schools of secondary education: the St. Mary's College for boys, receiving a Government Grant of £400 per annum, and the St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, receiving a Grant of £150 per annum. At the Cambridge Local Examination held in December, 1909, out of 15 candidates from St. Mary's College 14 satisfied the examiners, three passing with honours. As regards the St. Joseph's Convent School, 12 candidates were presented at the same date for examination by the College of Preceptors, all of whom passed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The following statement tabulates the principal statistics for the year 1909 relating to the hospitals and asylums:—

Institution.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during the year.	Daily average.	Patients discharged.			No. of deaths.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	
Victoria Hospital, Castries.	62	1,255	70·72	626	462	40	120
Soufrière Hospital ...	1	65	2·8	57	6	—	2
Vieux Fort Hospital ...	1	33	3	12	11	—	7
Dennery " ...	2	25	1	21	3	—	—
Yaws " ...	66	65	48·54	68	6	—	6
Poor Asylum	57	73	62·04	—	—	—	29
Lunatic Asylum ...	—	38	15·9	1	—	3	8

There were 98 operations performed at the Victoria Hospital; and the death-rate, calculated on the number of cases admitted and treated, exclusive of premature and still-births, was 9·11 per cent. The total cost of the Institution, including personal emoluments, was £1,466 5*s*. 5*d*., exclusive of the cost of medicines.

In addition to the lunatics under treatment at the Soufrière Lunatic Asylum, 15 were transferred to the central asylum at Grenada, the number of St. Lucia lunatics confined in that institution at the end of the year being 40. As the Grenada Asylum can no longer provide accommodation for the lunatics of St. Lucia and St. Vincent in addition to those of Grenada, the provision of a separate asylum to house the whole of the St. Lucia lunatics was sanctioned during the year, and the work of converting into an asylum certain of the military buildings at La Toc, which have been transferred to the Colonial Government, is now in active progress.

In each town and village and at certain populous centres there is a dispensary for out-door patients, and during 1909, 13,716 persons received attention at these dispensaries, more than half the attendances being for the purpose of having ulcers dressed. The number is lower than the same number for each of the two preceding years.

Out-door relief of paupers is administered through the agency of the Police Department under a system which is simple but effective in ensuring that only those properly entitled to relief obtain it, and that recipients who are subsequently proved to be able to maintain themselves promptly disappear from the poor relief list.

The number of persons receiving relief on the 31st December, 1909, was 209, a slight increase as compared with the previous year. The expenditure, including gratuities and allowances to officers, £8 3*s*. 11*d*., and the burials of paupers, £163 13*s*. 11*d*., amounted to £560 9*s*. 10*d*.

A considerable amount of useful work for the improvement of the sanitation of the towns and villages was carried out during the year. The Chief of Police, whose department is charged with the duty of enforcing the sanitary regulations of the Board of Health, reports as follows:—

"Continuous attention was paid to sanitary work. Dr. Nicholls gave a useful course of lectures, with microscopical illustrations, for instructing the men on the subject of malaria and other prevalent diseases, and for disinfecting premises by spraying process in cases of pneumonia. The constables appointed as sanitary officers were detailed for such work whenever available, and during the year paid 3,647 visits to yards in the town, besides many visits to premises on the Chaussée, Waterworks Road, Barnardville, Hospital Road, and other places in the neighbourhood of Castries.

"A record is kept of such work, showing the dates of each visit and the condition of the premises, and of any further action taken. It is only by frequent inspection that the yards in the poorer quarters of the town are kept clean, and that the practice

of storing water in open barrels or other vessels can be prevented. Any relaxation of attention in this direction is immediately followed by the reappearance of such receptacles in which mosquitoes breed, so that a constant and permanent system of supervision is absolutely necessary.

"There were 96 prosecutions in Castries for infringements of the Board of Health Regulations, and 43 other cases, brought on evidence of the police, under town by-laws.

"In the towns and villages, sanitation received careful attention. The non-commissioned officer in charge at each station inspected at intervals and communicated with the medical officer and furnished a monthly report for submission to the Administrator."

The principal office of the Savings Bank is at the Treasury in Castries, with five district offices in different parts of the Island.

The following statement summarizes the transactions of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of accounts open 31st December.	Total deposits inclusive of interest.			Total withdrawals.			Amount on deposit on 31st December.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1905... ...	1,231	15,025	16	3	16,285	13	7	14,373	19	11
1906... ...	1,584	13,750	12	6	13,397	7	1	14,727	5	4
1907... ...	1,639	15,526	2	0	12,561	9	10	17,691	17	6
1908... ...	1,653	15,411	9	0	14,028	6	11	19,074	19	7
1909... ...	1,685	13,411	12	0	14,902	6	3	17,584	5	4

As will be seen, the amount due to depositors on 31st December, 1909, was £1,490 14*s.* 3*d.* less than the same amount on the same date in the previous year. The decrease is believed to be due to the fact that opportunities for temporary investment of savings outside at a higher rate of interest than the savings bank offers are being taken advantage of.

The working account of the bank showed a profit, at the close of the calendar year, of £103 12*s.* 3*d.*, which was carried to general revenue; and the amount of the investments on account of the bank, at the same date, amounted to £17,202 19*s.* 3*d.*

The number of Friendly Societies increased during the year by one, the number on the register at 31st December being 17. The number of members at the same date was 1,827—768 males and 1,059 females—an increase of 301 for the year.

The total receipts of the societies amounted to £2,233 17*s.* 8*d.*, and the disbursements to £1,870 5*s.*, the balance at the close of the year being £2,071 0*s.* 6*d.* The balance at the 31st December, 1908, was £1,707 7*s.* 10*d.*

The working expenses of the societies amounted to £764 8*s.* 1*d.*, or 40·9 per cent. of the total disbursements.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Police Force consisted of a Chief, a Sergeant-Major of European birth, formerly of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 70 West Indian Non-Commissioned Officers and men. The post of Staff-Sergeant, which is usually filled by a European officer, remained vacant throughout the year. The force is drilled and trained under the supervision of the Staff Officer of the Windward Islands by a European Musketry and Drill Instructor. In August, the force underwent inspection by Brigadier-General Marshall, C.B., Commanding the troops at Jamaica.

In addition to ordinary police duties, the police carry out a considerable amount of work in connection with the details of administration, such as enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor relief, registration of births and deaths, and collection of road tax from defaulters. They also take charge of certain of the district post offices and telephone exchanges.

The single rate of pay, namely £42, which was established for all constables in 1902, was changed in October for a system which is gradually being brought into effect, of graded pay on a triple scale of £38, £45, and £50, and a constable on joining the force has now some improvement in his position in this respect to which to look forward, while the new system possesses the additional merit of providing an incentive to good conduct and the effective discharge of duty.

The total number of persons committed to the Royal Gaol in 1909 was 474, made up of 269 men, 212 women, and 13 juveniles. The daily average was 62·13, as compared with 58·49 in the previous year. At the commencement of the year, besides 10 in the St. Vincent Prison, 31 St. Lucia prisoners were serving their sentences in the Grenada Prison. The daily average of the prisoners in Grenada was 10·65, and of those in St. Vincent 6·92, making a total of 79·70 as the daily average of all the St. Lucia prisoners. The minimum number in custody at one time was 34, and the maximum 87.

The medical officer states in his report on the gaol, that nothing occurred during the year calling for special comment. The daily average on the sick list was 1·78; in 1908 it was 2·1.

The St. Lucia prisoners undergoing confinement in the prisons in Grenada and St. Vincent were principally men convicted for participation in the riots of 1907, for whom accommodation could not be provided in the Royal Gaol. Those then in Grenada were all brought back to St. Lucia in May, the five remaining in St. Vincent following in November, from which date, for the first time since 1901, all the prisoners belonging to the Colony have been accommodated here.

Revised rules and regulations for the Royal Gaol were brought into force on the 1st October. The greatest change they make is the introduction of a system under which long-term prisoners, by earning marks entitling them to be placed in certain classes, are able to earn gratuities, at fixed rates, payable to them on discharge.

The following table summarises the criminal statistics for the last five years:—

—	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Offences reported	1,595	1,706	2,059	1,962	1,675
Summary Convictions—					
For offences against the person	405	220	380	405	263
„ prædial larceny	60	37	37	35	130
„ offences against property	226	77	138	106	
„ other offences	904	1,126	950	1,134	1,352
Convictions in Superior Court—					
Child murder	1	—	—	—	—
For offences against the person	3	2	10	2	1
„ offences against property	23	14	27	13	11
„ other offences	5	1	110	—	—

The figures for 1909 are not characterised by any special feature calling for comment; but it should be noted that the 1,352 summary convictions classed as "Other offences" include a large number of cases of default in payment of Road Tax, and also cases of non-payment of instalments of Crown land purchase money and of offences against town and village by-laws.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population on the 31st December, 1909, is estimated to have been 55,835, made up of 26,933 males and 28,902 females. The natural increase during the year was 740. In the estimate of population, no regard is paid to emigration or immigration, while it is known, although no record is made, that there is a considerable efflux of able-bodied labourers to the Canal Zone of Panama and to the goldfields at Cayenne. Notwithstanding this emigration, the birth-rate for the year shows, contrary to what might be expected, an increase of 1·1 per thousand, the rate for 1909 being 30·9, as compared with 29·8 in 1908. On the other hand, the death-rate for the year, 17·5 per thousand, shows a decrease of 3·2 per thousand as compared with that for 1908, when the rate was 20·7 per thousand. The death-rate of infants under one year, however, was 332·4 per thousand, as against 275·5 in the previous year.

There were 241 marriages in the course of the year, an increase of 23 on the number in 1908.

No epidemic or quarantinable disease occurred, and on the whole the health of the Colony during the year may be said to have been satisfactory.

The rainfall over the whole island was considerably in excess of that of the previous year, and approached the average more closely than has been the case for a number of years past. At the Botanic Station, in Castries, 85·43 inches were registered, which was 5·45 inches above the fall of 1908.

At the same Station, the mean monthly temperature in the shade was 78·5° F. The maximum temperature of 92° was recorded in August, and the minimum of 62° in March.

The corrected readings of the barometer—height, 10 feet above M.S.L.—ranged from 29·873 inches, in November, to 30·048 inches, in February. The mean annual pressure was 29·981 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service, performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers, was regularly carried out during the year; and the steamers of the Pickford and Black Line from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual; as did the intercolonial steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, which call at Castries on their voyage between the French Colonies and those of the Danish East Asiatic Company. The steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company, from New York, also call regularly on the outward voyage fortnightly.

There was an increase in the business of the Post Office, as the subjoined figures show:—

	1909.	1908.
Letters and postcards—		
Sent	100,213	102,463
Received	103,020	91,734
Inland	96,958	92,889

The number of parcels sent was 429, and the number received, 2,495.

4,243 British postal orders, to the value of £2,521 5*s.* 9*d.*, were issued, and 679, to the value of £294 12*s.* 3*d.*, were paid.

Money orders to the value of £4,626 16*s.* 2*d.* were issued, and the value of those paid was £3,902 18*s.* 10*d.*

The revenue of the Post Office was £1,598 2*s.* 8*d.*, and the expenditure, £1,685 14*s.* 2*d.*

There is regular and daily postal communication, under local contract, between Castries and the leeward coastal towns and villages by the Royal Mail coasting steamer. On the windward side of the island communication by post is overland, and twice a week only. The number of transactions at the district offices tends to increase.

All the towns and villages of the Colony are connected by telephone with Castries. During the year there were 212 miles of line open for traffic, and the number of subscribers was 121—an increase of 5 over 1908. There were 179 messages transmitted, and 394 sixpenny tickets were sold to non-subscribers using public telephones.

The total receipts for the year amounted to £772 15*s.* 3*d.*, the expenditure being £975 17*s.* 2*d.*

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Mr. P. C. Cork, C.M.G., who had held the post of Administrator since 15th November, 1905, left the island in April on promotion to the Colonial Secretaryship of Jamaica, and was succeeded by Mr. Edward J. Cameron, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Vincent.

Sir R. Williams, Governor of the Windward Iislands, proceeded early in June to take up the post of Governor of Newfoundland, and the general Government was administered by Mr. Cameron until October, when the new Governor, Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., arrived in the Colony. During the above interregnum, Mr. H. A. Smallwood acted as Colonial Secretary of St. Lucia.

The year was a fairly satisfactory one as regards trade and business conditions generally. The prices of sugar and cocoa were moderately remunerative, and the coaling industry did well.

There was a small surplus of revenue over expenditure, in spite of a comparatively generous outlay on public works, and the outlook is, on the whole, encouraging.

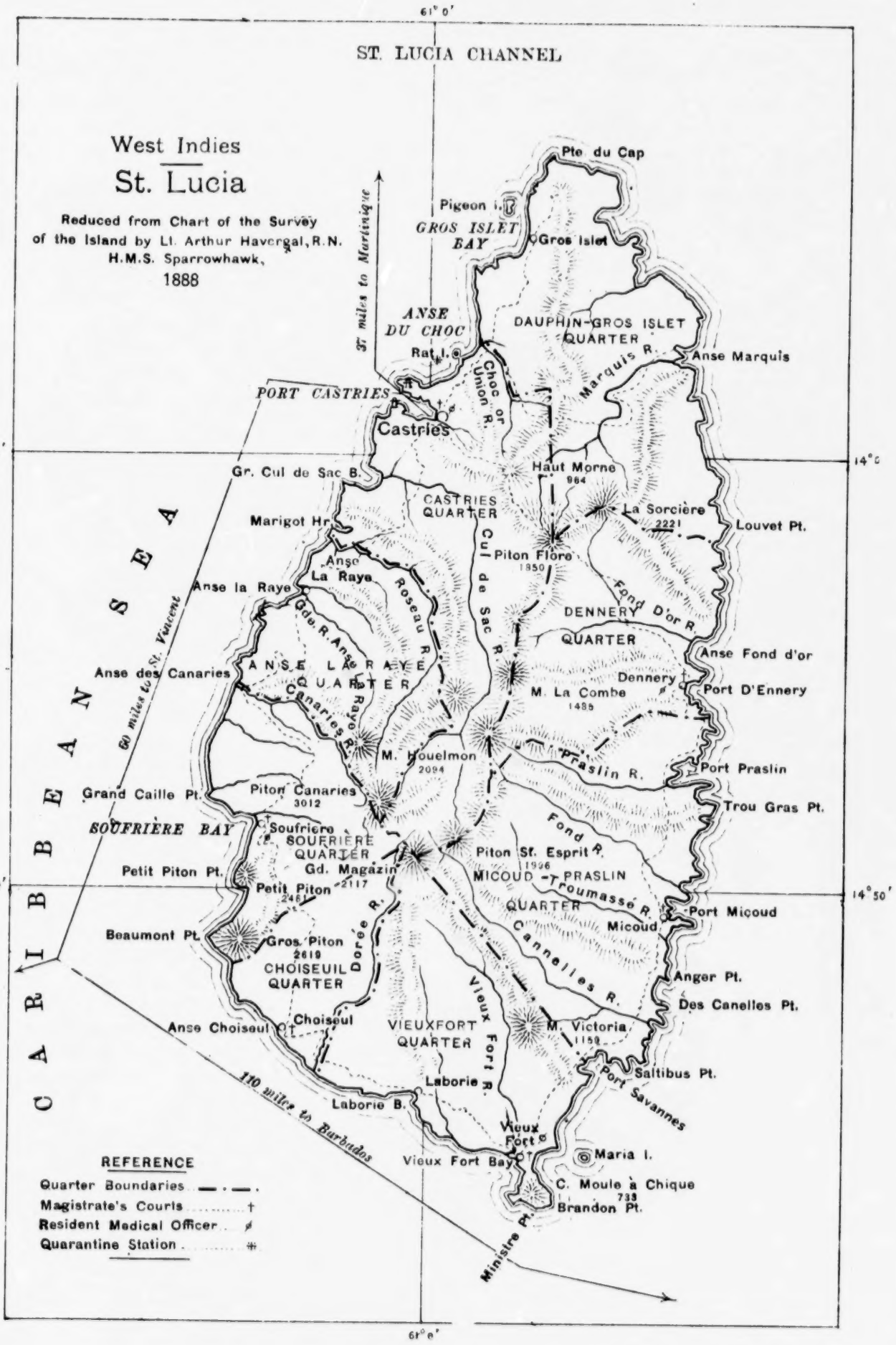
The question of the provision of a proper lunatic asylum in the island and of the housing of the different Departments of Government in suitable public buildings, questions which have been many years under discussion, were actively taken up, and a general scheme, involving an expenditure of £8,000 spread over several years, was put forward and approved by the Secretary of State, which scheme has now been embarked upon.

A Property Tax Bill, imposing taxes on lands and house property, which was introduced early in the year but which met with considerable popular opposition, was not proceeded with, and the old Road Tax Ordinance, which the new taxation was intended to replace, continued in force throughout the year.

The appointment at the close of the year of a Royal Commission to enquire into the question of Trade Relations between Canada and the West Indies is to be noted, as likely to exercise an important bearing on the future fortunes of the West Indies.

A sketch map of the island with recent revisions is appended.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1901

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
633	Northern Nigeria	1908–1909
634	Basutoland	"
635	East Africa Protectorate	"
636	Uganda	"
637	Weihaiwei	1909
638	St. Helena	"
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
640	Ashanti	"
641	Gambia	"
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	"
646	Turks and Caicos Islands...	1909
647	Gibraltar	"
648	Sierra Leone	"
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	"
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	"
658	Grenada	"
659	Hong Kong...	"
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	1909
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	"
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"
668	St. Vincent	1909–1910
669	East Africa Protectorate	"
670	Uganda	"
671	British Guiana	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
64	Uganda	Botany and Forestry.
65	Do.	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys 1906–7 and 1907–8.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 701.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1910.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 658.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

December, 1911.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
OLIVER AND BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1911.

[Cd. 6007-1.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	6
LEGISLATION	10
EDUCATION	11
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	11
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	12
VITAL STATISTICS	12
POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	13
GENERAL REMARKS	14
MAP.	

No. 701.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 658.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Governor's Office, St. Lucia,
10th November, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Annual Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1910, prepared by Mr. E. Drayton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, now administering the Government.

I have, &c.,
EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(22243—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 12/11. D & S. A 2

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1910.

FINANCIAL.

The financial results of the year ended 31st March, 1911, were excellent, the revenue reaching the record figures of £81,413, while the expenditure was only £75,561, the excess of revenue going to swell the Colonial assets by £5,852.

2. The satisfactory revenue was due primarily to a bumper crop of the Colony's staple, cocoa, which brought money into circulation locally; but the high figures actually realised were derived from,—(1) an additional ten per cent. on all import duties levied during the year; (2) improvement of the receipts from Excise duty on rum; and (3) unexpected returns from duties on estates of deceased persons.

3. Under this last mentioned head no less than £2,443 was received against an estimate of £300. The law provides for payment by instalments, but it appears that in practice full payments are going to be made. The improved Excise revenue is due to the active measures taken by the present Colonial Treasurer for the suppression of smuggling and the supervision of his department. £12,060 was received, being £1,935 more than in the preceding year, and £2,202 more than in the year before that. The ten per cent. additional import duty was imposed because it was impossible when the Estimates were framed to foresee the special causes which, later in the year, brought about the large revenue actually received, and there had been a deficit on the last year's transactions.

4. The revenue under its proper heads was as follows:—

	£
Customs	42,373
Licences, Excise, and internal revenue... ...	30,566
Fees of office, &c.	1,931
Post Office	1,519
Telephones	1,800
Water supply, Richmond Hill, &c.	236
Revenue from Government property	1,790
Interest and Sinking Funds	1,072
Miscellaneous receipts	119
Land sales	7
Total revenue	£81,413

A net increase of £10,189, as compared with the preceding financial year, is shown.

5. The expenditure for the year, including £137 from an outstanding balance of the former Imperial grant-in-aid of the Agricultural Department, was £75,561, as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of debt	6,196
Pensions	2,794
The Governor	2,331
Colonial Secretary	1,785
Treasury Department	5,780
Post Office	2,858
Audit	703
Port and marine	548
Legal Departments	4,322
Police	5,210
Prisons	1,190
Medical Department	3,766
Hospitals and asylums	5,805
Education	6,035
Ecclesiastical	444
Charitable	619
Telephones	1,694
Carriacou District	876
Water supply, Richmond Hill, &c.	237
Miscellaneous	4,899
Agricultural Department	1,332
Public Works Department	1,808
Public Works Recurrent	10,206
Public Works Extraordinary	3,985
Total expenditure from Colonial Funds ...	75,424
Expenditure on Agricultural Department from balance of Imperial grant	137
Total expenditure	£75,561

The excess of £2,279 over the preceding financial year is chiefly attributable to the importation of a motor road-roller and to a larger programme of public works; also to the cost of the new Agricultural Department (*see* last year's report, paragraph 23) coming on charge for the first time, the comparative excess under this head alone being £691.

6. The total revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1906-7	71,786	70,379
1907-8	79,871	68,383
1908-9	73,182	72,661
1909-10	71,224	73,282
1910-11	81,413	75,561

7. The surplus of assets at 31st March, 1911, was £38,742, and the more important items were:—

	£
Reserve Fund, invested	13,040
Loans to District Boards	10,681
Carriacou Land Settlement Advance ...	1,768
Grenada Land Settlement Advance ...	301
Carriacou Jetty Advance	555

8. The public debt was £123,670, as before, and the accumulated sinking fund for its redemption between 1917 and 1942 amounted to £27,937, duly invested by its trustees, the Crown Agents for the Colonies. The Colony is also responsible for a loan of £550 taken over from the late governing body of the girls' school; this will soon be repaid.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the six District Boards of Grenada in the financial year ended 31st March, 1911, were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,246	3,947
St. Andrew's	2,512	2,586
St. Patrick's	2,029	1,651
St. John's	1,539	1,759
St. Mark's	692	627
St. David's	711	711
Totals	£11,729	£11,281

The revenue of the town of Hillsborough, in Carriacou, which is administered by town wardens, was £86, and its expenditure the same amount.

10. The loan debts of the Boards at the same date were £20,681, as under:—

	£
St. George's	12,181
St. John's	3,450
St. Patrick's	4,236
St. Andrew's	970
St. Mark's	25
Total	£20,862

These are all owed to the Government, and are repayable (with interest) either by instalments or by sinking fund contributions, which are regularly paid up.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

11. The import and export trade of the Colony in the last five calendar years is valued as under:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1906	233,448	210,149
1907	288,665	417,299
1908	303,783	359,245
1909	268,236	284,846
1910	279,368	291,760

A revival in 1910 from the conditions of 1909 is shown on both sides, but the figures are still below the satisfactory results of 1907 and 1908.

12. The following comparative statement of the values of the principal articles of import in the last two years shows that increases occurred chiefly under fish (dried or preserved), oils for cooking, timber and shingles, wearing apparel, and textiles; while decreases appear under bread, oats, Muscovado sugar, tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, manures, and manufactured metal.

	1909.	1910.
Class I.—	£	£
Bread of all kinds	5,042	3,774
Butter	2,500	2,881
Fish, dried and preserved... ...	13,561	17,036
Flour (wheaten)	34,046	34,227
Meat, salted and preserved ...	9,341	9,855
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,905	2,528
Oats	5,637	4,802
Oil (olive and others for cooking)...	3,702	5,820
Oleomargarine and butterine ...	3,824	3,916
Rice	5,875	6,188
Spirits	5,248	5,185
Sugar:—		
Refined	4,078	4,126
Muscovado	7,748	5,490
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes ...	4,423	3,153
Class II.—		
Coal	1,957	1,897
Manures	8,018	5,773
Petroleum oil	4,478	3,852
Timber and shingles	8,133	15,640
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	13,450	16,037
Textiles	39,156	44,017
Metal manufactures	16,715	14,194
Earthern and glassware	3,142	3,619
Furniture	3,231	2,869
Leather (manufactured):—		
Boots and shoes	5,343	6,246
Other	2,294	2,580
Soap	3,866	4,041
Class IV.—		
Silver and bronze coins	1,150	5,700
Bank notes	8,807	3,559

13. No attempt can successfully be made this year to indicate the quantities imported from the several countries with which the Colony trades, for the reasons set forth in the following paragraph from the annual report of the Comptroller of Customs:—

Although the trade of the colony, taken as a whole, shows only a moderate variation from last year, the alteration in the Bills of Entry, adopted on 1st January, 1910, providing for recording the country of consignment, has resulted in surprising changes in the detailed imports from various countries. The returns classified under British West Indies and United States of America

suffer in comparison with former years, while a corresponding increase is shown in Canadian and European returns. The total value of the trade from Canada is now shown as £22,722 as compared with £7,943 in 1909, and in general the changes may be said to justify the figures placed before the Canada-West Indies Royal Commission in respect to Canadian trade with the Colony. Thus the quantities of the commodities imported from Canada now appear as follows:—

Butter, 5,900 lbs. as against 3,800 lbs. in 1909;
Dried Fish, 1,035,062 lbs. as against 224,800 lbs.;
Flour, 1,789 barrels as against 600 barrels;
Pease, 1,833 bushels as against 400 bushels; and
Oats, 3,277 bushels as against 700 bushels.

Details of the last-mentioned article may be given as an illustration of the effect of more accurate classification:—

Oats.	1909. Bushels.	1910. Bushels.
United Kingdom	17,501	11,218
Holland	1,225	4,775
Russia	Nil	4,191
British West Indies	2,612	Nil
United States, America...	1,893	392
Canada	700	3,277

Imports of *Gin* from Holland now appear as 6,062 gallons as compared with 2,825 gallons in 1909, the figures relating to the United Kingdom being reduced from 2,884 gallons to 146. India replaced the United Kingdom as the country of consignment in the case of *Rice*, and France is credited with 18,062 lbs. of *Butter* in place of 1,000 lbs. in 1909.

14. The value of the three principal products of the Colony exported in 1909 and 1910 is given hereunder:—

	1909. £	1910. £
Cocoa	248,398	259,365
Nutmegs and mace ...	18,135	17,872
Cotton and cotton seed ...	8,971	8,019

15. The export trade with the United States of America, which had fallen to £29,847 in 1909, revived in 1910, and amounted to £42,817, of which £39,742 was cocoa. This product, to the value of £48,365, is also shown as exported to France, but, as has been remarked in previous reports, the statistics are not reliable, bills of lading being to Havre, *optional*, and the final destination of shipments is not known.

16. The record cocoa crop of the Colony, 73,863 bags, was reaped in the year ended 30th September, 1910, being 6,534 bags in excess of 1909, which was the largest reaped at that date. Prices, however, remained pretty much the same as in the previous year, viz., about 51*s*. to 54*s*. 6*d*. per cwt., so that the fullest advantage was not realised from this fine output. The heavy exports of cocoa from Guayaquil and Africa affect the market prices considerably nowadays.

17. The nutmeg crop again fell off this year, only 6,229 barrels and 306 half-barrels being exported in the year ended 30th September, as compared with 6,740 barrels and 346 half-barrels in the preceding year; prices also continued unsatisfactory.

18. The cotton crop of Carriacou was less than in 1909, 2,370 cwt. being exported in the calendar year 1910, as compared with 2,888 cwt. in the preceding year. All of this went to the United

Kingdom, but the direction of the cotton seed exported underwent a change in the year under review, £1,440 of the total of £2,221, in value, going to Barbados, where it was purchased by the Cotton Company of that Island; the balance went to the United Kingdom.

19. The dependency of Carriacou continues to flourish under the stimulus applied to it since 1903 by the Land Settlement Scheme, and the concomitant improved administration. Those who visit the place after an interval of years are surprised to notice the immense change for the better which has taken place. In his latest annual report the Commissioner of the district writes as follows:—

> In past reports comment has been frequently made on the remarkable transformation which has taken place within a few years in the general tone and prosperity of this interesting dependency. This happy result is so entirely the outcome of the Land Scheme that it may not be out of place my again drawing attention to the fact.

Of the amount originally advanced from Colonial Funds to finance the scheme, viz., £8,450, all but £1,768 had been repaid at 31st March, 1911.

20. A commencement was made in the Island of Grenada with a similar scheme in 1910. An estate called Morne Rouge, in the south of the Island, near to the principal town, which had been escheated to the Crown some time ago, was surveyed into lots, and preliminary details settled, but the actual allotment to purchasers was not made until 1911. Beyond mentioning that at date of this report the lots have all been taken up and that the scheme is making satisfactory progress, other details must be left to the report for the current year.

21. The attention of progressive agriculturists in the Colony is being more and more directed to the exploitation of other staple products than those now existing. In Carriacou, as was pointed out in the Annual Report for 1908,* an important lime industry is being established, and in the current year the first shipment of juice has been made. In Grenada, rubber cultivation is extending. At first *Castilloa elastica* was introduced, but of late years *Hevea* has taken its place; and in the current year a large importation of seeds from Ceylon has been undertaken by the Board of Agriculture.

22. This Board, which was inaugurated in 1909 (*see* Report for that year†) did excellent work in 1910, both of an active nature and as preparatory to further expansion in the future. The local Department of Agriculture, under its control, and in close association with the Imperial Department of Agriculture, gives promise of fulfilling the object for which it was designed. Its affiliation with the Imperial department is proving to be of the greatest assistance in its practical work, and the ready and courteous co-operation of the present head of that department is an asset of much value to its existence and usefulness.

23. That the peasant proprietary of the Colony, which has been its special feature for so many years, is holding its own, notwithstanding many adverse conditions of environment, is shown

* No. 628 of this Series: [Cd. 4964-2].
† No. 658 of this Series: [Cd. 4964-32].

by an analysis of the tax rolls for 1910, from which it appears that there were 8,217 holdings of land in the Colony under ten acres, divided as follows among the districts:—

St. George's	1,329
St. David's	1,160
St. Andrew's	2,292
St. Patrick's	1,069
St. Mark's	298
St. John's	810
Carriacou	1,259

24. 41,418 gallons of rum were manufactured in 1910, being 745 gallons more than in 1909. During the year the Excise Ordinance passed in 1908, on the lines indicated by Mr. J. M. Adams, the special officer sent out from England for that purpose, was brought into operation. The greatly improved system secured by that measure, together with the active measures taken by the present Colonial Treasurer, are producing satisfactory results on the revenue, as has been already mentioned in this report.

25. 157 liquor licences were issued in the year, as compared with 167 in 1909, the revenue from them being £3,182 as against £3,635 in that year. A radical change in the licensing system came into operation on 1st January, 1911, but comment upon it must be reserved for the current year's report.

26. 417 tons of ice were exported by the ice factory in addition to the local consumption; the export is valued at £531. The soap factory continued in active operation, but no return of the amount manufactured is available.

Shipping.

27. The total tonnage inwards and outwards of shipping in the last five years was as follows:—

	Tons.
1906	595,534
1907	513,902
1908	566,245
1909	586,074
1910	590,451

As will be seen, it varies little in volume from year to year. The bulk of it is steam tonnage, 568,902 of the total in 1910 being steamers. The number of small vessels on the local register at end of the year was 85, with 1,217 tons.

LEGISLATION.

28. Nineteen Ordinances were enacted in 1910, the most important of them being, (1) to control more fully the importation and use of firearms, (2) to provide against the spreading of the disease called ankylostomiasis, (3) to make better provision for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and (4) to regulate and control

bakehouses, slaughter-houses, and aërated water factories. The Liquor Licences Ordinance did not commence to operate until 1st January, 1911.

EDUCATION.

29. *Primary.*—The Primary Education law recognises four classes of schools, Industrial, Combined, Lower Division, and Infant. There are as yet no schools of the first class, and the existing schools are 30 Combined, 10 Lower Division, and 6 Infant. Nine of these 46 schools are owned and maintained entirely by the Government; the remainder are Grant-in-Aid Schools, 21 being Roman Catholic, 10 Anglican, 4 Wesleyan, and 2 Church of Scotland. The total expenditure in 1910, was £4,968, of which the Government contribution amounted to £4,920, as the Government practically support the schools. The number on the roll was 9,724, and the average attendance, 4,594.

30. *Secondary.*—A temporary boys' school was maintained during 1910 by the Board of Secondary Education, and a further step towards the new school was taken by the purchase by Government of suitable premises in St. George's, the reconstruction and outfit of which were at once put in hand, and the school has been opened under most favourable conditions in the current year. The girls' school buildings were put into thorough repair, and in the present year arrangements are being completed for its opening in January, 1912.

31. The St. Joseph's Convent School, which receives a Government grant of £100 per annum, continued its satisfactory work in 1910. The daily average attendance was 63, and the total expenditure, £327. The daily average at the temporary boys' school was 25·6.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

32. *Colony Hospital.*—1,031 patients were treated in 1910, as compared with 843 in 1909. Of these 627 were cured, 298 relieved, and 37 died. The daily average was 85, and the cost per patient £19 6*s.* 7*d.* 1,917 patients were attended to in the out-patient department, as compared with 1,575 in 1909.

33. *Yaws Hospital.*—431 cases were treated, as against 421 in 1909, and 360 were discharged cured. The daily average was 70, and the cost per head was £11 8*s.* 1*d.*

34. *St. Andrew's District Hospital.*—The number treated was 174, of whom 144 were cured, and 16 relieved. The daily average was 10·4, and the cost per patient £36 1*s.*, which is nearly twice as much as at the Colony Hospital and about £11 more than at the Carriacou Hospital. 10,326 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, and the receipts thereat amounted to £161.

35. *Carriacou District Hospital.*—282 patients were treated, of whom 230 were cured and 28 relieved. The daily average was 23·4, and the cost per patient was £25 1*s.* 9*d.* 4,778 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary.

36. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The number under treatment during 1910 was 170,—males 85, females 85; and the daily average was 135·23. 31 cases were admitted, all from Grenada, and 11 died; 25 were discharged. The cost per patient was £18 13*s.* 3*d.*

37. *Poor Asylum.*—There is accommodation for 58 inmates, and the daily average in 1910 was 54. There were 30 admissions, 19 deaths, and 12 who left of their own accord; the cost per patient was £10 2*s.* 2¼*d.*

38. *Savings Bank.*—£22,962 was at credit of 1,809 depositors at the end of the year, being an average of £12 13*s.* 10*d.* apiece; ten years ago this average was £8 5*s.* 5*d.* £20,000 of the funds were invested, and this has been increased by £2,000 since the end of the year.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

39. *Police.*—Mr. P. A. Ongley, the Chief of Police, retired on pension in March, 1910, and his successor, Major A. E. Capell, D.S.O., assumed his duties in October. The discipline of the force was fairly well maintained, and the 1909 musketry regulations were adopted.

40. *Prisons.*—No convicts were received from St. Lucia or St. Vincent, and there were 306 committals from Grenada, giving a daily average of 49·40, the lowest for eight years. The cost per prisoner was £31 13*s.* 10*d.*, the increase since 1908 being due to the small number in prison; in that year the cost per head was only £19 12*s.* 6*d.* The prison administration is very satisfactory, and discipline well maintained.

41. *Criminal Statistics.*—The Acting Attorney-General reports that "there has been an increase of crime during the year 1910, except in the case of prædial larceny. I am aware, however, of no special cause for this increase, and am of opinion that it indicates no change in the character of the inhabitants of the Colony as a law-abiding people. There were two cases of homicide. One was a murder of a concubine, attended with brutal circumstances. In the other case a woman was convicted of the offence of causing the death of her child by negligence. There were no other cases of importance."

VITAL STATISTICS.

42. According to the usual estimate, based on the natural increase only, the population of the Colony at 31st December, 1910, was 75,254. At the Census taken in the current year the population enumerated was 66,750, so that the loss by emigration, of which no reliable returns have hitherto been available, is very

marked. Steps have been taken to secure adequate returns of the movement of the people in future dating from the Census day in 1911.

43. The birth-rate in 1910 was 34·93 per thousand of the mean estimated population, and the death-rate was 20·02. The death-rate increased from 18·82 in 1909 chiefly on account of an epidemic of whooping-cough, which was responsible for 91 deaths among children.

44. The rainfall for the year was above the average, 94·15 inches being recorded at Richmond Hill, in the south of the Island—the highest previous record there being in 1896, when 99·94 inches were recorded. The principal meteorological statistics for the year are as follows:—

	Inches.
Rainfall:—	
North of Grenada (Sauteurs)	70·14
Centre of Grenada (Grand Etang)... ...	186·88
South of Grenada (Richmond Hill) ...	94·15
Carriacou (for ten months only)	49·89
At Richmond Hill Station:—	
Mean pressure	29·962
Maximum temperature (October)	90°
Minimum temperature (February to April)	69°
Relative humidity, 6 p.m.	77·4
Days of rain	268

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

44. The Post Office business in 1910 may be summarised as follows:—

Letters and post-cards	551,800
Newspapers, books, &c.	193,085
Parcels	7,802
Registered and insured letters...	12,364
Money and postal orders issued and paid ...	£27,878

45. The use of British postal orders steadily increases, the amount issued and paid in 1910 being £4,627. The "cash on delivery" service with the United Kingdom is also being more and more used.

46. The Grenada emigrants on the Panama Canal Zone remitted through the Post Office £5,932 to the Colony—the returns of the three preceding years being:—

	£
1907	6,235
1908	7,475
1909	6,191

47. The telephone system worked satisfactorily in 1910, and the number of subscribers increased. The revenue of the department was £1,800, and its expenditure (including charges on the loan for the initial cost) was £1,694.

GENERAL REMARKS.

48. The feelings of the loyal inhabitants of the Colony were deeply stirred by the death of His Majesty King Edward VII; and the regret and sorrow displayed by all classes were tempered only by the knowledge that in our present Gracious Sovereign the lamented Monarch had a worthy successor, one too in whom the West Indies take a personal interest, arising from His Majesty's visits to these colonies in his earlier years.

49. Mr. Douglass Alexander, who for more than 18 years had been an honoured unofficial member of the Legislative Council, died in January, and the Council placed on record a suitable expression of the Colony's loss.

50. The Island was visited in March by the Royal Commissioners on Trade Relations between the West Indies and Canada, who duly held their inquiry in public.

51. In July, a committee, under the presidency of Chief Justice Johnstone, was appointed by the Governor to inquire into certain matters connected with the food supply and employment in the Colony. This committee has reported in the current year, and its recommendations are likely to prove of great use to the Government in the future development of the resources of the Colony.

52. At a public meeting on 26th September, presided over by the Governor, it was decided to take steps for the formation of a volunteer force, and the movement has in the current year taken definite shape by the enrolment of a corps in St. George's, which is rapidly improving in efficiency.

53. There is a distinct and wholesome tendency in the Grenada of the present day to take up other lines of industry than cocoa and nutmegs, the exclusive devotion to which in years gone by the writer has constantly inveighed against as opposed to the best interests of the community. It is hoped, by means of the Land Settlement Scheme and other procedure now being initiated, that a large portion of the agricultural lands may be diverted to annual crops and provisions, which are an absolute necessity if the ever-growing population is to be retained in comfort on the soil.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary,
Administering the Government.

Grenada,
31st October, 1911.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
675	St. Helena ...	1910
676	Gibraltar ...	"
677	Basutoland ...	1909–1910
678	Weihaiwei ...	1910
679	Gambia ...	"
680	Ashanti ...	"
681	Turks and Caicos Islands ...	"
682	Falkland Islands ...	"
683	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	"
684	Bahamas ...	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee ...	"
686	Malta ...	"
687	Imperial Institute ...	1910
688	Gold Coast ...	"
689	Fiji ...	"
690	Somaliland ...	"
691	Hong Kong ...	"
692	Nyasaland ...	1910–1911
693	Seychelles ...	1910
694	Sierra Leone ...	"
695	Southern Nigeria ...	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate ...	1910–1911
697	Swaziland ...	"
698	Barbados ...	1910–1911
699	Trinidad and Tobago ...	"
700	Mauritius ...	1910

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute ...	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji ...	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica ...	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon ...	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies ...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent ...	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei ...	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland ...	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 712.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1910-11.

(For Report for 1909-10, *see* No. 668.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
April, 1912.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
OLIVER AND BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1912.

[Cd. 6007—12.] *Price 3d.*

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	8
III.	Legislation	18
IV.	Education	14
V.	Government Institutions	19
VI.	Judicial	21
VII.	Vital Statistics	22
VIII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	23
IX.	General Observations	24
	Map.	

No. 712.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1909–10, *see* No. 668.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
31st January, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1910-11.

2. I regret the delay which has occurred in completing and forwarding this Report, but the reason is to be found in my absence from the Colony on leave (from which I returned this month) and the fact that His Honour the Chief Justice, who acted for me during that period, was, in addition to his other duties, so busy with the revision of the laws of the Colony that he was unable to undertake the compilation of the Annual Report.

I have, &c.,

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

(23538—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 85. 4/12. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1910-11.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and tables give the heads of revenue and expenditure and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1909-10 and 1910-11, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years 1906-7 to 1910-11:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in the Year 1909-10.			Amount collected in the Year 1910-11.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. Customs:												
Import...	10,767	2	1	12,226	12	8	1,459	10	7		—	
Export...	778	12	2	703	4	6	—			75	7	8
2. Port and Harbour Dues:												
Tonnage	584	15	9	522	13	9	—			62	2	0
Port	108	0	0	95	4	0	—			12	16	0
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:												
Licences—Liquor ...	457	0	0	500	15	0	43	15	0		—	
Do. —Other ...	1,150	1	1	1,271	19	3	121	18	2		—	
Excise	3,725	12	0	3,840	18	0	115	6	0		—	
Land and House Tax	3,112	8	1	3,177	8	0	64	19	11		—	
Income Tax	563	3	1	643	0	2	79	17	1		—	
Other Internal Revenue.	823	17	6	911	18	9	88	1	3		—	
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,207	13	3	1,252	11	11	44	18	8		—	
5. Post Office	1,615	10	3	1,449	2	5	—			166	7	10
6. Telephones	483	17	7	523	3	11	39	6	4		—	
7. Rent of Government Property.	40	11	2	35	19	3	—			4	11	11
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans.	1,548	16	8	1,590	9	2	41	12	6		—	
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	254	11	8	194	0	3	—			60	11	5
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands.	633	0	9	601	0	6	—			32	0	3
Total Local Revenue	27,854	13	1	29,540	1	6	2,099	5	6	413	17	1
11. Parliamentary Grant: In aid of Agricultural Department.	585	0	0	585	0	0	—				—	
Total General Revenue	28,439	13	1	30,125	1	6	2,099	5	6	413	17	1

Comparative Yearly Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates.	Expenditure 1909–1910.	Expenditure 1910–1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	820 15 0	887 15 0	67 0 0	—
2. Pensions	2,146 0 9	2,154 0 3	7 19 6	—
3. The Governor	1,148 4 6	1,611 9 6	463 5 0	—
4. Government Office	1,188 15 8	655 6 2	—	533 9 6
5. Treasury, and Customs ...	1,439 0 2	1,453 19 2	14 19 0	—
6. Audit Department	285 3 8	317 0 9	31 17 1	—
7. Legal Departments	1,914 18 3	2,100 3 2	185 4 11	—
8. Local Forces	156 5 9	212 2 8	55 16 11	—
9. Police, Prisons, Port, and Excise	3,266 2 9	3,183 6 1	—	82 16 8
10. Medical Department	1,765 2 3	1,943 16 8	178 14 5	—
11. Hospitals and Asylums ...	2,679 13 10	2,685 12 8	5 18 10	—
12. Poor Relief	662 9 10	646 8 9	—	16 1 1
13. Education	1,694 0 5	1,927 18 6	233 18 1	—
14. Post Office	1,157 1 8	1,212 11 0	55 9 4	—
15. Telephone Department ...	453 5 10	438 14 2	—	14 11 8
16. Miscellaneous	1,528 16 11	2,253 0 6	724 3 7	—
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department.	624 19 2	599 7 8	—	25 11 6
18. Public Works Department ...	564 8 3	610 4 3	45 16 0	—
19. Do. do. —Recurrent ...	2,900 11 5	2,522 0 1	—	378 11 4
20. Do. do. —Extraordinary	3,591 10 3	956 7 2	—	2,635 3 1
21. Agricultural Department ...	744 18 0	1,299 3 10	554 5 10	—
22. Southern Grenadines District	—	89 0 1	89 0 1	—
Total Local Expenditure ...	30,732 4 4	29,759 8 1	2,713 8 7	3,686 4 10
21A. Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds).	598 7 3	583 12 7	—	14 14 8
Total General Expenditure	31,330 11 7	30,343 0 8	2,713 8 7	3,700 19 6

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1906-7 to 1910-11.

Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	—	Total.	—	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1906–7	Local ... ... 24,723 Imperial Grant 1,308	26,031	Local ... ... 23,503 Imperial Grant 1,146	24,649
1907–8	Local ... ... 27,543 Imperial Grant 913	28,456	Local ... ... 23,508 Imperial Grant 1,145	24,653
1908–9	Local ... ... 30,810 Imperial Grant 585	31,395	Local ... ... 26,647 Imperial Grant 553	27,200
1909–10	Local ... ... 27,855 Imperial Grant 585	28,440	Local ... ... 30,732 Imperial Grant 598	31,330
1910–11	Local ... ... 29,540 Imperial Grant 585	30,125	Local ... ... 29,759 Imperial Grant 584	30,343

The financial year under discussion has in all respects been a more satisfactory one than the previous financial year, 1909-10. Whilst the estimated revenual receipts from local sources when framing the budget for 1910-11 were placed at £28,895, the actual revenue collected was £29,540, showing a surplus on Estimates of £645. The estimated expenditure of £28,878 was, from various causes, increased during the year to £29,759, showing an actual deficit on the year's working of £219. During the year defalcations to the amount of £682 were discovered in the Savings Bank accounts of the Revenue Officer of Georgetown District. As only £100 of this amount was covered by insurance against dishonesty, the Government were compelled to make good the difference, namely, £582. If it had not been for this unfortunate occurrence, instead of a deficit of £219 a surplus of £363 would have been shown. With few exceptions the expenditure was kept within the Estimates and in a number of instances savings were effected. During the year the following were some of the public works undertaken and brought to conclusion:—the construction of landing stages at the small towns of Barrouallie, Bequia, and Calliaqua; the reconstruction of the Police Station and the building of a Rest-Room at Bequia; the construction of a new kitchen to the Agricultural Superintendent's quarters. In addition the construction of a causeway over the Argyle River was commenced and also the reconstruction of the Georgetown Jetty, the latter at a total cost of £1,000, including charges for acquisition of the old remains from the Georgetown Wharf Company.

No changes in taxation took place during the year.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets on the 31st March, 1910, was £6,843. On the 31st March, 1911, the account showed an excess of £6,524.

In addition to the surplus of £6,524, the sum of £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruption of the Soufriere volcano in 1902-3, is invested in Trust Securities, and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any possible future disaster which may result from the violence of the elements.

There are also other funds of lesser importance showing assets to the Colony, some of which are extinguishable by time, while others, like the Graham Bequest Fund, the Alexander Fund, and the Thompson Home Fund are used only in respect of the interest they bear.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt—the last loan instalment having been repaid in May, 1910. There are municipal debts, extinguishable in 1913, amounting in the aggregate to £900 at date of writing, for which, in case of default, the Colony is ultimately responsible, and which constitute a first charge upon its revenues. There is little likelihood, however, of the Colony being called upon to pay any of this sum as the municipalities concerned are well able to bear the interest and repayments involved.

The Colony is similarly responsible for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which was at 31st March, 1911, £10,450, but against which amount, however, there is a Sinking Fund of £2,335. This loan is being steadily redeemed by borrowers at the rate of £750 per annum to the local Government, by whom annual payments are in turn made to the Imperial Treasury.

Currency.

Gold, British and American, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Kingstown are vested in a Board one-half of the members of which are elected by the rate-payers and the other half nominated by the Government.

The Chairman of the Board is annually elected by the members forming that body, but cannot in any circumstances be elected for more than two years in succession.

The small towns of the Colony, of which there are six, are controlled by wardens appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns during the last five years:—

REVENUE.

Town.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,708	1,706	1,695	1,736	1,711
Georgetown	105	108	118	113	142
Chateaubelair	34	34	35	33	35
Calliaqua	35	31	32	32	35
Barrouallie	40	45	38	37	41
Layou	18	19	20	26	21
Bequia	10	9	9	9	10

EXPENDITURE.

Town.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,698	1,758	1,790	1,778	1,813
Georgetown	102	108	109	126	151
Chateaubelair	28	28	27	21	31
Calliaqua	52	30	32	27	25
Barrouallie	34	31	41	20	27
Layou	12	9	24	17	13
Bequia	27	2	4	17	1

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at the 31st December, 1910, were as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	1,200	
Kingstown town improvement	100	
		1,300
Georgetown water supply		150
		£1,450

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony. They will be extinguished in 1912 and 1913.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value. 1909.	Value. 1910.
Class I.:—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	381	331
Biscuits	3,467	3,912
Butter	1,745	1,880
Coffee	309	399
Fish, salted, &c.	6,347	5,282
Flour, wheaten	9,487	8,934
Flour, other kinds	559	861
Oilmeal and cake	466	479
Pork, salted or cured	2,132	1,595
Rice	1,969	2,645
Salt	203	296
Spirits	937	972
Sugar, muscovado	378	287
Sugar, refined	667	768
Sugar, crystallized	877	327
Wine	700	750
Food and drink supplies, unenumerated ...	1,259	1,404
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	1,186	1,089
Class II.:—		
Manure	1,059	628
Petroleum oil	2,018	1,834
Timber and shingles	3,507	4,992
Class III.:—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas	16,931	20,832
Metal, manufactured	7,454	6,977
Boots and shoes	1,582	1,215
Cement	1,119	1,134
Rope, cordage, and canvas	739	1,131
Soap	1,551	1,744
Articles unenumerated, other than textiles or metal manufactures	3,400	3,688

EXPORTS.

The values of the principal exports are shown in the annexed table:—

Article.	1909. £	1910. £
Cassava starch	1,109	781
Whale oil	272	164
Turtle shell	515	176
Firewood	472	318
Cotton and cotton seed	23,218	42,094
Vegetables	2,485	1,756
Syrup	1,139	246
Sugar, crystallized	455	2,289
Sugar, muscovado	3,717	1,272
Pease	289	310
Molasses	656	2,076
Rum	160	nil
Ground-nuts	1,480	1,743
Live stock	4,870	5,034
Fresh fruit	48	40
Farine	229	100
Arrowroot	31,792	30,089
Cocoa	4,088	4,132

In the course of his annual report the Supervisor of Customs states as follows:—

"The total value of the imports amounted to £97,737 and the value of exports to £101,180, making the total trade of the Colony for the year £198,917.

"This is a decided increase on the figures for the previous year, imports being £9,927 and exports £12,482 more than for 1909, the total increase being £22,409.

"The import duty collected amounted to £11,955 2*s.* 10*d.*, and the export duty to £766 5*s.* 4*d.*, the total Customs duties for the year being £12,721 8*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with £11,859 received in 1909.

Imports.

"Imports from the United Kingdom amount to £43,254 and are £13,021 in excess of the figures for 1909.

"The value of the imports from British Colonies amounts to £31,688, being £11,338 less than for the previous year.

"Imports from foreign countries amounted to £22,794 in value, or £8,243 more than for 1909. £5,165 of this increase represents increased importations from the United States of America.

"The fact that the values of imports from the United Kingdom and from the United States of America have increased, while those from British Colonies have decreased to almost the same extent is easily accounted for, the explanation being that from 1st January, 1910, the 'country of origin' of goods imported has been furnished when passing goods through the Customs. Prior to that date goods imported from British Colonies were

shown as coming from those Colonies regardless of the 'country of origin.' Under the system now in force the direction of trade is being more accurately shown.

"The following table shows the increases under the various classes, as compared with last year:—

Year.	Class I. Live Animals, Food, &c.	Class II. Raw Materials.	Class III. Manufactured Articles.
	£	£	£
1910	39,916	11,651	46,171
1909	37,999	9,807	40,004
Increase ...	1,917	1,844	6,167

"Under Classes I. and II. the increases have been insignificant.

"Under Class III. Manufactured Articles, the increase has been under 'a. Textile' and 'c. Other Articles.' Under 'b. Metal' there has been a small decrease.

"The following is a list of articles the values of which have increased to an appreciable extent:—

Article.	Increase.
	£
Horses	562
Bread	445
Fish, pickled	621
Flour, other	301
Rice	676
Lumber, white pine	1,874
Shooks, &c.	651
Baling cloth	365
Textiles	3,773
Bank Notes	3,253

"The values of the following articles imported show a decrease during the year:—

Article.	Decrease.
	£
Flour, wheaten	553
Pork, salted	537
Sugar, crystallized	550
Manure	432
Lumber, pitch pine	659
Metal manufactures, unenumerated ...	871
Boots and shoes	367
Furniture	710

"Few of these items call for any comment.

"The increase in value of textiles points to increased circulation of money and a consequent greater purchasing power among all classes.

"Bank notes were principally new notes brought in to replace old ones withdrawn from circulation, and this increase may, therefore, be regarded as a fictitious one to a certain extent.

Exports.

"Exports to the United Kingdom amounted to £63,981, being £17,653 in excess of the figures for 1909.

"To British Colonies, the value of exports amounted to £35,306, or £5,080 less than for the previous year, while the value of exports to foreign countries was £1,893, as compared with £1,980 in 1909.

"The decrease in trade with British Colonies was principally with the West Indies.

"The following table shows the exports for 1909 and 1910 according to Classses:—

Year.	Class I. Live Animals, Food Supplies, &c.	Class II. Raw Materials.	Class III. Manufactured Articles.
	£	£	£
1909	52,212	24,760	11,725
1910	50,063	43,060	8,057

"From the above it will be seen that whilst there have been slight decreases under Classes I. and III. the increase in value of raw materials exported (Class II.) has been considerable

"The principal articles exported under Class I. were:—

	Value. £
Arrowroot	30,089
Cocoa	4,131
Live stock	5,424
Sugar, syrup, and molasses	5,883

"Under Class II. the principal articles of export were:—

	Value. £
Cotton, raw, Sea Island	37,237
Cotton, other	1,171
Cotton seed	3,684

"The values of these articles exported in 1909 were:—

	Value. £
Cotton, raw, Sea Island	20,684
Cotton, other	642
Cotton seed	1,893

"Of a total of £8,057, the value of exports under Class III., £6,530, represents specie sent away from the Colony. £5,930 of this was sent to other West Indian Colonies and £600 to the United Kingdom."

The total imports and exports for the five years 1906-7 to 1910 were:—

Imports.

Classes.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	32,000	38,864	41,484	37,999	39,916
II. Raw materials	12,268	11,175	14,168	9,807	11,650
III. Manufactured articles ...	33,740	46,515	58,061	40,004	46,171
Total	78,008	96,554	113,713	87,810	97,737

Exports.

Classes.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, &c.	46,393	45,972	46,433	52,213	50,063
II. Raw materials	21,899	36,120	33,060	24,760	43,060
III. Manufactured articles ...	15,463*	12,173†	15,246‡	11,725§	8,057¶
Total	83,755	94,265	94,739	88,698	101,180

* Includes £13,200 specie. ‡ Includes £12,855 specie.
† Includes £10,000 specie. § Includes £9,462 specie.
¶ Includes £6,530 specie.

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1906-7 to 1910 are given below:—

Imports.

—	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	27,126	36,280	45,260	30,232	43,254
British Colonies	32,870	42,436	48,388	43,027	31,688
Foreign Countries	18,012	17,839	20,065	14,551	22,794
Total	78,008	96,554	113,713	87,810	97,736

Exports.

—	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	39,878	52,718	54,444	46,328	63,981
British Colonies	43,184	40,535	37,758	40,386	35,306
Foreign Countries	695	1,012	2,537	1,984	1,893
Total	83,755	94,265	94,739	88,698	101,180

MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

The Central Cotton Ginnery was established by the Government in the year 1903-4, and is under the management of the Officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. This ginnery has been of great assistance in the development of the cotton industry. It is extremely improbable that the industry would without it have reached its present successful state. With a charge of 1*d.* per pound for ginning and baling in 1907-8, the accounts showed a balance in favour of the ginnery of about £600, in 1908-9 this had decreased to £365, while during the year under review the profits amounted to about £480.

The general revenue of the Colony benefits to the extent of £400 per annum from the profits of this institution.

The Agricultural Products Protection Ordinance of 1909, referred to in the Annual Report of last year, is successfully attaining the objects for which it was passed. This Ordinance aims at the suppression of cotton theft from the fields. Bound up in the general scheme of suppression contained in the Ordinance is the compulsory sale of small lots of seed cotton of anything less than 100 lbs. in weight to the Government Central Ginnery. Any amounts up to 4,000 lbs. weight of seed cotton, in the aggregate during one season, may also be sold by anyone to the Government Ginnery. This cotton is bought on a profit-sharing basis, laid down by Regulations made by the Governor in Council. The law, which came into force on the 1st January, 1910, is most popular amongst the small growers of cotton, and has given a tremendous impetus to cultivation of this product by peasants. Owing to its late promulgation the full effect of the law was not felt during the 1909-10 season, but it is pleasing to record that as a start £980 worth of cotton was purchased in this manner from peasants. The season under review showed a large augmentation in this account, slightly over £3,500 worth of cotton being purchased from peasants alone. There are three private ginneries in the Colony, the largest of which is situated in Kingstown and is fitted up with three gins.

About 13 tons of cotton seed were crushed by the disintegrator at the Government Ginnery for the purpose of manuring cotton lands. The price of lint during the year was good, reaching as high for some special bales as 26*d.* per pound. The average sale price was, however, from 17*d.* to 20*d.* for Sea Island cotton, while Marie Galante sold from 6*d.* to 10*d.* a pound.

The export in whale oil has again fallen to low figures, the export value being only £164, as against £272 in 1909-10, and £645 in 1908-9. This would seem to be a dying industry, owing, it is said, to the gradual reduction in the number of whales appearing in these waters. This is much to be deplored, as the islanders who carry on this industry can ill-afford to lose what has been at a certain season of the year one of their most remunerative employments.

Enquiries are at present being conducted into the possibility of creating a sponge industry in the Grenadines. Numerous species

of sponges are to be found there, some of which are said to be of a commercial value. If such an industry could be established the loss of the whaling industry would in a great degree be compensated for.

The turtling industry accounts for an export value of £176 as against £515 in 1909-10 and of £387 in 1908-9.

Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

It is pleasing to record a further increase in the amount of land under cultivation in cotton, as also a slightly improved yield of lint as compared with the two preceding years. So long as the average value of this product remains at 18*d*. per pound of lint it must constitute the staple crop of the Colony, although arrowroot at its present minimum price of 3*d*. per pound should prove a stout competitor for the honourable place. While arrowroot can be grown on any land where cotton is cultivable, on the contrary cotton cannot be raised on all lands where arrowroot can be cultivated, in fact its area of production is limited to the coastal lands. Thus it is unlikely that the one crop will ever be entirely forsaken for the other.

In the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Union, Canouan, and Mayreau, the common Marie Galante type of cotton is grown. It is cultivated as a perennial, and produces a short, coarse lint valued usually at from 8*d*. to 9*d*. per pound. The exports of this cotton during the past six years amounted in the aggregate to 166,576 lbs. weight, valued at £7,039. In several of the other islets, Bequia, Mustique, Battowia, and Balliceaux, the cultivation of Sea Island cotton has been taken up exclusively, and with very satisfactory results.

The table given below shows the acreage planted in Sea Island cotton together with the yield of lint and the average yield per acre during the past six years.

Crop Year.	Acreage Planted.	Weight of Lint in pounds.	Yield of Lint per acre in pounds.
1905–6	790	137,460	174
1906–7	1,533	286,275	175
1907–8	3,250	432,000	135
1908–9	3,000	372,000	124
1909–10	2,528	356,139	141
1910–11	3,587	561,526	156

The following figures are also interesting and instructive:—

Table showing the Quantity and Value of Cotton exported during the period from 1903-4 *to* 1910.

Year.	Sea Island Cotton.		All Cotton.	
	Weight.	Estimated Value.	Weight.	Estimated Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
1903–4...	Not known	—	43,392	794
1904–5...	77,814	3,890	126,178	4,494
1905–6...	121,174	6,059	138,150	7,674
1906–7...	225,632	16,922	263,036	18,169
1907–8...	388,833	29,162	427,819	30,787
1908	387,178	28,426	420,830	30,048
1909	330,936	20,684	350,186	21,325
1910	493,494	37,238	521,956	38,409

Arrowroot in export value reached a figure of £30,089 as compared with £31,792 in the preceding year. This crop is again becoming a source of attention to growers inside the Colony and of commercial attraction to buyers outside the Colony. The Arrowroot Growers and Exporters Association commenced their operations on the 1st December, 1910, and their method of working would indicate great beneficial results to the industry. In support of this it may be stated that whilst on the 1st December, 1910, the price of ordinary manufacturing arrowroot stood at $1\frac{7}{8}d.$ to $1\frac{15}{16}d.$ per pound, at date of writing the quotation for that article is $3\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound. It is also to be noted that stocks on hand are considerably lower than for a number of years gone by. It will be useful here to set out the objects of the Association. They are:—

(*a*) to promote and encourage the arrowroot industry in St. Vincent generally;

(*b*) to administer an Advertisement Fund to be created by means of a small tax of 6*d.* on every barrel of arrowroot exported from the Colony after the 1st December, 1910;

(*c*) to fix a moderate and reasonable minimum gross price, under which no arrowroot will be sold in the United Kingdom.

St. Vincent arrowroot is unrivalled in the manufacture of chocolate and for general starch purposes. The soil and climate of the Colony are apparently more suited to this cultivation than that of any of the other islands except, perhaps, Bermuda. That Colony's production, however, does not exceed one ton per annum.

Apart from that point of view, it is evident that the market for arrowroot is of such a limited nature that St. Vincent will by herself for many years to come be able to fully satisfy all the requirements of it.

Sugar continues to be grown chiefly in the Carib country estates, but the exportation figures indicate no increase in quantity. The only noticeable feature with regard to this crop is the increase in the amount of export of crystallized sugar showing a corresponding decrease in the export of muscovado sugar.

The cultivation of cocoa raises no enthusiasm in St. Vincent, and it seems conclusive that only certain favoured localities and spots are suitable for its growth. The export value figures are practically the same as last year, £4,132 for the year under review as compared with £4,088 in 1909-10.

During the last four months of the year under review there was a marked decrease in the number of deaths amongst stock from anthrax. This is due to the stringent and efficient measures of vaccination and burial of carcases which have been continuously carried out since that disease evinced its presence in the Colony in malignant form. Since the 1st April, 1911, up to the time of writing (ten months) only one case of death from anthrax has been discovered by the Government Veterinary Surgeon and that death took place in July. Thus seven months have elapsed without a single death amongst stock from the dread disease. Human anthrax has been unknown in the Colony for seven years. The time has come when the neighbouring colonies may well agree to recognise St. Vincent as free from the disease and accept stock from here, under certificate from the Government Veterinary Surgeon that they have been exported from a locality non-infected with anthrax and that the forage accompanying such stock has likewise come from a non-infected area. During the year an Ordinance has been passed making provision for compulsory vaccination of stock in areas where the disease may become epizootic.

In the course of his annual report the Agricultural Superintendent remarks as follows:—

"In last year's report it was mentioned that a set of modern agricultural implements had been obtained, and that an experiment had been started with them at Arnos Vale Estate in co-operation with Mr. G. R. Corea. The owner of the estate was so satisfied with the result of the experiment that he obtained a similar set of implements and worked them successfully in his cane and other fields.

"Seven other estates worked one or more modern implements, and an order for a comprehensive set was placed by the owners of another large group of estates. Where the implements were given a fair trial on a proper system the work performed was considered better than that obtained by manual labour, the cost was less, the labour saved.

"There appears no reason why modern implemental tillage should not be generally adopted on estates having suitable land. This would lead to at least a partial solution of the somewhat difficult labour problem."

Land Settlement and Crown Lands.

The sales during the year under the Land Settlement Scheme were 25 in all:—Rural lots, 10; house-spots, 10; and township lots, 5. In addition 51 acres of Crown land were sold out in small lots. Available Crown land consists of mountain lands, which are only suitable for small holdings for growing provisions and native produce.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands was £601, as against £633 in the previous year.

During the year, Union Island, slightly over 2,000 acres, one of the Grenadine Islands, was purchased from the owners for land settlement purposes for a sum of £5,000, defrayed from the Roads and Land Settlement Fund. Survey commenced in June, 1910, and at date of writing has been completed and allotment has commenced. During the year under review, pending survey, the peasants were allowed to rent such lands as they required. The Marie Galante cotton crop obtained was not up to the average owing to adverse weather conditions. Under the able and experienced guidance of Mr. Whitfield Smith, this scheme bids fair to rival in success the Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme (in the neighbouring Colony of Grenada), with which that same officer has been officially connected since its inception.

SHIPPING.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1909 and 1910, is appended, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping during the last five years. These figures do not include ships of war, of which four British visited the Colony during 1910:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1909.				1910.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	836	9,249	379	9,233	382	8,294	376	8,165
Venezuelan ...	1	16	1	16	1	200	1	200
Dutch	3	325	3	325	2	157	2	157
Totals ...	390	9,590	383	9,574	385	8,651	379	8,522

Steamers.

Nationality.	1909.				1910.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	100	145,532	100	145,532	93	128,899	93	128,899
Danish	4	6,383	4	6,383	5	7,973	5	7,973
Totals ...	104	151,915	104	151,915	98	136,872	98	136,872

Total Shipping for the past five years.

—	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	154,088	153,657	170,154	161,505	145,523
Outwards	154,070	152,321	169,829	161,489	145,394
Totals... ...	308,158	305,978	339,983	322,994	290,917

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirteen Ordinances were passed during the year 1910, of which the most important were The Public Health Ordinance and The Arrowroot (New Market Fund) Ordinance. The former is a comprehensive measure making better provision for the safeguarding of the public health than formerly existed, and was much needed. The latter provides for the collection of the small additional tax of 6*d*. per barrel of arrowroot exported from the Colony, which I have referred to above. Unless renewed, and there is every likelihood that it will be, this Ordinance will cease to be in effect on the 1st December, 1912.

Other Ordinances were:—

Explosives and Petroleum.
Telephone.
Appropriation.
Quarantine.
Cruelty to Animals.
Kingstown Board (Amendment).
Land and House Tax (Grenadines).
Census.
Supplementary Appropriation.
Bank Holidays.
Customs Duties.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1909-10 and 1910-11 are as follows:—

	1909-10.	1910-11.
Number of schools	27	28
Number on roll	4,620	4,552
Average attendance	2,222	2,260
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid ...	1,466	1,635

In September, 1908, the secondary school was reopened with a resident master, who is also inspector of primary schools of the

Colony. The necessity for this school was at once apparent by the manner in which the places for pupils were filled. The fees charged are £2 per term for each scholar, except those under ten years of age in the lowest form, for whom the fees are £1 6*s*. 8*d*. per term. But when two or more brothers in forms above the lowest attend there is a reduction made of 6*s*. 8*d*. for the second and 13*s*. 4*d*. for the third.

The attendance at the primary schools continues about the same.

The Agricultural School maintained an average of 15 pupils during the year. Special effort is being made to instruct pupils in the cultivation of cotton and its diseases—very few of the overseers on estates to-day having any technical or expert knowledge of this subject beyond what they have gained by practical experience since the introduction of the Sea Island plant into St. Vincent only seven years ago.

The 15 acres of land attached to the school is all fully worked up in various products, such as cotton, sugar, &c., by the boys themselves, while each pupil is allowed a small piece of ground as a vegetable garden, the produce of which may be disposed for his own benefit.

The small stock farm, which continued to be worked as an adjunct to the school, affords a valuable practical illustration of how stock should be kept and fed.

7.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 761 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 820 cases treated, as against a total of 760 in 1909-10.

The daily average was 57, as against 55·8, 60·7, and 55 in the previous three years.

The death-rate was 4·3 of the total cases.

Operations numbered 126 as against 203 in 1909-10.

The Medical Officer is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is set aside for the detention of male lunatics who are violent or manifest destructive tendencies. Other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the Pauper Asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is, by arrangement with that Government, sent to Grenada, but sometimes the asylum there has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were 19 cases under treatment during the year (6 being new admissions), of whom 6 were discharged cured and 1 died.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care in the Grenada Asylum was 25, at a cost of £454 to the Colony.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st of March, 1910, was 6; during the year there was 1 admission, leaving 7 inmates in the asylum at the end of the year.

Under a new Public Health Ordinance which was passed in 1910, compulsory segregation of pauper lepers is now provided for.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, at a considerable elevation, overlooking the town of Kingstown.

At the commencement of the year under review there were 89 inmates of the asylum, and the admissions and discharges during the year were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	22	20	42
Discharged	8	9	17
Died	12	11	23
Total	20	20	40

leaving 91 on the 31st March, 1911.

The total expenditure in 1910-11 was £994 on the pauper and leper asylums, including the cost of lunatics kept locally, as against £953 in 1909-10.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Savings Bank.

Appended is a statement of the working of the Savings Bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including Interest capitalised).
		£	£	£
1906	907	5,282	5,687	12,095
1907	1,010	7,629	6,757	13,247
1908	1,121	6,693	5,929	14,313
1909	1,063	6,624	7,371	13,869
1910	1,095	8,686	6,877	15,994

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

	At 31st December, 1909.	At 31st December, 1910.
	£	£
Kingstown	12,770	14,152
Georgetown	437	1,121
Chateaubelair ...	662	721
Total ...	£13,869	£15,994

The Government made a profit on the working of the Bank of £127 14*s*.

There was invested of Savings Bank funds at 31st December, 1910, the sum of £13,654.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The St. Vincent Police Force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, and 50 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates.

They are drilled and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles.

In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties in connection with excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges. The prison is worked entirely by the police save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs outside.

In Kingstown a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

Two hundred and eighty-nine persons were committed to prison in the year, of whom 177 were men, 96 women, and 16 juveniles. The daily average was 35·53, as against 38·36 in 1909-10.

The number of cases reported to the police in 1910-11 was 758; of these 77 were for offences against the person, 21 for prædial larceny, 123 for other offences against property, and 537 for other offences. Only 667 of the above cases were brought before a magisterial court.

The total number of persons brought before the magisterial courts was 1,265; of these 356 were for offences against the person, 95 for prædial larceny, 204 for other offences against property, 6 for offences against the Masters and Servants Act, 152 for offences against revenue laws, municipal, road, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, and 452 for other offences. These figures are inclusive of the cases reported by the police.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 865, as against 653 in 1909-10.

These convictions are classed as follows:—

For offences against the person	209
,, malicious injury to property	5
,, prædial larceny	72
,, other offences against property	134
,, offences against Revenue Acts	131
,, offences against the Masters and Servants Acts	1
,, other offences	313
Total	865

The convictions in the Supreme Court were 9 for offences against property and 6 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—

In the Inferior Courts	166
In the Supreme Court	6

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. The population on 2nd April, 1911, was 41,877.

The births registered in 1910-11 were 1,661 (831 males and 830 females), as against 1,687 in 1909-10; of these 967, or 58·21 per cent., were illegitimate.

Still-births were 87—32 legitimate and 55 illegitimate, the figures for the previous year being 32 and 56 respectively.

Marriages were 127—a decrease of 34 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1908–9.	1909–10.	1910–11.
Church of England	105	64	50
Church of Scotland	14	11	9
Wesleyan	68	65	60
Roman Catholic	18	21	7
Plymouth Brethren	—	—	1

The total registered deaths were 835, as against 831 in 1909-10, being 19·93 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 208, being 24·91 per cent. of the estimated population. The similar figure in 1909-10 was 191, or 22·98 per cent.

Appended is a table of the causes of death:—

General diseases (includes syphilis, 66, tubercle, 43; tetanus, 19; malarial fevers, 6; dysentery, 19)	197
Diseases of nervous system	23
,, circulatory system	71
,, respiratory system	47
,, digestive system	184
Parasites	54
Age	95
Still-born	87
Other diseases	77
Total	835

In the towns the authorities are realising more and more the importance of stricter sanitation, and are taking steps accordingly. In the villages, however, sanitary matters are still on a most primitive basis, although the Government, through their District Medical Officers, spare no pains to impress upon the population generally the necessity for care in this direction.

The rainfall for the year 1910-11 was 103·22 inches, as against 106·77 inches in 1909-10.

Rain fell on 264 days during the year.

The maximum fall in 24 hours was 4·81 inches on the 5th February.

May was the wettest month, with 15·33 inches. A good deal of damage was done to the roads during that month owing to the heavy rain, while the effect on the cotton crop was also somewhat disastrous.

March was the driest month, with 3·60 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 77° F. Maximum for the year was 79° F. (in October) and the minimum 75·8° F., which was experienced in April.

Except in August and September, when the atmosphere is uncomfortably hot, although not even in those months insalubrious, the climate may be regarded as most healthy for both Europeans and coloured persons. Malaria is hardly known, while yellow fever has proved itself to be a disease of the past. During the year there was a complete absence of all disease notifiable under the Inter-Colonial Sanitary Convention.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly mail service from and to England continued to be performed by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At Trinidad the mails are transferred into the inter-colonial ships, which call weekly at St. Vincent on regular days—one week with outward mails on the way round the islands, and the following week on the way to Trinidad with homeward mails. The service was carried on in a satisfactory manner.

The steamers of the Pickford and Black Line, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, while occasional calls were made by the steamers of the Direct and Quebec Steamship lines. The East Asiatic line of steamers from Copenhagen viâ London and the Danish West Indies also made occasional calls.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward District of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward District daily, and the Grenadines once a week.

The postal order system continues to grow in popularity, and its extension to the district towns has been accomplished.

The volume of work in the Post Office also continues to expand, which is a sure sign of the upward march of the Colony.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £523, including £265 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £439. The main installation is in Kingstown with branch lines all over the Island. The service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

During the year there has been no change in the Administrative Heads of Departments. The Administrator on two occasions paid visits to Grenada to consult the Governor-in-Chief on affairs of the Colony and was absent each time for about seven days. During his absence His Honour W. S. Shaw, Chief Justice, administered the Government.

The Colony's trade continues to expand and evidences of increasing prosperity are visible on every side. In this beautiful island —as in all the other West Indian Islands—material prosperity is dependent solely upon good crops, good prices, and good weather.

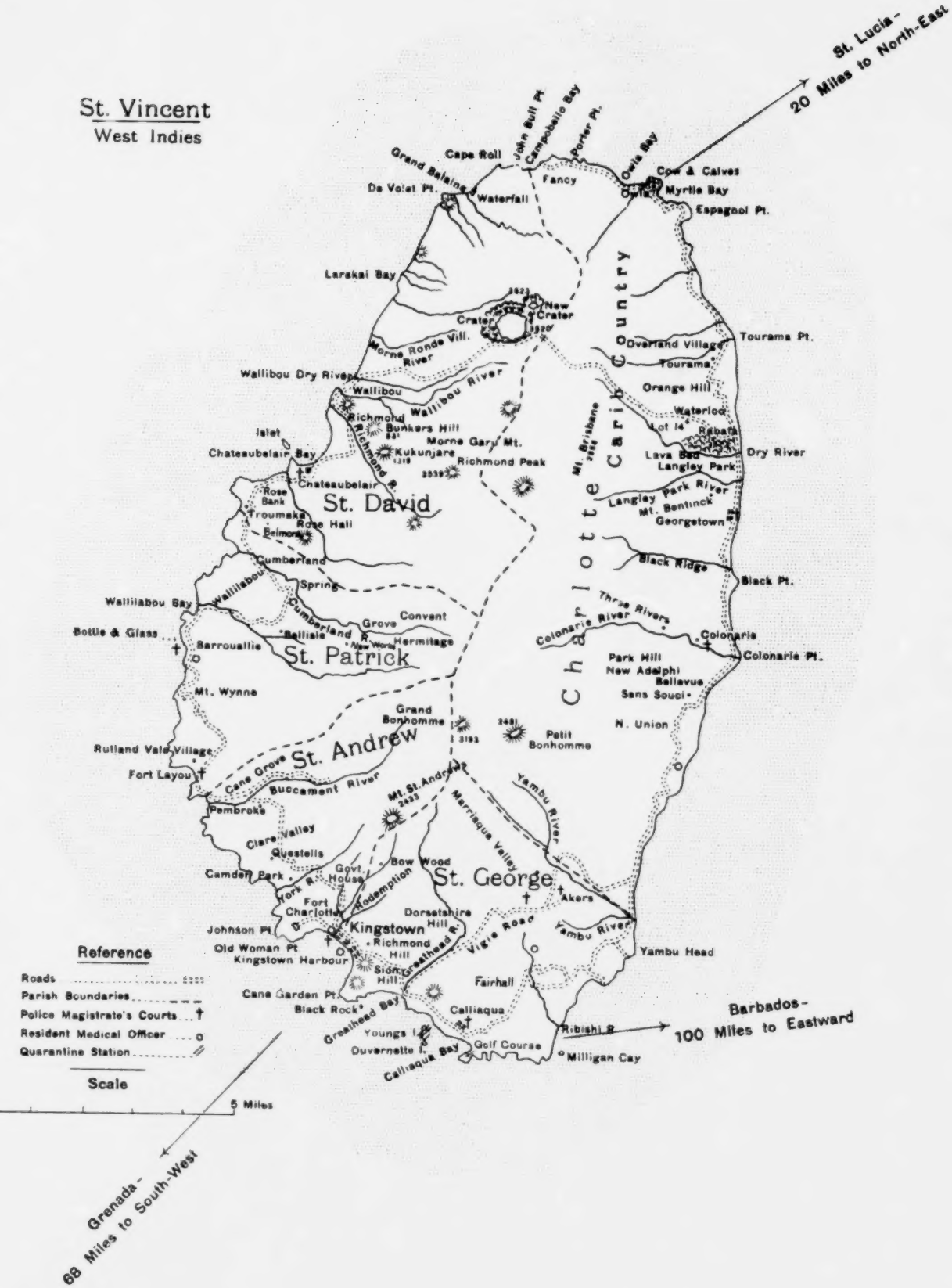
There are no manufacturing industries to compensate for any backsliding in any of those important economic constituents. St. Vincent has especially been unfortunate in recent years in finding disfavour with the elements. That she has strong recuperative power is, however, evident, and in this regard and in every sense her soil and climate cannot be too greatly praised.

The inhabitants of an island which produces the best cotton in the world and an unrivalled class of arrowroot can reasonably hope to attain a standard of comfort and prosperity comparable with that obtaining in any other British tropical possession.

A sketch map of the Colony is attached to this Report.

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

31st January, 1912.



Ordnance Survey Office, Soutl

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
684	Bahamas	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong	"
692	Nyasaland	1910–1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"
695	Southern Nigeria	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1910–1911
697	Swaziland	"
698	Barbados	"
699	Trinidad and Tobago	"
700	Mauritius	1910
701	Grenada	"
702	British Guiana	1910–1911
703	Jamaica	"
704	Northern Nigeria	"
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 713.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1910.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 672.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty

April, 1912.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
OLIVER AND BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1912.

[Cd. 6007—13.] *Price* 3*d*.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. Financial	4
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	9
III. Legislation	17
IV. Education	17
V. Government Institutions	18
VI. Judicial Statistics	21
VII. Vital Statistics	22
VIII. Postal and Telephone Services	23
IX. General Remarks	24
Sketch Map.	

No. 713.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 672.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
10th February, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to Your Excellency, for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Annual Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Lucia for the year 1910.

2. I regret that the preparation of this Report has been somewhat delayed, due to my having been administering the general Government of the Windward Islands during the latter half of last year and to great pressure of work since.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

(23681—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 85. 4/12. D & S. A 2

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1910.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The following statement gives the details of the revenue for the financial year 1910-11 as compared with the revenue for the preceding year:—

Heads of Revenue.	1910-11. £	s.	d.	1909-10. £	s.	d.
1. Customs	32,162	11	9	31,644	1	3
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	6,171	8	8	5,005	0	3
3. Licences, Excise, &c.—						
(*a*.) Licences—						
Retail Spirit, &c.	1,563	0	0	1,648	0	0
Distillery ...	100	0	0	100	0	0
Animals, Vehicles, and Guns ...	607	0	0	579	17	6
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boat, &c. ...	532	15	11	535	14	7
(*b*.) Excise—						
Duty on Rum ...	11,589	19	7	12,293	7	11
(*c*.) Road Tax	867	10	2	2,003	5	8
(*d*.) Stamp Duty—						
Various Revenue Services ...	480	13	7	441	7	5
(*e*.) Fines and forfeitures of Courts	356	9	6	—		
(*f*.) Revenue seizures and penalties ...	10	15	8	—		
(*g*.) Income Tax ...	832	9	2	—		
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	3,941	15	8	4,158	13	1
5. Post Office	1,304	7	0	1,195	8	5
6. Telephone	787	5	4	784	18	1
7. Rent of Government Property	810	9	6	797	12	0
8. Miscellaneous	115	5	6	1,008	13	1
9. Interest	1,411	15	2	1,399	16	5
10. Repayment of Loans ...	175	10	0	175	10	0
	£63,821	2	2	63,771	5	8
11. Part proceeds of Sales of Reclaimed Lands ...	—			119	18	2
12. Land Sales	745	0	3	1,348	15	1
Total Local Revenue	£64,566	2	5	65,239	18	11
13. Imperial Dept. of Agriculture—						
Grant-in-aid ...	500	0	0	500	0	0
Total Revenue	£65,066	2	5	65,739	18	11

The revenue for 1910-11 was less by £673 16*s*. 6*d*. than that for 1909-10, and was also £321 15*s* 2*d*. below the Estimate for the

year. The principal decreases occurred under Head 3, where the receipts from Excise—Duty on Rum, were £703 less than in the previous year, and those from Road Tax £1,136 less; under Head 8, where the decrease was £893; and under Head 12, where the decrease amounted to £604. As regards the decrease in the revenue from the duty on rum, a decrease which has continued during the past three years, the Treasurer states in his annual report that "besides an increase of the local price of rum in 1908 there is the fall in price of local products, and to these two contributory causes may be added emigration: in fact, there is less money to buy rum and fewer people to drink it."

The reduction in the revenue from Road Tax is due to the fact that the law imposing it was repealed by the Income Tax Ordinance No. 9 of 1910, and only one half-yearly payment was made instead of two as usual. Under the new Income Tax law the receipts within the year were £832, and if, for purpose of comparison, this sum be added to the amount received on account of Road Tax, the net decrease is shown to be only £304.

Under Head 8, Miscellaneous, the reduction in revenue is only apparent, and is due, partly, to rearrangement of the revenue estimate and partly to the fact that the value of certain public works stores was credited to this head in the previous year on the opening of an Unallocated Stores Account.

It may be useful to point out that the decrease, under Head 4, of Fees of Court, &c., is also only an apparent decrease and due, in a large measure, to the readjusting of the revenue heads of duties and fees received in stamps or cash by the Registrar, Sheriff, &c., the difference being accounted for under the sub-head Fines and Forfeitures of Courts.

The increases shown by the table call for no special comment, but it may be remarked that those under Head 2, Port, Harbour, &c., were due to continued activity in the coaling trade, while the increase under Head 5, Post Office, is accounted for by larger general sale of stamps.

The total revenue for the last five years, distinguishing the receipts from local sources from those from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture, has been as shown below:—

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1906-7.	Local	59,169	1	7			
	Imperial Grant ...	843	0	0			
					60,012	1	7
1907-8.	Local	66,636	1	1			
	Imperial Grant ...	715	0	0			
					67,351	1	1
1908-9.	Local	65,194	0	7			
	Imperial Grant ...	500	0	0			
					65,694	0	7
1909-10.	Local	65,239	18	11			
	Imperial Grant ...	500	0	0			
					65,739	18	11
1910-11.	Local	64,566	2	5			
	Imperial Grant ...	500	0	0			
					65,066	2	5

The number of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor, issued during the year ended the 31st March, 1911, as well as the revenue derived therefrom, is shown below:—

Description of Licence.	No. issued during quarter ended on				Revenue.		
	30th June, 1910.	30th September, 1910.	31st December, 1910.	31st March, 1911.	£	s.	d.
Wholesale Liquor ...	3	2	2	2	45	0	0
Retail Spirit	42	42	41	41	1,378	0	0
Bottle	2	2	2	2	80	0	0
Refreshment House ...	2	2	2	2	60	0	0
Hotel	1	1	1	1	6	0	0
Occasional	1	—	—	1	1	5	0
					1,570	5	0

The expenditure of the year 1910-11, under the Heads of the Estimates, compared with that of the preceding year, was as follows:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1910-11. £	s.	d.	1909-10. £	s.	d.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	9,398	15	2	9,390	12	6
2. Pensions	2,249	10	3	2,059	4	5
3. The Governor	2,276	5	7	3,137	5	10
4. Government Office ...	1,061	15	3			
5. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue Department	4,803	18	9	4,636	10	8
6. Post Office	1,976	13	10	1,955	0	0
7. Port and Marine Department	1,073	18	0	1,028	12	9
8. Audit Department ...	549	1	7	561	9	5
9. Legal Departments ...	4,071	0	1	4,218	17	2
10. Local Forces	670	18	2	820	1	4
11. Police	4,376	12	10	4,396	14	1
12. Prisons	1,498	14	6	1,541	2	5
13. Medical Department ...	3,203	15	6	3,505	17	11
14. Sanitation and Hygiene...	137	9	1	—		
15. Hospitals and Asylums ...	3,301	2	2	3,437	18	4
16. Charitable	514	3	7	572	12	10
17. Education	5,042	17	7	5,094	10	6
18. Ecclesiastical	1,600	0	0	1,600	0	0
19. Agriculture	861	1	5	1,114	0	9
20. Miscellaneous Services ...	2,650	3	0	2,416	12	9
21. Colonial Engineer's Department	3,025	4	8	3,001	10	2

Heads of Expenditure.	1910-11. £	s.	d.	1909-10. £	s.	d.
22. Public Works Recurrent	7,529	6	6	7,237	1	11
23. Public Works Extraordinary	5,030	15	3	2,322	6	0
Total Local Expenditure	66,903	2	9	64,048	1	9
19a. Agriculture (from Imperial funds)	385	1	11	398	3	11
Total Expenditure ...	£67,288	4	8	64,446	5	8

The Estimates of 1911-12 contemplated an excess, to be met from the surplus funds of the Colony, of expenditure over revenue of £2,254 9*s.* 3*d.*, the excess being accounted for, chiefly, by the provision of £1,800 towards the cost of the new lunatic asylum at La Toc, and the provision of an instalment of the estimated cost of £800 of the bridge over the Troumassee River. During the course of the year, however, it was found necessary to proceed more rapidly with the construction of the lunatic asylum and the expenditure on the work amounted to £2,492. In addition, a further sum of £482 had to be spent on the repair of roads which were damaged by the excessive rains in February, 1911.

The actual excess of expenditure over revenue came to £2,222, but would have been much greater were it not that it was found possible to effect savings on other services for which provision had been made under the heads of Public Works.

As a result of the year's transactions the Colony's surplus was reduced by £2,337 0*s.* 4*d.* to £25,014 16*s.* 9*d.* at the 31st March, 1911. The Public Buildings Insurance Fund at the same date stood at £3,895 1*s.* 4*d.*, making a total surplus of £28,909 18*s.* 1*d.*, of which £24,685 12*s* 0*d.* is invested in securities in England, and £1,500 is on deposit in the local branch of the Colonial Bank.

The following figures show the expenditure of the Colony for the last completed five years, both on account of local expenditure and from the Imperial Grant-in-Aid of Agriculture:—

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1906-7.	Local	59,567	15	6			
	Imperial Grant ...	726	3	4			
					60,293	18	10
1907-8.	Local	64,152	3	11			
	Imperial Grant ...	687	11	7			
					64,839	15	6
1908-9.	Local	64,433	14	4			
	Imperial Grant ...	604	3	10			
					65,037	18	2
1909-10.	Local	64,048	1	9			
	Imperial Grant ...	398	3	11			
					64,446	5	8

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1910-11.	Local	66,903	2	9			
	Imperial Grant ...	385	1	11			
					67,288	4	8

The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1911, amounted to £146,929 11*s.* 0*d.*, apportioned as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Colony's share—						
Castries Harbour Loan	50,850	0	0			
Central Factory ...	8,000	0	0			
Public Works	50,579	11	0			
Water-Works	12,000	0	0			
Immigration	8,500	0	0	129,929	11	0
Castries Town Board's share				17,000	0	0
				£146,929	11	0

In addition to the £17,000, the Castries Town Board is also responsible for a further sum of £550, being a portion of the £50,579 11*s.* 0*d.* loan for public works which was allotted to it.

The invested accumulated sinking fund for the redemption of the loans amounts to £17,718 0*s.* 10*d.*, making the net liability £129,211 10*s.* 2*d.*

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper.

Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents. in commercial accounts, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.*

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates and dues, market dues and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the towns and villages, the amount of their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1911, and the balance standing to their credit at the same date:—

Town or Village.	1906-7.		1907-8.		1908-9.		1909-10.		1910-11.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1911.	Credit Balance at 31st March, 1911.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries ...	5,217	5,601	5,470	5,404	5,350	5,189	5,006	5,508	6,301	5,990	18,668	334
Soufrière ...	508	446	529	532	557	516	504	504	527	557	1,600	149
Vieux Fort ...	165	131	177	183	172	219	168	152	177	138	—	110
Laborie ...	66	54	69	84	69	49	71	43	81	55	—	109
Canaries ...	38	28	38	32	39	112	52	48	43	46	—	56
Dennery ...	140	100	126	119	130	123	133	172	153	113	—	269
Gros Islet ...	104	93	103	99	105	97	109	84	100	79	—	246
Anse la Raye ...	66	46	70	83	78	49	62	50	84	49	—	144
Choiseul ...	44	17	45	13	45	144	43	21	43	43	—	34
Micoud... ...	73	61	74	87	77	57	74	61	74	96	—	41

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during the years 1910 and 1909:—

	1910.	1909.
Class I.—	£	£
Ale and beer	962	1,019
Bacon and hams	640	736
Beans and pease	1,062	1,155
Biscuits, common and fancy... ...	1,548	1,444
Butter	1,934	2,057
Cattle	1,698	2,162
Cheese	546	700
Coffee	1,748	1,474
Confectionery	640	971
Corn, maize, and cornmeal	956	930
Fish, all kinds	11,799	8,823
Flour, wheaten	20,638	19,657
Fruit and vegetables	1,359	1,513
Lard and its compounds	1,580	1,308
Meat: salted, pickled, and preserved	3,128	3,180
Oats	1,000	1,500
Oleomargarine	2,419	2,478
Oils:		
Cotton Seed	5,089	3,832
Lard	773	1,018
Preserves	805	769
Rice	3,009	2,479
Sugar	545	489
Tobacco:		
Cigars and cigarettes	897	731
Manufactured	1,470	1,576
Unmanufactured	1,074	1,239

	1910.	1909.
Class I.—	£	£
Whisky	1,383	1,295
Wines, all kinds	2,138	2,766
Class II.—		
Coal	100,168	100,112
Oil, petroleum	1,784	1,971
Oil, paint and engine	525	366
Patent Fuel	1,145	408
Pitch Pine	2,863	1,546
White Pine	1,065	748
Class III.—		
Bags	1,347	1,376
Boots and shoes	4,789	4,783
Candles, tallow and sperm	529	763
Cement	1,321	687
Chemicals and acids	672	1,064
Chinaware, earthenware, &c. ...	847	856
Clothing	1,742	568
Cottons and woollens	24,668	26,497
Furniture	1,171	2,415
Glassware and glass bottles	1,221	1,399
Haberdashery	5,342	6,395
Hardware	4,032	4,302
Hats and bonnets	1,708	2,241
Implements, agricultural	367	1,472
Iron, galvanised	1,196	2,118
Machinery	10,545	2,100
Manure	6,634	4,807
Medicines	2,137	2,125
Paints, dyes and varnishes	709	660
Paper, all kinds	788	530
Perfumery, &c.	699	849
Rope and cordage, including twine...	856	975
Saddlery and harness	508	595
Silks and satins	723	538
Soap, common	2,624	2,330
Stationery	925	1,013
Tinware	698	303

The total value of the imports in 1910 was £277,208, an increase of £10,980 as compared with the previous year. There were no such changes or variations as to call for special comment.

From the 1st January, 1910, importers were required to state on the bills of entry the country of origin of goods imported. While the statements thus obtained cannot be regarded as absolutely correct, they nevertheless enable the value of the Colony's trade with other places to be more accurately gauged than has been possible in the past. The following comparative table of the imports, arranged by classes, may therefore be of interest:—

Class I.—Food, Drink, Tobacco, and Live Animals for Food.

		1909. £	1910. £
United Kingdom ...	...	9,491	6,897
British Possessions	...	20,926	22,863
Foreign Countries	...	40,620	44,428
		£71,037	£74,188

Class II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured

		1909. £	1910. £
United Kingdom ...	...	17,080	1,650
British Possessions	...	1,099	607
Foreign Countries	...	87,831	106,008
		£106,010	£108,265

Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.

		1909. £	1910. £
United Kingdom ...	...	57,915	68,201
British Possessions	...	7,062	4,059
Foreign Countries	...	16,388	15,803
		£81,365	£88,063

Class IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).

		1909. £	1910. £
United Kingdom ...	...	305	—
British Possessions	...	453	470
Foreign Countries	...	668	447
Parcel Post ...	...	2,890	2,977
		£4,316	£3,894

Class V.—Bullion and Specie.

		1909. £	1910. £
United Kingdom ...	...	300	2,800
British Possessions	...	3,200	—
		£3,500	£2,800

The differences between the years 1909 and 1910 in the imports from the United Kingdom, shown under Class II.—Raw Materials, are explained by the fact that in the former year 11,570 tons of coal, valued at £16,291, were included. The increase under this head of £18,177 in 1910 of imports from Foreign Countries, is also due to coal, more of that commodity having been imported from the United States of America.

The increase under Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured, shown in the imports from the United Kingdom, is partly due to the new form of entry, but principally to increased importations of machinery (£8,592), woollens (£600), boots and shoes (£300), and clothing (£1,074). Decreases occurred, however, in haberdashery (£735), and in hats and bonnets (£378).

Excluding importations by parcel post in both years, the following figures give the proportion, compared with 1909, of the total imports from the—

	1910. Percentage.	1909. Percentage.
United Kingdom ...	... 29·99	32·4
British Possessions	... 10·26	12·6
Foreign Countries	... 59·75	55·0

In both years bunker coal accounted for 69 per cent. of the importations from foreign countries.

The following table exhibits the value of the imports of the Colony for the last five calendar years:—

	£
1906	242,470
1907	310,309
1908	289,775
1909	266,228
1910	277,208

EXPORTS.

The value of the exports during 1910 was £238,955. Of this amount, £116,307 was the value of domestic produce; £116,861 that of bunker coal; and the balance, £5,987, represented the value of exports which were the produce or manufactures of other places than St. Lucia.

Of the domestic products exported, 92 per cent. is represented by sugar and cocoa, valued respectively at £65,747 and £40,935. The principal articles of export in 1910, compared with those of 1909, were as follows:—

	1910. £	1909. £
Class I.—		
Cocoa	40,937	54,275
Fruit, all kinds	800	1,151
Honey	402	479
Lime juice	320	297
Rum	391	2,324
Sugar:		
Usine	64,988	59,628
Muscovado	760	1,140
Molasses	1,914	1,104

Class II.—	1910. £	1909. £
Cotton, raw	1,302	432
Fuel, wood	682	651
Hides and skins	926	962
Logwood	926	384
Pimento logs, &c.	546	489

The decrease in the export of cocoa is more apparent than real, the fact being that the figures for 1909 included a considerable amount of the crop of the previous year.

As regards the decrease in the value of the export of rum, it has to be noted that in 1909 the experiment was tried of shipping rum to Canada, and that in 1910 this was found unprofitable owing to the low prices obtainable; less rum has since been manufactured both for this and other reasons.

The direction of the export trade in domestic products during the last two years is shown below:—

	1910. Percentage.	1909. Percentage.
To United Kingdom	69·0	66·4
British Colonies	12·0	10·4
Foreign Countries ...	19·0	23·2

The value of the total exports of the Colony during the last five years was as follows:

	£
1906	220,313
1907	264,401
1908	252,668
1909	250,674
1910	238,955

One of the outstanding results of requiring importers to state on bills of entry the country in which goods originated is the large apparent increase in the value of imports from Canada, which totalled £14,798 as compared with £6,321 in the previous year. And the value of the total trade, *i.e.*, the value of domestic products interchanged between Canada and St. Lucia, showed a corresponding increase, the figures for 1909 being £15,449, rising in 1910 to £26,258.

Coaling Trade.

The satisfactory conditions which characterized the coaling business in 1909 were maintained in 1910, as shown by the figures hereunder of the quantity and value of the coal shipped during the last five years:—

Year.	Tons.	£
1906	86,733	105,696
1907	118,503	142,381
1908	85,460	102,288
1909	96,462	115,754
1910	97,384	116,861

This business affords steady and remunerative employment to a large number of carriers, both male and female, by whom the ships are discharged and loaded.

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The sulphur deposits at Ventine, in the Soufrière District, were worked, but the quantity obtained was so small that none was exported during the year. In 1909 29½ tons were exported, the largest amount for some years. As has been stated in previous reports, it is very improbable that the industry will ever become important.

The sugar factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery, and the distilleries at Cul-de-Sac and Troumassee were all working during the year. The following figures show the quantities of rum distilled, consumed, and exported during the last five years:—

Year.	Distilled.	Consumed.	Exported.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
1906	49,553	46,950	6,319
1907	57,213	51,453	3,652
1908	83,532	51,216	23,440
1909	72,633	46,949	27,883
1910	49,256	42,456	4,692

Reference has already been made to the cause which led to the decrease in the export of rum during the year under review.

Fishing is carried on around the coasts of the island, but the quantity caught is not more than sufficient to supply the local demand; hence, there is little scope for the establishment of an industry in canning and preserving.

Agricultural Industries.

The principal products of the Colony are sugar and cocoa, but as there are no reliable statistics available of the area of each under cultivation, the value of the industries can be estimated only by the quantities exported. The quantity and value of these exports during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Cocoa.		Sugar: Usine.		Other sugar, Muscovado, and products thereof.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	Bags of 200 lb.	£	Tons.	£	£
1906	7,896	41,538	5,441	51,690	1,444
1907	8,598	47,292	5,302	53,020	1,432
1908	6,775	30,488	4,881	53,691	2,813
1909	10,850	54,275	5,360	59,623	2,265
1910	8,187	40,935	5,199	64,988	2,674

The quantity of cocoa produced from year to year does not exhibit that rapidity of increase that might be reasonably expected from the area of land to be seen employed in its cultivation, and it is more than probable that this is owing to the lack of attention bestowed by the small growers on their cocoa plots and to their ignorance, despite the efforts made by the officers of the Agricultural Department to teach them, of proper cultural methods. The following summary of figures recently prepared by the Agricultural Superintendent shows that it has taken twenty years for the quantity of cocoa exported to double itself.

Quinquennial periods.	Annual average export. (Bags of 200 lb.)
1891-1895	4,581
1896-1900	5,070
1901-1905	7,094
1906-1910	9,434

The production of lime juice is steadily increasing, the value of the export in 1910 being £320, the value in 1909 and 1908 being, respectively, £297 and £126. Honey did not do quite so well, the figures being, for 1910 £402, and for 1909 £479. Cotton, on the contrary, showed a remarkable increase, the value of the output being declared at £1,302, as compared with £432 in the year previous. The cotton industry is one, however, which, for various reasons, does not find favour in the planting community, and that this is so is borne out by the fact that cotton cultivation is being largely given up by those who were engaged in it during the year under report.

The expenditure in connection with the Botanic Station and special agricultural services amounted to £638 15*s.* 1*d.*, of which £385 1*s.* 11*d.* was paid from the Imperial grant-in-aid. Receipts from the sale of plants, seeds, &c., amounted to £30 18*s.* 3*d.*

The number of plants distributed by the Agricultural Department during the year amounted to 54,929, the major portion consisting of limes and canes, being raised in the nurseries at the Union Experimental Station.

The average number of pupils maintained at the Agricultural School at Union during 1910-11 was 8·5, the same average for the previous year being 18. The decrease is due to the discontinuance of the system, commenced in 1901, of boarding and lodging pupils at the station; a more detailed account of this change will be given in the next annual report. The expenditure on the school in 1910-11, exclusive of the emoluments of the officer-in-charge, which appear under the expenditure on the Botanic Station, was £507 8*s.* 3*d.* The receipts from the sale of plants, produce, and live-stock were £148 11*s.* 11*d.*, and the value of the ground provisions, &c., used at the school was £25 11*s.* 3*d.*

The number of applications for the purchase of Crown Lands, received in 1910, numbered 72, the acreage of which was 692, as compared with 121 applications for 1,609 acres in 1909. But the applications in the latter year included two applications in

respect of 407 acres, and three in respect of 200 acres. Surveys to the number of 87 were executed during the year, of which 55 were re-surveys, and the total alienations amounted to 1,042 acres; 24 Crown grants were issued, and 57 remained unissued at the close of the year. Economic plants, comprising coffee, cocoa, limes, nutmegs, cinnamon, &c., were distributed to Crown Lands purchasers, free of cost, to the number of 5,406, more than double the number issued in the year previous.

The Crown traces, Colombette to Canaries, Esperance to La Borne, and Ravine Soufre were completed during the year; the Raillon trace, which leaves the main road between Dennery and Micoud at the crossing of the Praslin River and extends upwards and along the southern side of the valley of that name for a distance of nearly $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles, was begun, and considerable progress made with its construction.

Shipping.

The number of steam and sailing vessels that entered and cleared at Port Castries was precisely the same as in 1907, which was the highest ever recorded in the Colony. The number of steam vessels entered and cleared in the latter year was 45 above the number in 1910, but the tonnage in 1910 was 165,414 in excess of 1907, and is the highest on record. The port was also visited by seven ships of war and two yachts.

A new lighthouse with a powerful light is being erected at Moule-a-Chique, the southerly extremity of the island, for the greater convenience of shipping coming from that direction.

The outlook in regard to the trade of the port generally is encouraging. Notwithstanding the increasing competition in the neighbouring Colonies the coaling trade is gradually extending, owing to the facilities afforded by the wharves for rapid bunkering and watering.

The tables hereunder summarise the statistics relating to shipping for the last five years:—

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1906 ...	534	931,449	246	7,310	83	124,024	38	3,749
1907 ...	615	1,169,037	215	7,683	101	136,920	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	957,866	203	7,340	90	126,337	38	2 267
1909 ...	518	1,027,837	201	6,003	127	220,961	45	2,731
1910 ...	557	1,143,092	228	7,437	135	241,808	40	2,712

VESSELS CLEARED.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1906 ...	534	931,449	252	7,541	84	125,965	37	3,696
1907 ...	614	1,166,991	216	7,606	100	134,803	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	958,607	201	7,387	89	124,520	38	2,267
1909 ...	517	1,025,251	197	5,574	129	224,895	44	2,662
1910 ...	559	1,146,983	228	7,928	134	239,687	40	2,712

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of the year there were 13 vessels, with a tonnage of 616, on the register.

III.—LEGISLATION.

During the year 1910 eleven Ordinances were passed, the most important measure being the Income Tax Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The following figures relating to primary education in 1909 and 1910 have been furnished by the Inspector of Schools:—

	1909.	1910.
Number of Schools	57	53
Number on Rolls	7,674	7,259
Average attendance	4,866	4,625
Number examined	6,629	6,745
Government Grant-in-Aid ...	£3,862	£3,942

The number of schools open at the close of the year was 53 (as compared with 57 in 1909), of which 50 were Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 of the East Indian Mission. In connection with the decreases shown by the figures, it may be well that it should be pointed out that there is no relation between the decrease in the number of schools and the decrease in average attendance. The districts in which the number of schools has been reduced through the amalgamation of boys' and girls' schools, or by the absorbing of small country schools into their neighbours, are among those in which the attendance has kept up best. The heaviest losses occurred in those districts where large numbers of children have to go to school from scattered hamlets with, very often, several unbridged rivers to cross. The exceptionally heavy and prolonged rains of 1910 ending, as they did, with floods, in

which ten persons, among whom were five school children, lost their lives, account chiefly for the decrease in the attendance.

During the year the third annual examination in agriculture of those schools possessing school-gardens was carried out by the schoolmaster attached to the Agricultural School at Union. The schools so examined numbered eighteen, and the Agricultural Superintendent, in forwarding the examiner's report, states:—"Although there is ample room for improvement in the methods now adopted for training the children to acquire a taste for nature-study in relation to plants and the soil, the work of the past three years is distinctly encouraging, and the results of the year's work under review indicate that some advancement has been made, and that the managers and teachers are taking an interest in this important branch of work in the juvenile schools."

There are two schools of secondary education—the St. Mary's College for boys, which receives a Government grant of £400 per annum, and the St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, which receives a grant of £150. At the Cambridge Local Examination held in December, 1910, all of the 18 candidates presented by the College succeeded in passing. From the St. Joseph's Convent School 13 candidates were presented for the examination of the College of Preceptors held in December and all passed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The following statement tabulates, in respect of the year 1910, the principal statistics relating to the hospitals and asylums:—

Institution.	No. of patients at beginning of year.	No. admitted during the year.	Daily average.	Patients discharged.			No. of deaths.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	
Victoria Hospital, Castries.	69	1,107	68·66	576	413	24	103
Soufrière Hospital ...	4	56	3·4	36	16	—	5
Vieux Fort " ...	2	16	3·0	9	2	—	4
Dennery " ...	3	37	2·0	32	3	1	4
Yaws " ...	51	85	49·55	86	5	—	5
Poor Asylum	65	74	63·28	—	48	—	29
Lunatic Asylum ...	11	20	16·16	2	—	—	5

There were 126 operations performed at the Victoria Hospital; the death-rate, calculated on the number of cases admitted and treated and exclusive of still- and premature-births, was 8·75 per cent. The total cost of the institution, exclusive of the cost of medicines, was £1,453; and receipts for treatment of paying patients totalled £116 17*s*.

The construction of the new lunatic asylum at La Toc, in the Castries district, was not completed during the year and, in

addition to the lunatics in the asylum at Soufrière, there were at the end of the year 33 lunatics from this Colony confined in the Grenada Asylum.

At the dispensaries, of which there is one in each town and village and at certain populous centres, 10,843 persons received attention from the visiting medical officers. The number of persons treated in 1909 was 13,716, and the marked decrease in 1910 may, to some extent, reasonably be put down to the anti-malarial measures adopted in the year under report, to which reference is made below.

Anti-Malarial Measures.

The year 1910 witnessed the first comprehensive attempt in the Colony to combat the malaria problem by means of the free distribution of quinine by the Government.

From time to time, commencing in 1902, the Government had made and enforced regulations having for their object the suppression of the breeding-places of mosquitoes, and special instructions with this view were issued to the Medical Officers and Inspectors of Nuisances throughout the Colony. The regulations required, *inter alia*, that all tanks, jars, or other water receptacles should be screened to prevent access thereto by mosquitoes; the filling up of wells; the removal of broken articles likely to form receptacles for water; and the filling up of depressions in the grounds attached to houses, so as to prevent the collection of water. House-to-house visits were paid by the Inspectors, and persons found contravening the regulations were first warned, and if the nuisances were not abated they were summoned before the Courts.

In March, 1910, a circular was issued to all employers of labour and to the clergy inviting their assistance in an anti-malaria campaign by distributing the quinine which would be furnished by the Government, and stating the lines upon which it was proposed to work; the response to the circular showed that those addressed were alive to the necessity of the measures proposed and their readiness to give the required assistance. A sum of £100 having been placed on the Estimates for 1910-11 for "Quinine prophylaxis," a large quantity of quinine was imported from England, as well as a quantity of chocolate tablets containing tannate of quinine for distribution to the schools.

Dr. L. Nicholls, the Medical Officer of the No. 1 B. District, was placed in charge of the details of the scheme, and in May he engaged a native as a "moustiquier" and quinine distributor. On the arrival of the quinine, stock-bottles of the crude solution were prepared and labelled with printed, concise, and clear directions as to dosage, &c. These bottles were then distributed throughout the Colony—to employers of labour, the clergy, the police stations, and to all persons who would undertake to give out the medicine. The quinine tabloids were distributed to the schools in the Castries and Anse la Raye districts, the latter district being probably the greatest "fever" hotbed in the Colony, simple directions being issued to the school teachers with regard to the manner in which the tabloids were to be given.

Dr. Nicholls states that "judging by the continual return to him of the bottles to be refilled, it (the quinine distribution) has been a marked success"; and he also states that he finds in many cases that the parents of school children send requests for tabloids when the children have "fever." It is, perhaps, too soon to gauge accurately the effect of the quinine distribution, but the medical officers are almost unanimous in stating that they have noticed an appreciable decrease in the number of cases of malaria presenting themselves for treatment.

In the meantime Dr. Nicholls had been at work in searching for anopheline breeding-places, and supervising the distribution and establishment of the fish known as "Millions," the natural enemies of the mosquito larvæ, and the cleaning of rivers and ravines. The moustiquier was shown the distinguishing features of the anopheline and other mosquito larvæ, and was then sent round the country to search for them; notes were kept of the places in which they were found, and these were then sent to Dr. Nicholls, who afterwards visited all the principal places. The moustiquier would then go round and stock each place with the "Millions" fish, which were carried in an ordinary live-bait can, all the more accessible places being revisited at intervals of a fortnight. In many places throughout the island these little fish are now permanently established, and it is hoped by their means to appreciably reduce the number of malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

Out-door relief of paupers is administered through the agency of the Police Department, the police officer in charge of each district being the relieving officer. The number of persons receiving relief at the close of the year was 197, a slight decrease on the number of the previous year. The total expenditure on relief, including the burial of paupers, amounted to £543 16*s.* 1*d.*

The Police Department is also charged with the duty of enforcing the regulations of the Board of Health, and the officers assigned to this duty were regularly engaged on inspection work throughout the year. House-to-house visits were periodically made, a record of the inspections being kept at headquarters and a monthly report from all stations submitted for the information of the Government. For breaches of the sanitary regulations, 37 persons were prosecuted in the First district, 15 in the Second district, and 11 in the Third District.

The principal office of the Savings Bank is at the Treasury, in Castries, with five district banks in different parts of the island. The following statement summarises the transactions of the bank for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of accounts open 31st December.	Total deposits inclusive of interest.			Total withdrawals.			Amount on deposit on 31st December.		
		£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1906	1,584	13,750	12	6	13,397	7	1	14,727	5	4
1907	1,639	15,526	2	0	12,561	9	10	17,691	17	6
1908	1,653	15,411	9	0	14,028	6	11	19,074	19	7
1909	1,685	13,411	12	0	14,902	6	3	17,584	5	4
1910	1,693	12,742	7	8	11,538	18	0	18,787	15	0

The amount due to depositors on 31st December, 1910, was, as shown by the table, £18,787, an increase of £1,203, as compared with the same figures for 1909, and represents an increase of 6·8 per cent., as compared with a decrease of 7·8 per cent. in the previous year. The Working Account of the Bank showed a profit on the year's transactions of £92 17*s.* 6*d.*, after the sum of £474 12*s.* 10*d.* on account of interest had been placed to the credit of the depositors. The face value of the investments on account of the Bank was £18,203.

There was a further increase in the number of registered Friendly Societies, the total being 21 on the 31st December, as compared with 17 on the same date in the previous year. The consequent increase in membership was 24, the numbers at the close of 1910 and 1909 being, respectively, 2,340 and 2,316; the former total was made up of 1,033 males and 1,307 females.

The total receipts of the Societies amounted to £2,684 2*s.* 2*d.*, and the disbursements to £2,423 16*s.*, the balance at the close of the year being £2,468 10*s.* 1*d.*, a considerable increase on the balance remaining at the end of the year 1909, which figured as £2,071 0*s.* 6*d.* The working expenses amounted to £1,012 5*s.*, equal to 41·8 per cent. of the total disbursements.

During the year differences arose in regard to the appointment by the Societies of persons to audit their accounts, and on the Government being appealed to in the matter, the Governor, acting under the authority of section 60 of the Friendly Societies Ordinance, 1896, nominated two persons to be public auditors for the Societies. The Registrar reports that advantage of the services of these auditors was taken by the Societies during the year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.—The Police Force consisted of a Chief, a Sergeant-Major of European birth, formerly of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and 69 West Indian non-commissioned officers and men. The post of Staff-Sergeant, which is usually held by a European officer, remained vacant throughout the year. The Force is drilled and trained under the supervision of the Staff Officer of the Windward Islands by a European musketry and drill instructor.

In addition to their ordinary duties the Police carry out a considerable amount of work in connection with the details of administration, such as enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths, and the collection of Road Tax from defaulters. They also have the charge of certain of the District Post Offices and Telephone Exchanges.

The total expendiure on the Police Department amounted to £4,543, of which £3,875 was for personal emoluments, and £670 for clothing, equipment, &c.

Prisons.—The total number of persons committed to the Royal Gaol was 448, 52 being persons under remand, and 396 for imprisonment on conviction. The daily average number in gaol

was 70·05, males 58·6, females 10·75, and juveniles 0·7. The highest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time was 82, and the lowest 56.

The Medical Officer's report on the gaol states that there was no such frequency of any one disease as to call for comment, but that there was one case of typhoid in which the infection must have been contracted while in prison, although the source of the disease could not be discovered. The daily average number on the sick list was 1·75; it was 1·78 in 1909, and 2·1 in 1908. The expenditure on the establishment amounted to £1,498, and the average cost of a prisoner was 1*s.* 2*d.* a day, or £21 8*s.* per annum. The total estimated value of prison labour was £864.

Criminal Statistics.

The following table summarises the criminal statistics for the last five years:—

—	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Offences reported	1,706	2,059	1,962	1,675	1,650
Summary Convictions—					
For offences against the person	220	380	405	263	334
„ prædial larceny	37	37	35	130	124
„ offences against property	77	138	106		
„ other offences	1,126	950	1,134	1,352	1,128
Convictions in Superior Court—					
Homicide	—	—	—	—	1
For offences against the person	2	10	2	1	8
„ offences against property	14	27	13	11	20
„ other offences	1	110	—	—	—

The Colony's record for absence from serious crime was broken in 1910 by the conviction for murder against an East Indian agricultural labourer, who drowned the son, aged six years, of a woman with whom the accused had formerly cohabited. The death sentence was duly carried out. The last previous case of murder in the Colony occurred in 1904, when a woman was found guilty of infanticide.

Apart from this case the statistics present no unusual features calling for explanation.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population of the Colony on the 31st December, 1910, was 56,588, of whom 27,336 were males and 29,252 were females. These figures are arrived at by adding the natural increase of the population to the figures of the population as ascertained by the census of 1901, and take no account of emigration or immigration. The birth-rate for the year was 30·1 per thousand, as compared with 30·9 in 1909. The death-rate was

16·6 per thousand; in 1909 it was recorded as 17·5. Both rates are so low as to raise suspicion as to their correctness, and that this suspicion is well-founded is proved by the result of the census taken in April, 1911, the results of which will be reviewed in the next annual report. There were 252 marriages during the year, an increase of 34 on the number in the previous year.

Generally speaking, it may be said that the year 1910 was a healthy one, and the statistics, although open to question, may be taken as fairly well reflecting that condition.

The average rainfall at eighteen stations distributed throughout the island was recorded as 100·20 inches, and was 12·04 inches higher than the average of the same stations for the year 1909. The station with the lowest rainfall was, as usual, Riviere Doree, in the Choiseul district, where only 69·94 inches were recorded. But at Warwick Estate, in the heights of the same district, the fall was 152·36 inches, the highest over the whole Colony. At the Botanic Station in Castries, 107·01 inches were registered, this being 21·58 inches more than the record for 1909. At the latter station, the mean monthly temperature taken in the shade was 78·4°; the maximum temperature recorded was 92·5° on September 9th, and the minimum 62° on February 2nd. The corrected readings of the barometer—taken at a height of 10 feet above M.S.L.—ranged from 29·904 in October to 30·053 in February; and the mean annual pressure was 29·985 inches.

In the month of May the island was visited by abnormal rains. At the Botanic Station 21·95 inches were recorded, the highest monthly fall noted there during the last twenty years, with the exception of that during the hurricane of September, 1898, when 25·28 inches were registered.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly inter-colonial mail service, performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Steamers, was regularly carried out during the year, and the steamers of the Pickford and Black Line from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued their visits as usual; as did the inter-colonial steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (which call at Castries on their voyage between the French Colonies), and those of the Danish East Asiatic Company. The steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company also called regularly on their outward fortnightly voyage from New York.

As in the previous year, there was an increase in the business of the Post Office, details of which are given hereunder:—

	1910.	1909.
Letters and postcards—		
Sent	103,304	100,213
Received	104,893	103,020
Inland	95,577	96,958

The number of parcels despatched from the Colony was 350, and the number received, 2,662.

British postal orders to the number of 4,602 and to the value of £2,643 3*s.* 11*d.* were issued, and 829 to the value of £352 12*s.* 6*d.* were paid, the amounts in each case being in excess of those of the year 1909. Money orders to the value of £4,425 17*s.* 3*d.* were issued, the value of those paid being £4,216 1*s.* 10*d.*

The revenue of the Post Office amounted to £1,594 12*s.* 2*d.*, and the expenditure to £1,621 14*s.* 6*d.*

There is regular and daily postal communication, under local contract, between Castries and the leeward coastal towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the island, communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

All the towns and villages of the Colony are connected by telephone with Castries. During the year there were 207 miles of line open for traffic, and the number of subscribers was 128, an increase of 7 over 1909. There were 170 messages transmitted, and 329 sixpenny tickets were sold to non-subscribers using public telephones. The total receipts for the year amounted to £788 9*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure to £911 11*s.* 3*d.*

GENERAL REMARKS.

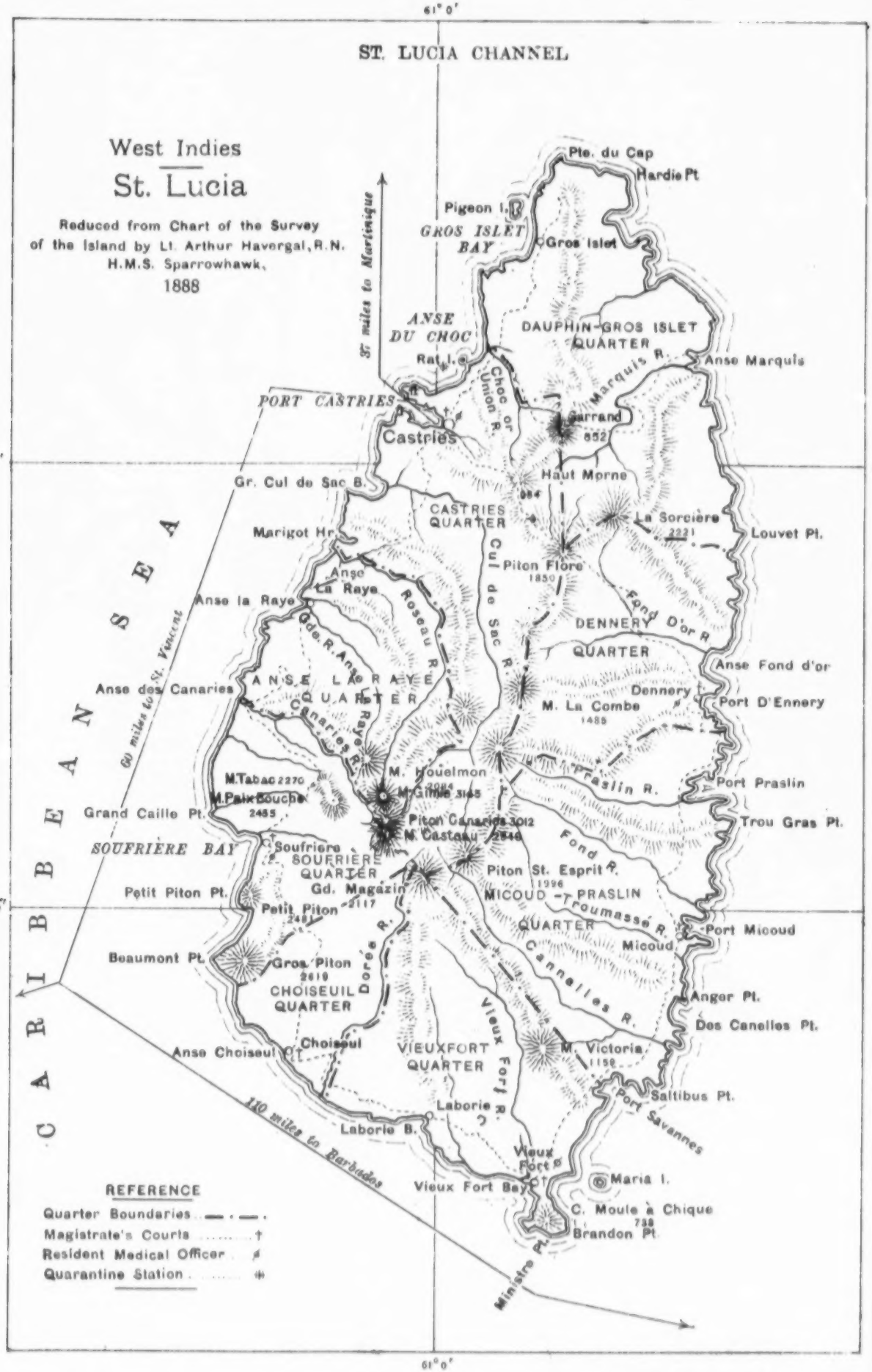
The death of His Majesty King Edward VII. was nowhere more sincerely mourned than in St. Lucia, and this sincerity was strikingly manifested by the demeanour and dress of all classes, even of those in the humblest station in life, at the Funeral Services which were held throughout the Colony.

The Accession of His Majesty King George the Fifth, whose visits to the Colony in 1884 and 1891 are still remembered, was duly proclaimed on the 9th of May.

The Royal Commission on Trade Relations between Canada and the West Indies arrived in the Colony on the 12th February, and held a sitting the same day for the purpose of taking the evidence of those interested in the object of its mission. On the receipt of the Commission's Report* later in the year, it was considered by the Legislature, and a Resolution in favour of the conclusion of an Agreement providing for the establishment of a system of trade reciprocity between the Dominion and the Colony, on the lines indicated on pages 52 and 54 of the Report, was adopted by that body on the 3rd December.

One of the most important matters that engaged the attention of the Government, and one affecting very nearly the poorer classes of the population, was the repeal of the Road Tax Ordinance of 1905, and the substitution therefor of an income tax levied on a graduated scale on incomes of £30 and upwards. With various modifications, the Road Tax had been in force since 1872. It was a direct tax, and had formed the subject of adverse criticism for a great number of years. The chief objections against it were: the difficulty of its collection and, at times, the impossibility of satis-

* [Cd. 5369.]



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1912.

factorily enforcing it; the ease with which it could be evaded; its tendency to discourage labour from coming to the Colony and to cause many people to emigrate; the unfairness of its incidence; and the expense attending its collection. If any further evidence were required of its unsuitability to such a community as that of St. Lucia, it can be found in the Reports of the Royal Commissions that visited the West Indies in 1884 and 1897.*

Reviewed as a whole, it may be said that the year was one of steady progress. The prices of the staple products were fairly well maintained, and the coaling business of the port was satisfactory.

The Administrator, Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., was on leave from the 30th May to the 11th October, the Government being administered in the interval by Mr. Anthony De Freitas, the Attorney-General.

A sketch map of the island is appended.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

Government House,
St. Lucia.
February, 1912.

* [C—3840—1-2-3] and [C—8655.]

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
684	Bahamas	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta...	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong...	"
692	Nyasaland	1910–1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"
695	Southern Nigeria	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1910–1911
697	Swaziland	"
698	Barbados	"
699	Trinidad and Tobago	"
700	Mauritius	1910
701	Grenada	"
702	British Guiana	1910–1911
703	Jamaica	"
704	Northern Nigeria	"
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements...	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	"
712	St. Vincent	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906-7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 742.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1911.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 701.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1912.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1912.

[Cd. 6007-42.] *Price* 3½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
Legislation	11
Education	11
Government Institutions	12
Judicial Statistics	13
Vital Statistics	14
Postal and Telephone Services	15
Military Forces	15
General Remarks	16
Maps.	

No. 742.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 701.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Governor's Office, St. Lucia,
12th October, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Annual Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1911, prepared by Mr. E. Drayton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, at present administering the Government of the Colony.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(27168—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 90. 12/12 D & S.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1911.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1912, reached the unusual amount of £98,645. This abnormal result is chiefly attributable to large receipts from Estate Duties, £13,935 being received, against an estimate of £1,500 for the year. Other heads of revenue at the same time gave large returns, Customs Duties exceeding the preceding year by £3,848, and Licences, Excise Duty, &c., by £1,827.

2. This excellent revenue was all the more satisfying because, during 1911, taxation to the extent of £600, payable by the labouring class, was remitted. Houses of £5 per annum, or less, assessed annual rental, were exempted from taxation where the owner is not beneficially entitled to half an acre of land or more.

3. Another change in taxation during the financial year was a complete revision of the import tariff, which commenced to operate on the 1st January, 1912. The ten per cent. additional duty which had been levied for the last two or three years was abandoned, and a judicious general revision adopted, whereby articles of necessity used by the poorer classes were kept at the lowest possible rate of duty, while luxuries and articles used by the better classes were more heavily taxed. An *ad valorem* rate of ten per cent. on articles not specifically mentioned in the tariff was imposed in place of the former rate of 7½ per cent.

4. The revenue classified under the usual heads was as follows:—

	£
Customs	46 221
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue ...	29,951
Estate Duties	13,935
Fees of Office, &c.	2,243
Post Office	1,599
Telephones	1,909
Water Supplies	230
Revenue from Government Property... ...	1,245
Interest and Sinking Funds	1,103
Miscellaneous Receipts	181
Land Sales	28
Total revenue	£98,645

The net increase on the revenue of the year 1910-11 was £17,232.

5. The expenditure for the year was £81,012, and exceeded that of the preceding year by £5,451; classified under the usual heads it was as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of debt	6,196
Pensions	2,824
The Governor	2,434
Colonial Secretary	1,800
Treasury Department	5,671
Post Office	2,817
Audit	661
Port and Marine	694
Legal Departments	4,587
Police	5,290
Military Expenditure	555
Prisons	1,197
Medical Department	4,235
Hospitals and Asylums...	6,006
Education	6,590
Ecclesiastical	400
Charitable	629
Telephones	1,720
Carriacou District	871
Water Supply, St. Paul's and Richmond Hill	224
Miscellaneous	5,579
Census of 1911	760
Agricultural Department	1,193
Public Works Department	1,272
Public Works, Recurrent	10,971
Public Works, Extraordinary...	5,792
Total expenditure from Colonial Funds ...	£80,969
Expenditure on Agricultural Department from balance of Imperial Grant	43
Total expenditure	£81,012

The increase on the previous year's expenditure is due to the formation of a volunteer force, the cost of taking the census, the creation of a new medical district, and large expenditure on sanitation, the establishment of two secondary schools, and special expenditure on storm damages to roads caused by heavy rains in September.

6. The total revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were as under:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1907-8	79,871	68,383
1908-9	73,182	72,661
1909-10	71,224	73,282
1910-11	81,413	75,561
1911-12	98,645	81,012

7. The surplus of assets at 31st March, 1912, was £56,419, as compared with £38,742 on the same date in the preceding year, being an increase of £17,677. The details of this surplus were:—

	£
Reserve Fund, invested	15,379
Loans to District Boards	10,546
Cash on deposit, &c.	25,474
Land Settlement Funds	2,871
Stores	2,149

8. The public debt was unchanged, and amounts to £123,670 in inscribed stock, the accumulated sinking fund in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies being at the close of the financial year £30,270. The stock is redeemable between 1917 and 1942. The Colony was also at the date referred to responsible for repayment of a loan of £550, taken over from the governing body of the late girls' school; this has been repaid in 1912.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the District Boards of Grenada in the financial year under review were as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,205	4,802
St. Andrew's	2,516	2,397
St. Patrick's	2,007	2,103
St. John's	1,517	1,487
St. Mark's	624	686
St. David's	778	778
Totals	£11,647	£12,253

The town of Hillsborough in Carriacou, which is administered by town wardens, had a revenue of £80 in the same period and an expenditure of £82.

10. The loan debts of the District Boards at 31st March, 1912, were as under:—

	£
St. George's	12,181
St. John's	3,350
St. Patrick's	4,236
St. Andrew's	950
St. Mark's	10
	£20,727

The interest and sinking funds (or annual instalments) on these are regularly paid to the Government, to whom the debts are owed.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

11. The value of the imports and exports of the Colony in the last five calendar years is as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1907	288,665	417,299
1908	303,783	359,245
1909	268,236	284,846
1910	279,236	291,760
1911	309,227	264,640

12. The imports in 1911 reached the highest figures on record, £309,227, a result attributable to the bumper cocoa crop reaped in the preceding year, which brought plenty of money into local circulation. The increased importation appears chiefly under spirituous liquors and tobacco, house-building materials, clothing, boots and shoes, and manures. The subjoined table gives the principal details and compares them with the imports of the previous year.

	1910.	1911.
Class I.—	£	£
Bread of all kinds	3,744	4,329
Butter	2,881	2,746
Fish (dried and preserved) ...	17,036	17,357
Flour (wheaten)	34,227	33,637
Meat (salted and preserved) ...	9,855	8,654
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,528	2,831
Oats	4,802	4,308
Oil (olive and other for cooking)	5,820	4,852
Oleomargarine and butterine ...	3,916	4,310
Rice	6,188	6,421
Spirits	5,185	8,110
Sugar:—		
Refined	4,126	4,001
Muscovado	5,490	5,037
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes ...	3,153	4,138
Class II.—		
Coal	1,897	2,400
Manures	5,773	8,410
Petroleum oil	3,852	3,750
Timber and shingles	15,640	17,119
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	16,037	16,694
Textiles	44,017	57,543
Metal manufactures	14,194	14,433
Earthen and glassware	3,619	4,789
Furniture	2,869	3,101
Leather (manufactured):—		
Boots and shoes	6,246	8,090
Other	2,580	2,826
Soap	4,041	4,750
Class IV.—		
Silver and bronze coins	5,700	5,200
Bank notes	3,559	1,364

13. The change in classification of imports to the "country of consignment" instead of the "place from which imported,"

which began in 1910, is yet of too recent date to enable any satisfactory comparison as to the sources of the Colony's import trade to be made, but it may be noted that imports from Canada maintained the figures reached in 1910, which largely exceeded those under the former system of returns. The figures for the last three years are:—

	£
1909	7,943
1910	22,722
1911	22,264

14. The marked increase in the quantity of manures imported is significant of the improvement taking place in agricultural methods. In 1901 the importation was only valued at £1,398; in 1911 it had increased to £8,410. It is also worthy of notice that the import of manures from the United States of America increased in 1911 to £1,205, as compared with £145 in 1910.

15. Another satisfactory feature is the falling off in the quantity of fresh vegetables (other than onions) imported. These were valued at £243 in 1911, as against £2,538 in 1906, and £309 in 1903, and the return to more normal figures is, it is to be hoped, evidence of larger local production of these foodstuffs, which in former years were grown in such abundance as to be an important item of export.

16. The imports for the year under review originated as follows:—

	£
United Kingdom	142,017
British possessions	60,916
Foreign countries	106,294
	£309,227

Of the foreign countries the United States of America comes first in the value of its trade with the Colony, the imports thence in 1911 being valued at £94,751, and the exports thereto at £43,717.

17. The exports from the Colony in 1911 are valued at £264,640, which is less than in either of the two preceding years. This is due to the cocoa crop being smaller than in 1910 and to variation of prices. Of the total exports 64 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 17 per cent. to the United States of America, and 17 per cent. to France.

18. The value of the three staple products of the Colony exported in the last two years was as follows:—

	1910. £	1911. £
Cocoa	259,365	223,104
Nutmegs and mace ...	17,872	20,673
Cotton and cotton seed ...	8,019	9,003

As usual the bulk of the cocoa went to the United Kingdom (64 per cent.), the United States of America and France each

taking 17 per cent. Eighty-five per cent. of the spices went to the United Kingdom, and 13 per cent. to the United States of America. All of the cotton was sent to the United Kingdom, and about three-fifths of the cotton seed, the remainder going to Barbados. Canada took 200 bags of cocoa, valued at £758.

19. Attention must be directed to the beginnings of two future exports, coconuts and lime juice. Coconuts to the value of £242 and copra valued at £37 were exported, and 31 hogsheads of lime juice, the first output of the Carriacou lime industry, left the Colony for England.

20. The cocoa crop for the year ended 30th September, 1911, was 67,144 bags, being 6,719 bags less than the record crop of the preceding year, but only 185 less than that of 1909. Prices in the London market varied, beginning well, but falling as low as 48*s*. per cwt. in June, and rising to 62*s*. in November. There was a large increase in the world's consumption of this product in 1911, but production is keeping pace with it, and it is significant that the cocoa exported from the Gold Coast in 1911 amounted to 77,000,000 lbs., as compared with 28.906 lbs. in 1895. A similar increase is taking place in Guayaquil, where in ten years the export of cocoa has doubled itself in quantity.

21. The nutmeg crop for the year ended 30th September, 1911, was better than in the last year, 6,496 barrels and 456 half-barrels, with 292 cases and 341 bags of mace being exported, as compared with 6,229 barrels, 306 half-barrels, 325 cases, and 107 bags in 1910. Prices were also more satisfactory.

22. The cotton crop of Carriacou was abnormally short, only 892 bales and 32 half bales being shipped in the usual year of account, as against 1,206 bales and 25 half bales in the previous year. Prices were, however, good, and more cotton seed was shipped (3,731 bags as compared with 3,360), which accounts for the increased value of the total export of this product in 1911. The Government is making every effort to encourage the planting of cotton in suitable districts in Grenada itself, and with that object a ginnery has been erected in St. George's so as to remove difficulty in the way of handling the crop when reaped.

23. The Carriacou Land Settlement Scheme continues in flourishing condition, and it is not too much to say that by its operation this interesting and valuable dependency has in less than nine years been brought from desolation to comparative affluence. The total area so far dealt with is 1,510 acres, of which 1,089 acres have been allotted in 393 lots, leaving reserves (chiefly forest) of 421 acres. The total amount advanced from colonial revenue has been £8,450, of which only £950 was outstanding at the 31st of March, 1912. An earnest demand is now being made by other peasants there, willing and anxious to become land owners under similar auspices, and the extension of the scheme is receiving the careful consideration of the Government.

24. In any reference to Carriacou mention must be made of the development of other agricultural industries there by Mr. Tom Archer, who has now more than 60,000 lime trees at the

bearing stage, and is providing a properly equipped factory, while he is also making preparations to cultivate about 300 acres in coconuts. This gentleman's agricultural enterprise and activity in the dependency are worthy of praise.

25. The Land Settlement Scheme of Grenada, commenced in 1910, made satisfactory progress. The northern portion of the Morne Rouge Estate in St. George's, to which reference was made in last year's report, yielded 27 allotments of cultivable land, of which 23 were sold at the end of the year. Adjoining the south of the same estate a block of 50 acres of land of True Blue Estate was purchased, and this, taken with some adjacent cultivable land of the former estate, yielded 21 allotments, of which by the end of the year 15 had been sold. As it was found that sugar cane cultivation was the chief desire of the allottees on this settlement arrangements were made for the erection of a small factory with a 5½ horse-power oil engine and a three-roller mill, capable of handling 8 to 9 tons of cane per day. This has been completed in 1912. Negotiations for the purchase of a block of 300 acres of an estate in St. David's Parish proceeded during the year, but the purchase was not completed till 15th January, 1912; the survey into lots was, however, effected by consent in the meanwhile.

26. There was a marked increase in the quantity of rum manufactured in 1911, 63,356 gallons being distilled, as compared with 41,418 in 1910. Now that the active measures taken have got smuggling under a fair amount of control, the quantity honestly made is seen to be hardly sufficient to meet local consumption, as 62,365 gallons were duty paid for use in the Colony during the year.

27. One hundred and sixty-one liquor licences were issued in 1911, as compared with 157 in the preceding year, but the revenue actually derived from sale of these licences only amounted to £634, as against £3,182 in 1910. This is due to a complete change in the licensing system, which commenced to operate on the 1st of January, 1911, whereby the licence fee was reduced to £5 per annum, while a Trade Duty at the rate of 1*s*. per gallon was levied on all spirits imported, or purchased from a distiller, or taken out of warehouse, by any licensed dealer, or by any person intending thereafter to sell the same. This Trade Duty realised £3,665 in the financial year. The granting of certificates for licences to sell intoxicating liquors was at the same time handed over to District Licensing Boards, consisting of the police magistrate of the district and three unofficial members; these last are in practice appointed upon the nomination of the several District Boards of the Colony. These changes have got rid of several undesirable features in the former system, and so far they are working excellently.

28. The ice factory in St. George's exported 507 tons, as compared with 417 in 1910; this is in addition to the amount manufactured for local consumption, of which there is no return. The soap factory also continued in active existence, but there is no return of the amount made.

SHIPPING.

29. The shipping tonnage inwards and outwards in the last five years was as follows:—

	Tons.
1907	513,902
1908	566,245
1909	586,074
1910	590,451
1911	535,161

Of the total tonnage in 1911, steam vessels accounted for 513,460 tons. There were on the local shipping register at the end of the year 88 sailing vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 1,272.

LEGISLATION.

30 Twenty-three Ordinances became law in 1911, of which three related to the consolidation of the laws of the Colony up to the end of the year, which was entrusted to Mr. D. T. Tudor, the Attorney-General. The new edition, which comprises two volumes, was not issued until 1st of May, 1912, and takes the place of the last edition (1898), which was compiled by Sir Joseph Hutchinson, when Chief Justice of Grenada, and of all subsequent Ordinances down to the end of 1911.

31. Of the other Ordinances of the year the more important were:—No. 5, enabling convicts with sentences of twelve months and upwards to be released on licence, the previous limit having been a two years' sentence; No. 9, enabling the control and regulation of cinematograph exhibitions; No. 12, relieving certain owners of small houses from taxation for them (*see* paragraph 2); No. 16, regulating the procedure of the Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction; and No. 20, enabling the courts in cases of money lending where the transaction is "harsh or unconscionable" to reopen them and give relief.

EDUCATION.

32. *Primary.*—Industrial, combined, lower division, and infant schools are provided for by the primary education system of the Colony, but no school of the first class has yet been established, the existing schools being 30 combined, 10 lower division, and 9 infant, three of the last-mentioned type having been added during the year. Of these 49 schools 9 are Government schools, 22 Roman Catholic, 11 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, and 2 Church of Scotland. The total pupils on the roll was 10,905, and the average attendance 5,377 (in 1910, 9,724 and 4,594). The expenditure was £4,966, the Government contribution to which was £4,920 (in 1910, £4,968 and £4,920). The cost per pupil to the Government varied as follows among the schools:—

	s.	d.
Government	18	1
Anglican	19	0
Roman Catholic	15	9
Wesleyan	19	9
Church of Scotland	12	1

33. *Secondary.*—The Grenada Boys' Secondary School was opened on the 18th of September in premises in Melville Street, St. George's, with 38 pupils, Mr. D. Hedog Jones, B.A., B.Sc., being the new headmaster. Agricultural science forms a prominent feature of the curriculum, and by means of free scholarships to boys from the primary schools on the one hand and the cadet system of the Agricultural Department on the other it is designed to carry promising lads through a definite course of tuition and practical work in agriculture so as to fit them for a useful future in that line. It may be recorded at this date that the school has already found a firm footing in the community, as its numbers have advanced, beyond all expectation, to 72 pupils at its opening this month, and extension of the buildings is becoming a necessity.

34. It was not possible to open the Girls' Secondary School before the 29th of January, 1912, so that no comment on it can properly be made in this year's report. At the St. Joseph's Convent School, which continues its good work with a Government grant-in-aid, the number on roll was 71, the daily average, 59, and the expenditure, £321.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

35. *Colony Hospital.*—971 patients were treated in 1911 (1,031 in 1910), of whom 674 were cured, 169 relieved, and 36 died. The daily average was 88·6, and the cost per patient £20 19*s.* 9*d.* The receipts for paying patients were £102, and the number of attendances in the out-patient department was 1,317.

The status of the responsible medical officer in charge was changed during the year, Dr. R. P. Cockin, M.A., Cantab., being appointed Resident Surgeon and Bacteriologist on the 7th of June in place of the officer formerly styled House Surgeon. Preparations for the appointment of a European nurse-matron were also made by the construction of quarters for her in the hospital precincts, and plans and estimates were got ready for the construction of a maternity and lying-in ward, and for the extension of the dispensary, so as to enable the staff to undertake the dispensing of medicines to paupers and labourers in the three adjoining medical districts.

36. *Yaws Hospital.*—339 cases were treated, of whom 276 were discharged cured, and two died, but not from yaws, death being due to other diseases. The daily average was 75, and the cost per head £10 12*s.* 11*d.* The resident surgeon remarks that "during the year a limited number of cases have been treated

with Salvarsan and the results obtained have been such as to justify further work being carried out with this drug. Some cases are at present under treatment in the institution and are making good progress."

37. *St. Andrew's District Hospital.*—166 cases were treated, of whom 140 were discharged cured, 11 were relieved, and 6 died. The daily average was 10, and the cost per patient £39 10*s.* 10*d.*, which exceeds even the high cost per head commented on last year, viz., £36. 9,071 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, the receipts for which amounted to £128 12*s.*

38. *Carriacou District Hospital.*—213 patients were treated, of whom 145 were discharged cured, and 44 relieved; only 2 died. The daily average in hospital was 20·5, and the cost per patient £33 9*s.*, which is a marked increase on last year's £25. 5,478 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, and the receipts were £80 11*s* 5*d.*

39. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The number under treatment was 159, 76 males, 83 females. Last year the number treated was 170, and the falling off in numbers is due to the fact that the St. Lucia Government, being about to provide its own asylum, discontinued sending patients here. 25 patients were admitted, 4 of whom were from St. Vincent. The daily average was 130; 23 patients were discharged as cured, and 9 died. The cost per head was £19 9*s.* The construction of a water-borne sewage system was commenced, discharging into septic tanks outside the asylum walls. Three cases of enteric fever occurred in the institution, but all recovered.

40. *Poor Asylum.*—The buildings accommodate 58 inmates, and the daily average was 47. Twenty-five were admitted and 21 died during the year. The cost per head was £10 6*s.* 10*d.*

41. *Savings Bank.*—The amount at credit of depositors at the end of the year was £25,594, an increase of £2,632 as compared with the end of 1910. The number of depositors was 1,741, and the average credit per depositor was £14 13*s.* 6*d.*; in 1902 this average was £6 3*s.* 7*d.* £22,000 of the funds were invested at the end of the year, and shortly after its close this was increased to £24,500. A prominent feature of the Grenada Savings Bank is the existence of a flourishing branch bank in each of the six out-districts. About one-half of the total deposits belong to these branches, which are greatly appreciated and used.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

42. *Police.*—There was a distinct improvement in the police force in 1911 under the command of Major Capell, D.S.O. Discipline was well maintained, and the standard of efficiency in musketry advanced. Sub-Inspector Legge resigned his office in November, and it was decided to revert to the former arrangement of a European Sergeant-Major instead of a Sub-Inspector.

43. *Prisons.*—The committals were 226 in number as compared with 306 in 1910, 180 of these being males, 42 females, and 4

juveniles. The daily average was 46·10, and the cost per prisoner was £38, or about twice what it was in 1908, when, on account of the presence of prisoners from St. Lucia and St. Vincent, the daily average was 75. The prison administration is creditable to the Colony, and discipline is satisfactorily maintained. A further step in advance was made in 1911 by bringing discharge on licence within the reach of prisoners with 12 months' sentences and upwards, the previous limit having been two years.

44. *Criminal Statistics.*—The Attorney-General reports an increase in the number of summary convictions, 1,514 being recorded in 1911 as compared with an average of 1,456 in the three preceding years, but he points out that the greater part of the increase is due to convictions for offences against revenue, municipal, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, the police and local authority showing greater activity in such matters. Convictions for offences against the person also increased from an average of 279 to 308 but those for praedial larceny decreased from an average of 141 to 105.

VITAL STATISTICS.

45. The population at 31st December, 1911, is estimated to have been 67,848. According to the Census returns at 2nd April, 1911, it was 66,750, and, allowing for the natural increase from that date, as well as (for the first time) for the difference between emigration and immigration, the above result is reached.

46. The difference between the Census figures and the estimated population at 2nd April, 1911, based upon natural increase alone, amounted to 8,780, and is attributable to emigration, to the Panama Canal Zone and Brazil chiefly. Returns have been required from each of the three ports of the Colony since the Census date so as to enable the incoming and outgoing of the people to be taken into account in future estimates.

47. The birth-rate per thousand was 39·92, and the death-rate 19·66. The year was a healthy one, and the deaths would have been even less in number but for the persistence of an epidemic of whooping cough which commenced in 1910, and to which 145 deaths are traceable in the two years.

48. The rainfall was moderate, only 69·83 inches being recorded at Richmond Hill, in the south of the island, as compared with 94·15 in 1910, and 80·54 in 1909. The following figures of the rainfall at this station in the last 21 years (1891-1911) are of interest:—

Average annual rainfall ...	77·60 inches.
Minimum in one month ...	·49 inches in May, 1899.
Maximum in one month ...	20·90 inches in November, 1896.
Minimum in one year ...	56·69 inches in 1891.
Maximum in one year ...	105·89 inches in 1892.

Average for each month of the year:—January, 4·27; February, 3·01; March, 2·95; April, 2·58; May, 4·91; June, 9·24; July, 9·56; August, 9·87; September, 8·18; October, 7·18; November, 8·06; December, 7·80.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

49. The following comparative statement shows that the Post Office business distinctly increased in the year:

	1910.	1911.
Letters and post cards ...	551,800	570,479
Newspapers, books, &c. ...	193,085	212,011
Parcels	7,802	9,432
Registered and insured letters	12,364	12,451
Money and postal orders issued and paid	£27,878	£31,865

50. The progress of the cash on delivery service is remarkable. In 1911 no less than 1,244 parcels were dealt with, involving the collection of £1,437 for "trade charges," against 300 parcels in the preceding year with £375 "trade charges." The amount of British postal orders issued and paid was £4,972, against £4,627 in 1910.

51. Grenadians at work in the Panama Canal Zone remitted £5,464 through the Post Office to the Colony. The similar remittances in 1907-10 were 1907, £6,235; 1908, £7,475; 1909, £6,191; 1910, £5,932: average for the five years, £6,260.

52. *Telephones.*—The revenue of the department in the financial year was £1,910 and the expenditure £1,797; this expenditure includes loan charges on the initial cost of the system. The number of instruments in use is 319, and during 1911 twenty-one new installations were effected. The principal exchange buildings in St. George's were thoroughly reconstructed, and a larger switchboard supplied, but this has not so far given satisfaction. The system in Grenada is very complete, there being an exchange in each of the six districts of the island (as well as one in Carriacou), with which all important business places and residences are connected. In view of the distances between centres and the difficulty of locomotion the telephone is indispensable and has proved to be a most important factor in the development of the Colony, both financially and socially.

MILITARY FORCES.

53. The long-discussed volunteer force, for which legislative provision has existed since 1900, became a fact in 1911. There had been a public meeting in 1910, presided over by the Governor, Sir James Hayes Sadler, and it resulted in the St. George's Corps of Volunteer Infantry being enrolled on the 7th of April, 1911. The corps is commanded by Captain D. L. Slinger, a well-known and popular citizen. He was selected, with Sergeant Walter Bertrand, to represent the Volunteers of Grenada at the King's Coronation in June.

54. The old prison premises in St. George's have been given for use as a drill yard and miniature rifle range, and every effort

is being made to bring the corps to a state of efficiency. Brigadier-General Dalrymple-Hay, commanding the forces in Jamaica inspected them in August, and expressed his satisfaction at the progress which had already been made.

GENERAL REMARKS.

55. The Coronation of Their Majesties in June was most loyally and enthusiastically observed in the Colony. Two special holidays were given, the first day being devoted to the official functions and celebration at headquarters, and the next to rejoicings in the out-districts. His Majesty's gracious action in conferring the honour of appointment as a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George upon Mr. W. S. Comissiong, K.C., the Senior Unofficial Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, at the time of the Coronation, was much appreciated locally.

56. The Colony sustained a great loss on the 9th of February in the person of the Honourable C. Macaulay Browne, C.M.G., Senior Unofficial Member of both Councils, who died on that day in England. A memorial service was held on the 13th attended by the Governor and staff of public officers, and on the 15th a special meeting of the Legislative Council was convened, when a suitable resolution was adopted by the Council at which Mr. Browne had sat for nearly thirty years.

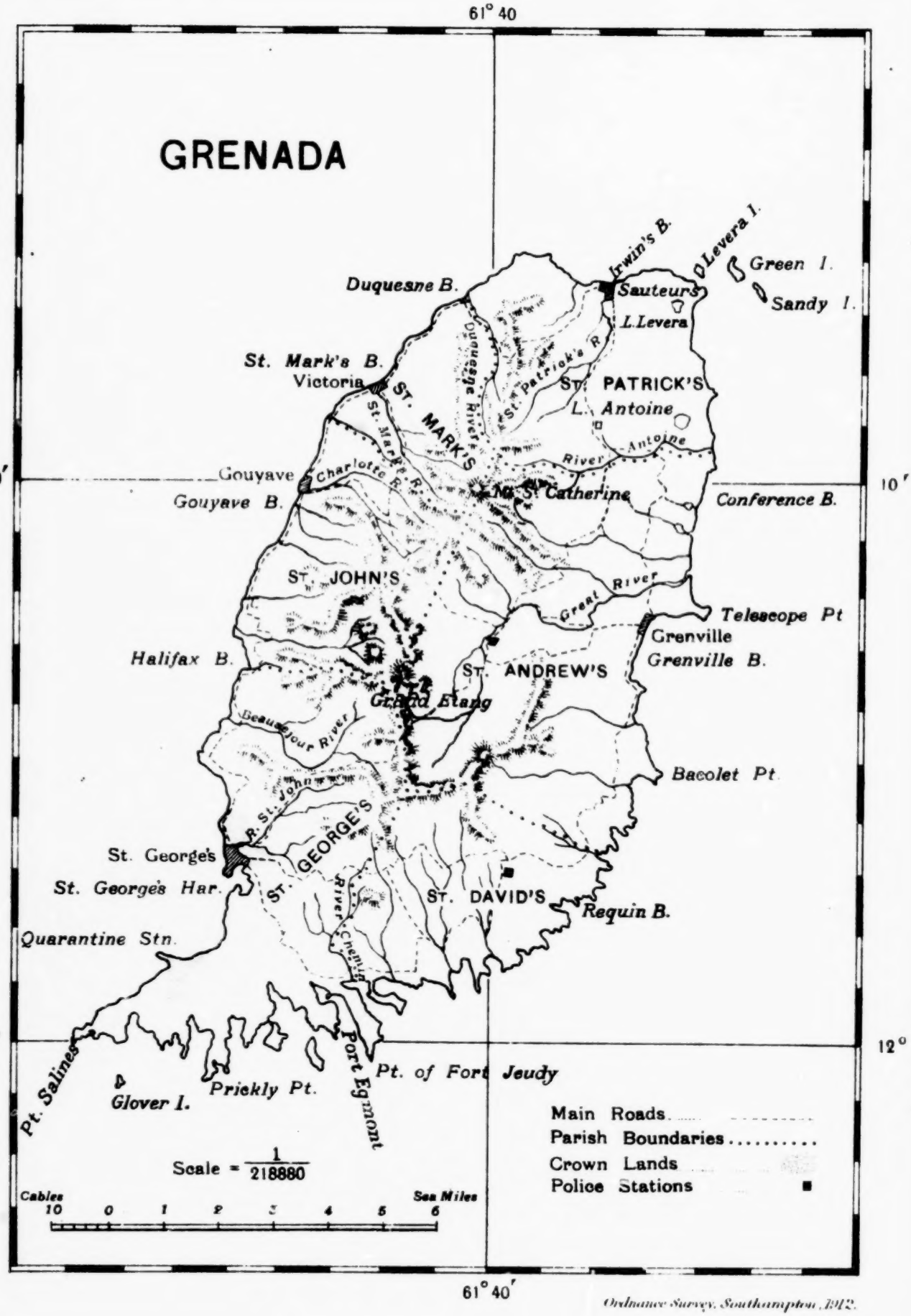
57. His place at the Executive Council was taken in April by His Majesty's appointment to it of Mr. D. S. De Freitas, who had been an active Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council for 16 years.

58. The question of trade reciprocity with Canada was fully discussed at a meeting of the Legislative Council on the 3rd of March, and it was decided by a majority of votes that the entering into a preferential agreement with the Dominion should be deferred for consideration in the future.

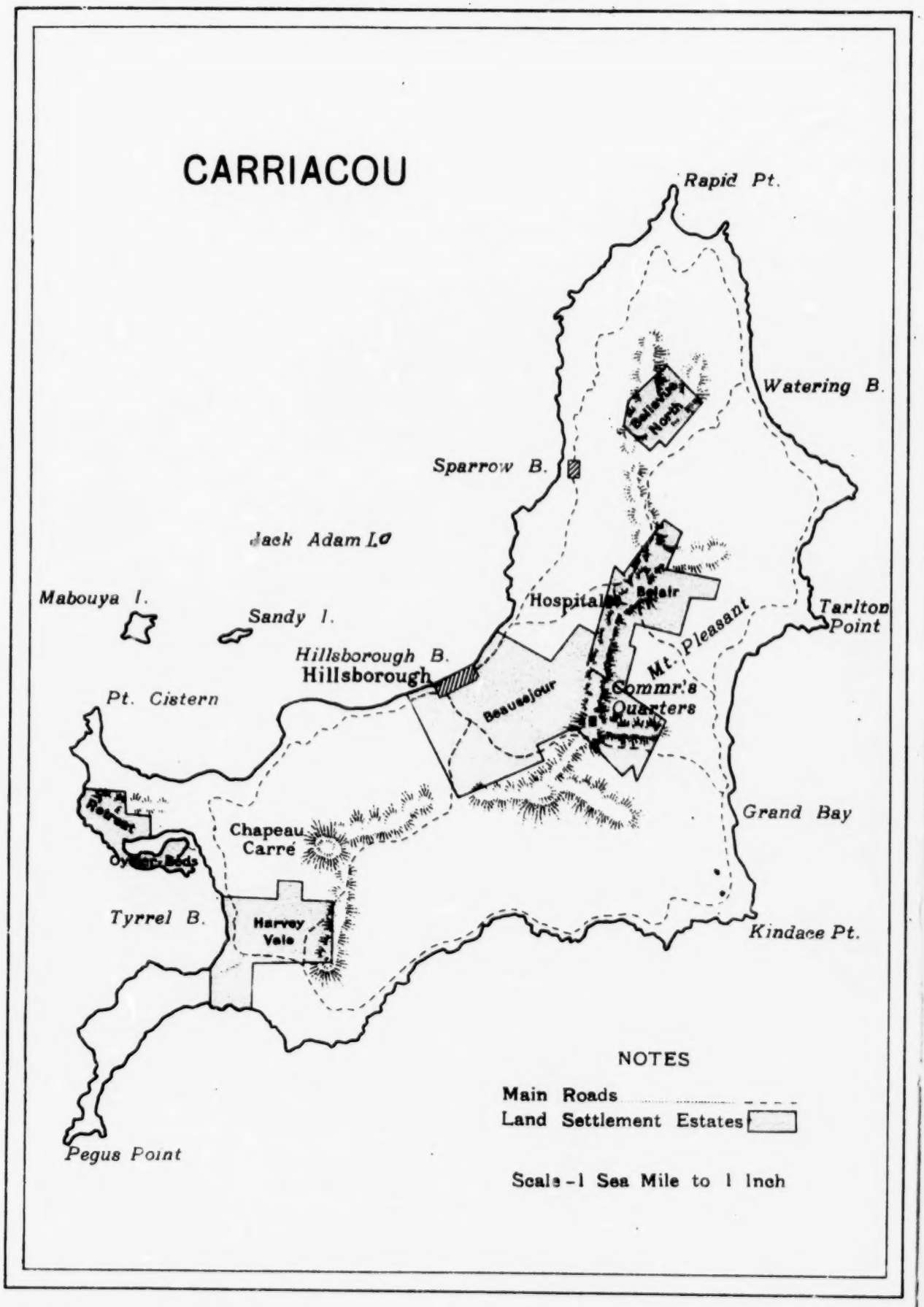
59. Standard time, four hours later than Greenwich mean time, was adopted in the Colony, along with the other West Indian Islands and British Guiana, on the 1st of July.

60. The coasting steamer service by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was extended to Requin Bay in St. David's parish on the 4th of November, when a bi-weekly call at that harbour was commenced. St. David's was the only district of the Colony without participation in this service, and its marked increase of late in wealth and importance fully justifies the step taken. A warehouse and jetty were provided by Government and the subsidy to the Company increased, while jetty dues were imposed, as is customary at the other places of call by the steamers where jetties have been constructed.

61. On the 16th of August the appointment of Mr. D. T. Tudor, K.C., the Attorney-General (then absent in England employed on the consolidation of the laws of the Colony), to be Chief Justice of the Bahamas was announced; and at the end of the year the selection for the vacancy of Mr. N. Julian Paterson, a prominent



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1912.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton 1912.

member of the local bar, and for the last 15 years an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, was made public, the appointment dating from 1st January, 1912. Mr. Paterson had on several previous occasions acted with distinction in the office.

62. His Excellency Sir James Hayes Sadler, the Governor, was absent on leave from the 13th of July to the 6th of December; and upon his return to the Colony on the latter date he proceeded at once to the other Colonies of the Government, being absent on duty there when the year ended. During his absence from Grenada the local Government was administered by the Colonial Secretary, and during his absence on leave the Government of the Windward Islands was administered at St. Lucia by Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., the Administrator of that Colony.

E. DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary,
Administering the Government.

Grenada,
30th September, 1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
712	St. Vincent	1910–1911
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911
715	Weihaiwei	"
716	Ceylon	1910–1911
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	"
719	Ashanti	"
720	Falkland Islands	"
721	Seychelles	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
723	Hong Kong...	"
724	Sierra Leone	"
725	Gold Coast	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 747.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 712.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1913.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1913.

[Cd. 6007-47.] *Price 4d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—Financial	4
II.—Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	9
III.—Legislation	18
IV.—Education	18
V.—Government Institutions	19
VI.—Judicial	21
VII.—Vital Statistics	22
VIII.—Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	24
IX.—General Observations	24
Map	

No. 747.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1910–11, *see* No. 712.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE ACTING GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
26th October, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my annual report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1911-12.

I have, &c.,

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Edward J. Cameron, Esq., C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
St. Lucia.

(27956—2.) Wt. 35104—688. 1125 & 90. 2/13. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1911-12.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and tables give the heads of revenue and expenditure and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1910-11 and 1911-12, as well as the total revenue and expenditure for each of the last five years, 1907-8 to 1911-12:—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in the Year 1910-11.	Amount collected in the Year 1911-12.
	£	£
1. Customs:		
Import	12,226	14,982
Export	703	968
2. Port and Harbour Dues:		
Tonnage	522	607
Port	95	95
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue:		
Licences—Liquor ...	500	532
Do. —Other ...	1,271	1,257
Excise	3,840	4,607
Land and House Tax ...	3,177	3,209
Income Tax	643	662
Other Internal Revenue...	911	803
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid	1,252	1,633
5. Post Office	1,449	2,053
6. Telephones	523	569
7. Rent of Government Property	35	34
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans	1,590	1,651
9. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	194	55
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	601	541
Total Local Revenue ...	29,540	34,266
11. Parliamentary Grant:		
In aid of Agricultural Department	585	585
Total General Revenue	30,125	34,851

Comparative Yearly Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates.	Expenditure 1910-11. £	Expenditure 1911-12. £
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	887	756
2. Pensions	2,154	2,042
3. The Governor	1,611	1,589
4. Government Office	655	658
5. Treasury and Customs ...	1,453	1,514
6. Audit Department ...	317	337
7. Legal Departments ...	2,100	2,406
8. Local Forces	212	291
9. Police, Prisons, Port, and Excise	3,183	3,433
10. Medical Department ...	1,943	1,880
11. Hospitals and Asylums ...	2,685	3,059
12. Poor Relief	646	672
13. Education	1,927	2,058
14. Post Office	1,212	1,370
15. Telephone Department ...	438	518
16. Miscellaneous	2,253	2,219
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department	599	496
18. Public Works Department...	610	646
19. Do. do. Recurrent ...	2,522	2,465
20. Do. do. Extraordinary	956	3,238
21. Agricultural Department ...	1,299	1,123
22. Southern Grenadines District	89	334
Total Local Expenditure ...	29,759	33,115
21A. Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds) ...	583	618
Total General Expenditure	30,343	33,734

(Table 2.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1907-08 *to* 1911-12.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1907–8	Local	27,543		Local	23,508	
	Imperial Grant	913		Imperial Grant	1,145	
			28,456			24,653
1908–9	Local	30,810		Local	26,647	
	Imperial Grant	585		Imperial Grant	553	
			31,395			27,200

Year.	Revenue.		Total.	Expenditure.		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1909–10	Local	27,855		Local	30,732	
	Imperial Grant	585		Imperial Grant	598	
			28,440			31,330
1910–11	Local	29,540		Local	29,759	
	Imperial Grant	585		Imperial Grant	584	
			30,125			30,343
1911–12	Local	34,267		Local	33,116	
	Imperial Grant	585		Imperial Grant	619	
			34,852			33,735

It is again possible to repeat, in the words of the report for 1910-11, that the financial year under discussion has in all respects been a more satisfactory one than the previous financial year, 1910-11. Whilst the estimated revenual receipts from local sources were placed, when framing the budget for 1911-12, at £31,661, the actual revenue collected was £34,852, showing a surplus on estimates of £3,191. The estimated expenditure of £32,471 was, from various causes, increased during the year to £33,735, showing an actual surplus on the year's working of £1,117. Notwithstanding that during the year (on the 25th September, 1911) a disastrous rainstorm took place, which involved an actual storm damage expenditure all over the Colony up to the 31st March, 1912, of £2,104 5*s.* 7*d.* including the erection of new reinforced concrete causeways in the Mesopotamia Valley, and a new 60 foot span bridge (only half finished) of the same material, the financial operations for the year showed a surplus of £1,151. In addition to the aforementioned works the following Public Works Extraordinary were undertaken and carried to completion:—

	£
Construction of Landing Stage, Layou	70
Public Works, Bequia	12
Enlargement of Teacher's House, Mayreau ...	24
Water Supply to Montrose and Lodge Villages ...	26
Georgetown Jetty (not quite finished)	783
	£915

From the 1st October, 1911, the export tax on cotton was raised from 3*d.* a cwt. to 2*s.* a cwt., whilst arrowroot was reduced from 3*d.* a hundred lbs. to 3*d.* a cwt. Cocoa was increased from 3*d.* a cwt. to 6*d.* a cwt. The estimated net result of these changes was to bring in £300 a year more in export tax in 1911-12 and in subsequent years £500 a year. In extenuation of the increase in export tax on cotton, it may be pointed out that where export tax is paid on any article in St. Vincent, it takes the place of

income tax on the profit from that article. Hitherto, on a cotton exportation value of roughly £30,000 per annum, planters have returned on an average £50 per annum to the Treasury as against £500 per annum for the same exportation value in arrowroot. Cotton has been levelled up to arrowroot, and will now pay approximately the same total export duty per annum *i.e.*, £500. The following table shows a considerable progressive increase in Excise receipts during the past three years:—

	£
1909-10	3,726
1910-11	3,841
1911-12	4,608

and is an indication of more general circulation of money in the Colony.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets on the 31st March, 1911, was £6,524. On the 31st March, 1912, the account showed an excess of £7,775.

In addition to the surplus of £7,775, the sum of £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruption of the Soufriere volcano in 1902-03, is invested in trust securities, and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any possible future disaster which may result from the violence of the elements.

There are also other funds of lesser importance showing assets to the Colony, some of which are extinguishable by time, while others, like the Graham Bequest Fund, the Alexander Fund, and the Thompson Home Fund, are used only in respect of the interest they bear.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt, the last loan instalment having been repaid in May, 1910. There are municipal debts, extinguishable in 1913, amounting in the aggregate to £550 at 31st March, 1912, for which, in case of default, the Colony is ultimately responsible, and which constitute a first charge upon its revenues. There is little likelihood, however, of the Colony being called upon to pay any of this sum, as the municipalities concerned are well able to bear the interest and repayments involved.

The Colony is similarly responsible for the unpaid balance of the hurricane loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which was, at 31st March, 1912, £9,646, toward the repayment of which a sum of £3,049 was in hand, invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies at short call. This loan is being steadily redeemed by borrowers at the rate of £750 per annum to the local Government, by whom annual payments are in turn made to the Imperial Treasury.

Currency.

Gold, British and American, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Kingstown are vested in a board, one-half of the members of which are elected by the ratepayers and the other half nominated by the Government.

The chairman of the board is annually elected by the members forming that body, but cannot in any circumstances be elected for more than two years in succession.

The small towns of the Colony, of which there are six, are controlled by wardens appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns during the last five years:—

Revenue.

Town.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,706	1,695	1,736	1,711	1,756
Georgetown	108	118	143	142	158
Chateaubelair	34	35	33	35	33
Calliaqua...	31	32	32	35	39
Barrouallie	45	38	37	41	251
Layou	19	20	26	21	23
Bequia	9	9	9	10	11

Expenditure

Town.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,758	1,790	1,778	1,813	1,697
Georgetown	108	109	126	151	153
Chateaubelair	28	27	21	31	40
Calliaqua...	30	32	27	25	30
Barrouallie	31	41	20	27	257
Layou	9	24	17	13	25
Bequia	2	4	17	1	7

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at the 31st December, 1911, were as follows:—

	£	£
Kingstown water supply	800	
Kingstown town improvement	50	
Loan for repair of Rose Place Drain, Kingstown	191	
		1,041
Georgetown water supply		100
Barrouallie water supply		192
		£1,333

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

Chief Articles.	Value. 1910 £	1911. £
Class I.		
Beef, salted or cured	331	466
Biscuits	3,912	3,263
Butter	1,880	2,101
Coffee	399	577
Fish, salted, &c.	5,282	4,973
Fish, pickled	1,469	1,707
Flour, wheaten	8,934	11,116
Flour, other kinds	861	585
Medicinal extracts and preparations	815	814
Oats	364	516
Oilmeal and cake	479	451
Oil, olive	653	587
Pork, salted or cured	1,595	1,636
Rice	2,645	2,911
Spirits	972	957
Sugar, muscovado	287	236
Sugar, refined	768	726
Sugar, crystallized	327	514
Wine	750	972
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	1,089	1,233
Class II.		
Leather, unmanufactured	211	403
Oil, cotton seed	664	587
Oil, petroleum	1,834	1,786
Timber and shingles	4,992	8,428
Shooks, staves, &c.	2,251	1,212
Class III.		
Textile manufactures, other than rope cordage, and canvas	20,832	25,946
Rope, cordage, and canvas	1,131	1,223
Hardware	2,065	2,702
Agricultural implements	610	722
Machinery	533	997
Musical instruments	424	541
Earthen and glassware	852	1,212
Furniture	918	993
Matches	489	413
Paints	383	543
Boots and shoes	1,215	1,523
Cement	1,134	940
Soap	1,744	1,515

Chief Articles.	Value. 1910.	1911.
Class IV.	£	£
Horses	748	506
Class V.		
Bank notes	4,457	2,776

EXPORTS.

The values of the principal exports are shown in the annexed table:—

Article.	1910.	1911.
	£	£
Cassava starch	781	1,269
Whale oil	164	228
Turtle shell	176	302
Firewood	318	325
Cotton and cotton seed	42,094	45,470
Vegetables	1,756	1,484
Syrup	246	338
Sugar, crystallized	2,289	2,470
Sugar, muscovado	1,272	2,935
Pease	310	396
Molasses	2,076	599
Ground-nuts	1,743	1,060
Live stock	5,034	4,685
Arrowroot	30,089	40,430
Cocoa	4,132	5,069
Hides, raw	229	379

In the course of his annual report the Supervisor of Customs states as follows:—

"Imports from the United Kingdom amounted to £50,833, as compared with £43,254 for the year 1910, an increase of £7,579.

"From British possessions the imports were £33,529, as against £31,688 in 1910, showing an increase of £1,841.

"Imports from foreign countries amounted to £26,562, as compared with £22,794 for 1910, being an increase of £3,768.

"The increase under 'British Possessions' is due to increased importations from India £1,690 (rice) and Newfoundland £2,091 (fish), while importations from British North America are £2,190 less. The increase under 'Foreign Countries' is principally in trade with the United States of America, £3,287.

"The following is the classification:—

		£
Class I.	Food, drink, and tobacco	42,406
Class II.	Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	13,792
Class III.	Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	51,242
Class IV.	Miscellaneous and unclassified ...	710
Class V.	Bullion and specie	2,776
	Total Imports	£110,926

"In view of the fact that the classification in the statistical returns has been slightly varied from that of the previous year, a comparison under the various classes will not be quite accurate, but, taken as they stand, there is an increase of £2,490 under Class I, an increase of £2,141 under Class II, and an increase of £5,071 under Class III, while the figures under Classes IV and V (new) amounting to £710 and £2,776, respectively, go to make up the total increase of £13,189.

"The increase of £5,071 (38 per cent. of the total increase) being under Class III 'Articles wholly or mainly manufactured' and largely represented by 'Textiles' and 'Wearing Apparel' points strongly to greater purchasing power on the part of the lower and labouring classes and is evidence of the existence of improved economic conditions throughout the Colony.

"The following is a list of articles the values of which have increased appreciably:—

Article.	Increase.
Flour, wheaten	£2,182
Timber, pitch pine	3,002
Shingles	676
Baling cloth	303
Textile manufactures	4,459
Wearing apparel...	308
Hardware	636
Machinery	464
Metal manufactures, unenumerated	989
Boots, shoes, and slippers	308
Earthen and glassware	360
Manufactured articles other than textile or metal—unenumerated	936

"The values of the following imports show decreases:—

Article.	Decrease.
Fish, smoked, dried, or salted	£310
Manure	546
Timber, white pine	483
Shooks, staves, &c.	1,039
Bank notes	1,682

"*Exports.*

"The value of the exports to the United Kingdom amounted to £73,378 as against £63,981 for 1910, showing an increase of £9,397.

"The value of exports to British possessions was £42,166 as compared with £35,306 for the previous year, an increase of £6,860.

"Exports to foreign countries amounted in value to £3,081 as against £1,893 for the year 1910, an increase of £1,188.

"The following table shows the values of exports according to the classification recently adopted:—

		Value.
Class I.	Food, drink, and tobacco ..	£60,102
Class II.	Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	46,764
Class III.	Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	1,582
Class IV.	Miscellaneous and unclassified ...	1,046
Class V.	Bullion and specie	9,131
		£118,625

"Under Class I. the principal article is of course arrowroot, the value of which amounts to £40,429. Cocoa is valued at £5,069, live stock at £4,671, ground nuts at £1,060, sugar and syrup at £5,743, and vegetables at £1,455. All the above are the produce or manufacture of the Colony.

"Under Class II. the principal item of export is 'cotton,' valued at £41,619. Cotton seed is valued at £3,851.

"Under Class III. the only item of any importance is cassava starch, valued at £1,268.

"Class IV. does not call for any special comment.

"Class V. is composed of:—

Bank notes	£3,932
Silver	5,198

"The following exports have increased in value to an appreciable extent:—

Article.	Increase.
Arrowroot	£10,339
Cocoa	937
Sugar and Syrup	1,936
Cotton	3,210
Cassava starch	488
Specie (including bank notes)	2,601

"In the case of arrowroot it is significant that while the exports have decreased in quantity to the extent of 1,038,595 lbs., the value is £10,339 in excess of that for 1910. This is due, as regards quantity, to the fact that exporters have held back much of the year's crop for reasons of their own, and, as regards value, to the good prices which have been ruling throughout the year 1911.

"The values of the following articles of export show decreases:—

Article.	Decrease.
Molasses	£1,482
Ground nuts	683
Vegetables	289

"In the case of each of the above articles, I believe the reason for the decrease to be the same, namely, the appropriation of larger proportions of arable land for the growing of cotton and arrowroot on account of the higher prices prevailing for these articles.

"In this connection it will also be noticed that the local consumption of wheaten flour has increased largely, as is evidenced by the considerable increase in importation of this article during the year, flour taking the place of vegetables when the supply failed to meet local demands."

The total trade of the Colony for the year was £229,551 as compared with £198,917 for 1910, being an increase of £30,634.

The total imports and exports for the five years 1907-8 to 1911 were:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1907-8 ...	96,554 ...	94,265
1908 ...	113,713 ...	94,739
1909 ...	87,810 ...	88,698
1910 ...	97,737 ...	101,180
1911 ...	110,926 ...	118,625

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1907-8 to 1911 are given below:—

Imports.

—	1907-8.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	36,280	45,260	30,232	43,254	50,834
British Colonies	42,436	48,388	43,027	31,688	33,530
Foreign Countries	17,839	20,065	14,551	22,794	26,562
Total	96,554	113,713	87,810	97,736	110,926

Exports.

—	1907-8.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	52,718	54,444	46,328	63,981	73,378
British Colonies	40,535	37,758	40,386	35,306	42,166
Foreign Countries	1,012	2,537	1,984	1,893	3,081
Total	94,265	94,739	88,698	101,180	118,625

Manufactures and Fisheries.

The Central Cotton Ginnery was established by the Government in the year 1903-4, and is under the management of the officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. This ginnery has been of great assistance in the development of the cotton industry. It is extremely improbable that the industry would, without it, have reached its present successful state. With a charge of 1*d.* per pound for ginning and baling, the accounts showed a balance

in favour of the ginnery of £480 9*s.* 9*d.* at the end of the 1909-10 crop year,* and during the 1910-11 crop year the profits amounted to £894 2*s.* 7*d.*

The general revenue of the Colony benefits to the extent of £400 per annum from the profits of this institution.

There are three private ginneries in the Colony, the largest of which is situated in Kingstown, and is fitted up with five gins.

The co-operative cotton-buying scheme for peasants at the Government factory, described in last year's report, continues to prosper, and is yearly increasing the cultivation of this product by small holders, and with it the circulation of ready money in the Colony. During the cotton season just closed, 1911-1912, £4,770 worth of cotton was bought at the Government ginnery from small growers. At date of writing a bonus on sales of £2,763 is being, in addition, distributed to sellers—making in all £7,533 paid during the season to small holders for cotton grown by them.

About 20 tons of cotton seed of the 1911-12 crop were crushed by the disintegrator at the Government ginnery for manurial purposes.

The price of lint during the year was good, reaching as high, for some special bales, as 26*d.* per pound. The average sale price was, however, from 17*d.* to 20*d.* for Sea Island cotton, while Marie Galante sold from 6*d.* to 10*d.* a pound.

The export of whale oil rose from £164 in 1910-11 to £228 during the year under review. This is, however, only a fluctuating rise and cannot be taken as an indication of the possibility of a revival of what is now apparently a dying industry, owing to the reduction in the number of whales visiting these waters. Efforts will, it is hoped, soon be made to determine definitely whether a sponge industry cannot be established in the Grenadines, for this, if realized, would take the place of the whaling industry, which until recent years afforded much remunerative employment to the islanders at certain seasons of the year. Numerous species of sponges are to be found there, some of which are said to be of commercial value.

The turtling industry accounts for an export value of £302 as against £176 in 1910-11 and of £515 in 1909-10.

Agricultural Industries and Agricultural Department.

It is pleasing to record again an augmentation in the land in cultivation under Sea Island cotton in the island of St. Vincent, namely, 5,068 acres as against 3,587 in 1910-11. Unfortunately, the heavy rainstorm of September, 1911, damaged the crop considerably with the result that only 487,116 lbs. of lint were reaped as against 561,526 lbs. in the former year with a much smaller acreage. Happily, however, the increased market price of arrowroot compensated in a large degree for the small yield in cotton and, on the whole, it is probable that planters and others have made a reasonably fair profit out of their holdings during the year.

* The crop year is from 1st September to 31st August of the succeeding year.

In the St. Vincent Grenadines, notably Union, Canouan, and layreau, the common Marie Galante type of cotton is grown. It s cultivated as a perennial, and produces a short, coarse lint alued usually at from 8*d*. to 9*d*. per pound. The exports of this otton during the past seven years amounted in the aggregate to 83,921 lbs. weight, valued at £7,397. In several of the other slets, Bequia, Mustique, Battowia, and Balliceaux, the cultiva-ion of Sea Island cotton has been taken up exclusively and with ery satisfactory results.

The table given below shows the acreage planted in Sea Island otton, together with the yield of lint, and the average yield per cre during the past seven years.

Crop Year.	Acreage planted.	Weight of lint in pounds.	Yield of lint per acre in pounds.
905–6	790	137,460	174
906–7	1,533	286,275	175
907–8	3,250	432,000	135
908–9	3,000	372,000	124
909–10	2,528	356,139	141
910–11	3,587	561,526	156
911–12	5,068	487,116	96

The following figures are also interesting and instructive :—

able showing the Quantity and Value of Cotton exported during the period from 1903-4 *to* 1911.

Year.	Sea Island Cotton.		All Cotton.	
	Weight.	Estimated Value.	Weight.	Estimated Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
03–4	Not known	—	43,392	794
04–5	77,814	3,890	126,178	4,494
05–6	121,174	6,059	138,150	7,674
06–7	225,632	16,922	263,036	18,169
07–8	388,833	29,162	427,819	30,787
08	387,178	28,426	420,830	30,048
09	330,936	20,684	350,186	21,325
10	493,494	37,238	521,956	38,409
11	511,947	40,529	538,114	41,619

Arrowroot in export value reached a figure of £40,430 as com-ared with £30,089 in the preceding year. This increase in alue was due not to an increase in production and exportation of is article, but to the enhanced price obtainable in London and her markets owing to the combination for a minimum price the growers and exporters, and to the advertising operations of e St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association,

whose objects are described in last year's report. During the year ordinary and manufacturing quality of arrowroot fetched as high as $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ a pound. In November, 1910, its price was $1\frac{7}{8}d.$ to $1\frac{15}{16}d.$ per pound.

St. Vincent arrowroot is unrivalled in the manufacture of chocolate and for general starch purposes. The soil and climate of the Colony are apparently more suited to this cultivation than that of any of the other islands except, perhaps, Bermuda. That Colony's production, however, does not exceed 30 to 40 tons per annum.

Apart from that point of view, it is evident that the market for arrowroot is of such a limited nature that St. Vincent will, by herself, for many years to come, be able to fully satisfy all the requirements of it.

Sugar continues to be grown chiefly in the Carib country estates, but the exportation figures indicate no increase in quantity. The only noticeable feature with regard to this crop is the increase in the amount of export of crystallized sugar, showing a corresponding decrease in the export of muscovado sugar.

The cultivation of cocoa raises no enthusiasm in St. Vincent, and it seems conclusive that only certain favoured localities and spots are suitable for its growth. The export value figures have, however, increased, and show £5,069 for the year under review, as compared with £4,132 in 1910.

Anthrax has been completely stamped out of the Colony, no case having been diagnosed since July, 1911, up to the time of writing —fifteen months. Precautionary measures continue to be taken in the shape of examination of the blood of all animals dying in the Colony from any cause whatsoever. The neighbouring Colonies have now agreed, under certain relaxed restrictions, to receive stock from St. Vincent.

The officers of the Agricultural Department have continued to carry on good work in experimentation, especially in connection with cotton seed selection, and to assist planters and small growers with their advice. No Colony which, like St. Vincent, is solely dependent for its livelihood upon its agricultural resources can afford to be stingy over its expenditure in the maintenance of an Agricultural Department.

Land Settlement and Crown Lands.

The sales during the year under the Land Settlement Scheme were 96 in all—rural lots 35 and township lots 61. In addition, 24 acres of Crown land were sold out in small lots. Available Crown land consists of mountain lands, which are only suitable for small holdings for growing provisions and native produce.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands was £542, as against £601 in the previous year.

Early in the year the survey of Union Island, purchased by the Government for land settlement purposes, was completed, and the allotment of land to peasants on a twelve years' purchase system was commenced. The area of the island is slightly over 2,000 acres. Over half of it has already been allotted, and it is anticipated that, with the exception of certain portions, about 500 acres,

especially and definitely reserved for forest, it will all have been disposed of within the next two years. A branch money order post office and Government savings bank were established during the year, much to the convenience of the inhabitants.

SHIPPING.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1910 and 1911 is appended, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping during the last five years. These figures do not include ships of war, of which four such British ships visited the Colony during 1911:—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1910.				1911.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	382	8,294	376	8,165	368	8,232	367	8,084
American ...	1	200	1	200	1	295	1	295
Dutch	2	157	2	157	2	108	2	108
Totals ...	385	8,651	379	8,522	371	8,635	370	8,487

Steamers.

Nationality	1910.				1911.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	93	128,899	93	128,899	97	134,542	97	134,542
Danish	5	7,973	5	7,973	4	6,385	4	6,385
Totals ...	98	136,872	98	136,872	101	140,927	101	140,927

Total Shipping for the past Five Years.

—	1907-8.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	153,657	170,154	161,505	145,523	149,562
Outwards	152,321	169,829	161,489	145,394	149,414
Totals ...	305,978	339,983	322,994	290,917	298,976

III.—LEGISLATION.

A very much needed and long delayed revision of the statutes up to the end of 1911 was completed by the Chief Justice, Mr. W. S. Shaw, during the year and published. This included the drafting and passing of new criminal and civil codes on modern lines. As no revision of the laws had taken place since 1884—namely, for a period of twenty-eight years—the task was a laborious one and of considerable magnitude.

The following Ordinances were added to the Statute Book during the year:—

The Export Duties.
Supreme Court of Judicature Amendment.
Cotton Diseases Prevention.
Statute Law Revision.
Georgetown Jetty.
Quarantine.
Land Settlement (Amending).
Licences, 1896, Amendment, 1911.
Appropriation.
Cinematograph.
Veterinary Surgeons.
Public Health, 1910, Amendment, 1911.
Agricultural Products Protection.
Land and House Tax, 1904, Amendment, 1911.
Excise.
Birds and Fish Protection.
Licences Amendment.
Supplementary Appropriation.
Bills of Sale.
Magistrates.
Indictable Offences (Magistrates Procedure).
Summary Conviction Offences (Procedure).
Small Debts.
Magistrates Decisions (Appeals).
Summary Conviction Offences.
Indictable Offences.
Customs Duties.
Anthrax.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1910-11 and 1911-12 are as follows:—

	1910-11.	1911-12.
Number of schools	28	26
Number on roll at 31st March ...	4,552	4,475
Average attendance	2,260	2,193
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid	1,635	1,702

There is a boys' secondary school with headquarters in Kingstown hitherto with an average attendance of 22 pupils. At time of writing, however, this attendance has gone up to 41, due, no doubt, to a greater prosperity which is pervading all classes of the community. The fees charged are £2 per term for each scholar, except those under ten years of age in the lowest form, for whom the fees are £1 6*s*. 8*d*. per term. But when two or more brothers in forms above the lowest attend there is a reduction made of 6*s*. 8*d*. for the second and 13*s*. 4*d*. for the third.

A girls' secondary school under Government supervision, with headquarters in Kingstown, was opened during the year, the attendance at time of writing being 22. This fills a long-felt want. The fees are the same as at the boys' secondary school.

The attendance at the primary schools continues about the same.

The agricultural school maintained an average of 15 pupils during the year. Special effort is being made to instruct the pupils in the cultivation of cotton and its diseases—very few of the overseers on estates to-day having any technical or expert knowledge of this subject beyond what they have gained by practical experience since the introduction of the Sea Island plant into St. Vincent only eight years ago.

The fifteen acres of land attached to the school is all fully worked up in various products, such as cotton, sugar, &c., by the boys themselves, while each pupil is allowed a small piece of ground as a vegetable garden, the produce of which may be disposed of for his own benefit.

The small stock farm, which continued to be worked as an adjunct to the school, affords a valuable practical illustration of how stock should be kept and fed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 955 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 1,014 cases treated, as against a total of 820 in 1910-11.

The daily average was 60·3 as against 57, 55·8 and 60·7 in the previous three years.

The death rate was 5·5 per cent. of the total cases.

Operations numbered 128 as against 126 in 1910-11.

The medical officer is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is set aside for the detention of male lunatics who are violent, or manifest destructive tendencies. Other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the Pauper Asylum, and female lunatics are also

detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable, any violent or difficult case is, by arrangement with that Government, sent to Grenada, but sometimes the asylum there has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were 21 cases under treatment during the year (9 being new admissions), of whom 2 were discharged cured, 2 died, and 4 were transferred to Grenada.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care in the Grenada Asylum was 28, at a cost of £456 18*s*. 3*d*. to the Colony.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st of March, 1911, was 7; during the year there was 1 admission, 1 died, and 1 was discharged, leaving 6 inmates in the asylum at the end of the year.

Under a new Public Health Ordinance, which was passed in 1910, compulsory segregation of pauper lepers is now provided for.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte at a considerable elevation overlooking the town of Kingstown.

At the commencement of the year under review there were 91 inmates of the asylum, and the admissions and discharges during the year were:—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	21	24	45
Discharged	7	7	14
Died	20	14	34
Total	27	21	48

leaving 88 on the 31st March, 1912.

The total expenditure in 1911-12 was £994 on the pauper and leper asylums, including the cost of lunatics kept locally—the same as last year.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Early in the year the old military hospital was renovated at a cost of £250 and opened as a yaws hospital capable of holding 50 patients. The disease of yaws has long been ravaging the homes of the labouring population in the Colony, and the institution of this hospital is much appreciated by them.

Savings Bank.

Appended is a statement of the working of the savings bank for the last five years:—

Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1913.

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including interest capitalised).
		£	£	£
1907...	1,010	7,629	6,757	13,247
1908...	1,121	6,693	5,929	14,313
1909...	1,063	6,624	7,371	13,869
1910...	1,095	8,686	6,877	15,994
1911...	1,163	9,526	7,923	17,971

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus:—

	At 31st December, 1910.	At 31st December, 1911.
	£	£
Kingstown ...	14,152	16,115
Georgetown ...	1,121	1,107
Chateaubelair ...	721	744
Union Island ...	—	5
Total ...	£15,994	£17,971

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £108.

There was invested of savings bank funds at 31st December, 1911, the sum of £16,149.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The St. Vincent police force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, and 49 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates.

They are drilled, and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles.

In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties in connection with excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges. The prison is worked entirely by the police, save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs outside.

In Kingstown a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

Two hundred and thirty-six persons were committed to prison in the year, of whom 134 were men, 95 women, and 7 juveniles. The daily average was 28, as against 35·53 in 1910-11.

The number of cases reported to the police in 1911-12 was 621; of these 53 were for offences against the person, 42 for prædial larceny, 69 for other offences against property, and 457 for other offences. Only 568 of the above cases were brought before a magisterial court.

The total number of persons brought before the magisterial courts was 1,265; of these 356 were for offences against the person, 64 for prædial larceny, 156 for other offences against property, 6 for offences against the Masters and Servants Act, 262 for offences against revenue laws, municipal, road, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, and 421 for other offences. These figures are inclusive of the cases reported by the police.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 883 as against 865 in 1910-11.

These convictions are classed as follows:—

For offences against the person	222
,, malicious injury to property	5
,, prædial larceny	59
,, other offences against property	74
,, offences against Revenue Acts, &c.	227
,, offences against Masters and Servants Act ...	3
,, other offences	293
Total	883

The convictions in the Supreme Court were 13 for offences against property and 1 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—

In the Inferior Courts	155
In the Supreme Court	7

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901 on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. The population by the official census of April, 1911, was 41,877, which had increased at 31st March, 1912, to 43,117.

The births registered in 1911-12 were 1,790 (926 males and 864 females), as against 1,661 in 1910-11; of these 1,037 or 57·93 per cent. were illegitimate.

Still-births were 94—36 legitimate and 58 illegitimate—the figures for the previous year being 32 and 55 respectively.

Marriages were 153—an increase of 26 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.
Church of England	64	50	67
Church of Scotland	11	9	5
Wesleyan	65	60	65
Roman Catholic	21	7	13
Plymouth Brethren	—	1	3

The total registered deaths were 914 as against 835 in 1910-11, being 21·19 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 183, being 20·02 per cent. of the total number of deaths. The similar figure in 1910-11 was 208 or 24·91 per cent.

Appended is a table of the causes of death:—

General diseases (includes syphilis, 68; tubercle, 24; tetanus, 25; malarial fevers, 7; dysentery, 16)	232
Diseases of nervous system	36
,, ,, circulatory system	59
,, ,, respiratory system	56
,, ,, digestive system	172
Parasites	71
Age	91
Still-born	94
Other diseases	103
Total	914

In the towns the authorities are realising more and more the importance of stricter sanitation and are taking steps accordingly. In the villages, however, sanitary matters are still on a most primitive basis, although the Government, through their District Medical Officers, spare no pains to impress upon the population generally the necessity for care in this direction.

The rainfall for the year 1911-12 (at the Botanic Station, 206 feet above the sea level) was 119·07 inches, as against 103·22 inches in 1910-11.

Rain fell on 264 days during the year.

The maximum fall in twenty-four hours was 7·97 inches on the 25th September.

September was the wettest month, with 21·81 inches. A good deal of damage was done to the roads during that month owing to the heavy rain, while the effect on the cotton crop was also somewhat disastrous.

February was the driest month, with 3·93 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 78·4° F. Maximum for the year was 88° F. (in August, September and October) and the minimum 68° F., which was experienced in February.

Except in August and September, when the atmosphere is uncomfortably hot, although not even in those months insalubrious, the climate may be regarded as most healthy for both Europeans and coloured persons. Malaria is hardly known, while yellow fever has proved itself to be a disease of the past.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly mail service from and to England continued to be performed by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At Trinidad the mails are transferred into the inter-colonial ships, which call weekly at St. Vincent on regular days—one week with outward mails on the way round the islands, and the following week on the way to Trinidad with homeward mails. The service was carried on in a satisfactory manner.

The steamers of the Pickford and Black Line, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, while occasional calls were made by the steamers of the Quebec Steamship Line. During the year an arrangement was made with Scrutton's Direct Line to call once a month outward and homeward bound. The East Asiatic Line of steamers from Copenhagen viâ London and the Danish West Indies also made occasional calls.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward district of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward district daily, and the Grenadines once a week.

The postal order system continues to grow in popularity, and its extension to the district towns has been accomplished.

The volume of work in the Post Office also continues to expand, which is a sure sign of the upward march of the Colony.

The revenue of the telephone department was £569, including £281 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £518. The main installation is in Kingstown with branch lines all over the island. The service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

During the year there has been no change in the heads of administrative departments. The Administrator on one occasion paid a visit to Grenada to consult the Governor-in-Chief on affairs of the Colony and was absent for about 7 days. From the 26th June, 1911, to the 3rd January, 1912, the Administrator was absent on long leave. During that period His Honour W. S. Shaw, Chief Justice, administered the government.

The Royal Coronation in London of Their Majesties King George V. and Queen Mary, which took place on the 22nd June, 1911, is to be regarded as the most important event of the year

under review. This occasion was celebrated throughout the Colony with much rejoicing and will long be remembered for the many manifestations of loyalty and devotion to Their Majesties' throne and persons which it evoked. A small permanent memorial of the event, in the form of a stock drinking trough, was erected in the market place in Kingstown.

In March, 1912, St. Vincent despatched two delegates to Canada to take part in the Ottawa Conference between Canada and the West Indies convened for the purpose of arranging a preferential trading agreement between the two places. The agreement resulting from the labours of this Conference has since been adopted by the Colony and will in all probability be brought into force early in 1913.

With the help of the Treasurer of Grenada, an expert in such matters, a complete re-organization of the Excise system and Department was effected during the year.

The Colony's trade continues to expand and evidences of increasing prosperity are visible on every side. In this beautiful island material prosperity is dependent solely upon good crops, good prices, and good weather.

The inhabitants of an island which produces the best cotton in the world and an unrivalled class of arrowroot can reasonably hope to attain a standard of comfort and prosperity comparable with that obtaining in any other British tropical possession.

A sketch map of the Colony is attached to this Report.

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

16th October, 1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	"
719	Ashanti	"
720	Falkland Islands	"
721	Seychelles	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast...	"
723	Hong Kong...	"
724	Sierra Leone	"
725	Gold Coast	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	"
746	British Guiana	1911–1912

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c

INCHES 1 2 3 4 5 6
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
10 FIRST STREET SE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540
METRIC 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

8

265
906
Rel 1

No. 752.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 713.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1913.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1913.

[Cd. 6667.] *Price* 2½*d.*

JV33
.G7A4

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. Financial	4
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	9
III. Legislation	15
IV. Education	15
V. Government Institutions	16
VI. Judicial Statistics	17
VII. Vital Statistics	18
VIII. Postal and Telephone Services	19
IX. General Remarks	20

Sketch Map.

D. of D.
MAR 16 1918

No. 752.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1910–11, *see* No. 713.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Vincent,
21st January, 1913.

Submitted. The report shows a satisfactory increase in material prosperity, due principally to a marked expansion in the Colony's trade, whilst the total shipping tonnage was the highest on record in the Colony.

The recorded progress in agriculture is still slow, but a good start has been made with the lime industry, larger areas are now coming into bearing, and it is expected that the product will before long figure largely in the export list.

The new lighthouse at Moule-à-Chique is a great success, and will prove to have an important bearing on the shipping interests of the Colony.

Unfortunately the report issues late, a defect which, I trust, will be remedied next year.

J. HAYES SADLER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Government House,
Saint Lucia,
17th January, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1911-12, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lieut.-Col. Sir J. Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.
Grenada.

(28807—2.) Wt. 35104—688. 1125 & 90. 3/13. D & S. A 2

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1912, including £300, the Imperial Grants in aid of agriculture, amounted in round figures to £71,979, an increase of £6,913 as compared with the revenue for the preceding year, and £7,127 above the Estimates.

The following statement gives the details:—

Heads of Revenue.	Actual Revenue. 1911-12. £	s.	d.	1910-11. £	s.	d.
1. Customs	35,781	13	7	32,162	11	9
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	7,710	6	8	6,171	8	8
3. Licences, Excise, &c.—						
(*a.*) Licences—						
Retail Spirit, &c.	1,524	10	0	1,563	0	0
Distillery ...	100	0	0	100	0	0
Animals, Vehicles, and Guns ...	566	7	6	607	0	0
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boat, &c. ...	536	7	3	532	15	11
(*b.*) Excise—						
Duty on Rum ...	12,306	3	7	11,589	19	7
(*c.*) Road Tax	1	4	0	867	10	2
(*d.*) Stamp Duty—						
Various Revenue Services ...	677	9	5	480	13	7
(*e.*) Fines and forfeitures of Courts	307	19	9	356	9	6
(*f.*) Revenue seizures and penalties ...	4	9	10	10	15	8
(*g.*) Income Tax ...	1,706	18	6	832	9	2
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	4,522	2	7	3,941	15	8
5. Post Office	1,740	9	5	1,304	7	0
6. Telephone	838	12	9	787	5	4
7. Rent of Government Property	804	4	6	810	9	6
8. Miscellaneous	243	16	7	115	5	6
9. Interest	1,483	6	4	1,411	15	2
10. Repayment of Loans ...	175	10	0	175	10	0
	£71,031	12	3	£63,821	2	2
11. Land Sales	647	1	2	745	0	3
Total Local Revenue	£71,678	13	5	£64,566	2	5
12. Imperial Dept. of Agriculture—						
Grant-in-aid ...	300	0	0	500	0	0
Total Revenue	£71,978	13	5	65,066	2	5

Nearly every Head shows an increase, the chief items being £3,619 under Customs and £1,539 under Port and Harbour dues, both mainly due to the exceptional amount of the shipping visiting the Port for coaling purposes.

The articles contributing chiefly to the excess receipts under Customs were:—Coal, £902; Tobacco, £603; Flour, £463; Cigarettes, £254. On the other hand, however, part of these increased importations was to meet the demands of the shipping for "ship's stores," and the amount of duty refunded on such stores exported was appreciably larger than in the year previous.

Under Head 3, Excise gave an increase of £716 over the figure of the year before, and the total was the largest since 1907.

The old Road Tax was replaced in 1910 by an Income Tax, and 1911-12 was the first occasion of a full year's collection being taken. The result was a very satisfactory one, the total reaching to £1,707 against an estimate of £1,500. Deductions from salaries, fees, and pensions of public officers contributed £295 of the total.

Under the Head, Post Office, there were heavy sales of postage stamps, the demand being large in anticipation of early change of issue.

The following are the figures of the revenue for the last five years, distinguishing local receipts from those from the Imperial Grant in aid of agriculture:—

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1907-8.	Local	66,636	1	1			
	Imperial Grant ...	715	0	0			
					67,351	1	1
1908-9.	Local	65,194	0	7			
	Imperial Grant ...	500	0	0			
					65,694	0	7
1909-10.	Local	65,239	18	11			
	Imperial Grant ...	500	0	0			
					65,739	18	11
1910-11.	Local	64,566	2	5			
	Imperial Grant ...	500	0	0			
					65,066	2	5
1911-12.	Local	71,678	13	5			
	Imperial Grant ...	300	0	0			
					71,978	13	5

The number of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor issued during the year ended the 31st March, 1912, as well as the revenue derived therefrom, is shown below:—

The similar revenue figure was, respectively, in 1909-10 and 1910-11, £1,657 and £1,570, and this gradual decrease does not seem to be quite satisfactory:

Description of Licence.	No. issued during quarter ended on				Revenue.
	30th June, 1911.	30th September, 1911.	31st December, 1911.	31st March, 1912.	£ s. d.
Wholesale	2	2	2	2	40 0 0
Retail Spirit	41	41	41	41	1,352 0 0
Bottle	2	2	2	2	80 0 0
Refreshment House ...	2	2	2	2	45 0 0
Hotel	1	1	1	1	6 0 0
Occasional	4	—	—	1	1 10 0
					1,523 10 0

The total expenditure amounted to £69,329, including £549 from the Imperial Agricultural Grant-in-Aid, £249 of which was from the unexpended balances of previous years' grants.

The expenditure from local funds was £68,780, being £537 more than estimated, and £1,877 more than in the year previous.

The following statement gives the detail:

Heads of Expenditure.	£ s. d. 1911-12.	£ s. d. 1910-11.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	9,396 16 2	9,398 15 2
2. Pensions and Gratuities...	2,534 3 0	2,249 10 3
3. The Governor	2,093 0 10	2,276 5 7
4. Government Office ...	1,060 11 3	1,061 15 3
5. Treasury, &c.	2,887 8 0	4,803 18 9
6. Post Office	2,159 18 2	1,976 13 10
7. Port and Marine Department	1,119 19 10	1,073 18 0
8. Audit Department ...	546 7 9	549 1 7
9. Legal Departments ...	3,932 17 6	4,071 0 1
10. Local Forces	579 13 4	670 18 2
11. Police	4,293 11 9	4,376 12 10
12. Prisons	1,350 9 3	1,498 14 6
13. Medical Department ...	2,980 14 7	3,203 15 6
14. Sanitation and Hygiene...	156 11 4	137 9 1
15. Hospitals and Asylums ...	4,237 5 6	3,301 2 2
16. Charitable	522 19 0	514 3 7
17. Education	5,041 12 9	5,042 17 7
18. Ecclesiastical	1,600 0 0	1,600 0 0
19. Agriculture	804 9 5	861 1 5
20. Miscellaneous Services ...	6,226 4 1	2,650 3 0
21. Colonial Engineer's Department	3,048 9 0	3,025 4 8
22. Public Works Recurrent	7,357 14 8	7,529 6 6

Heads of Expenditure.	£ s. d. 1911-12.	£ s. d. 1910-11.
23. Public Works Extraordinary	4,849 4 1	5,030 15 3
Total Local Expenditure	68,780 1 3	66,903 2 9
19a. Agriculture (from Imperial Funds)	548 17 5	385 1 11
Total Expenditure	£69,328 18 8	67,288 4 8

The large decrease under Head 5, Treasury, is mainly accountable for by the transfer of the item Drawbacks and Refunds to the Miscellaneous Head, the increase in which is correspondingly large. The amount paid out as Drawbacks and Refunds was £1,802. Other exceptional items under the last Head contributing to the large total were Expenses of Coronation Celebration, £306, and of the taking of Census, £589. Subsidy was also paid by St. Lucia for continuation of the Pickford & Black Canadian Steamer Service on expiration of the previous contract of that firm with the Canadian and Imperial Governments, the amount for the year being £279.

The following figures show the expenditure of the Colony for the last five years, distinguishing expenditure from local sources and that from the Imperial Grant in aid of agriculture:—

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1907-8.	Local	64,152 3 11	
	Imperial Grant ...	687 11 7	
			64,839 15 6
1908-9.	Local	64,433 14 4	
	Imperial Grant ...	604 3 10	
			65,037 18 2
1909-10.	Local	64,048 1 9	
	Imperial Grant ...	398 3 11	
			64,446 5 8
1910-11.	Local	66,903 2 9	
	Imperial Grant ...	385 1 11	
			67,288 4 8
1911-12.	Local	68,780 1 3	
	Imperial Grant ...	548 17 5	
			69,328 18 8

As a result of the transactions of 1911-12, the Colony's surplus at 31st March was increased by £2,898, and stood at £27,913, making, with the accumulated Public Building Insurance Fund, amounting to £4,350, a total surplus of £32,263. Of this amount £25,140 15*s.* 11*d.* is invested in securities by the Crown Agents in England, £1,500 is on deposit locally at the Colonial Bank, and £3,499 14*s.* 5*d.* is loaned to the Castries Town Board and Water Authority.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1912, stood at £144,729 11*s.* 0*d.*, and the accumulated Sinking Fund towards its redemption at £19,274 4*s.* 6*d.*

The Debt is made up of the following:—

	£.	s.	d.
Castries Harbour Loan	49,950	0	0
Immigration	8,000	0	0
Central Factory	7,200	0	0
Public Works	50,579	11	0
Castries Waterworks (Colony's contribution towards cost)	12,000	0	0
For loan to Castries Town Board (for Waterworks and other purposes) ...	17,000	0	0
	£144,729	11	0

Of the above the interest and redemption charges on £17,000 are recovered from the Town Board's municipal revenues, as also on £550 of the £50,579 11*s.* 0*d.* for Public Works.

Currency.

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper. A few Bank of England notes are occasionally seen. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents by the Bank and mercantile firms, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.*

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates and dues, market dues and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the towns and villages, the amount of their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1912, and the balance standing to their credit at the same date:—

Town or Village.	1907–8.		1908–9.		1909–10.		1910–11.		1911–12.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1912.	Credit Balance at 31st March, 1912.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries	5,470	5,404	5,350	5,189	5,006	5,508	6,301	5,990	6,440	5,396	21,049	487
Soufrière .	529	532	557	516	504	504	527	557	544	577	1,600	118
Vieux Fort ...	177	183	172	219	168	152	177	138	174	211	—	72
Laborie	69	84	69	49	71	43	81	55	80	67	—	121
Canaries	38	32	39	112	52	48	43	46	78	86	—	47
Dennery	126	119	130	123	133	172	153	113	338	176	—	431
Gros Islet ...	103	99	105	97	109	84	100	79	102	134	—	213
Anse la Raye ...	70	83	78	49	62	50	84	49	81	184	—	42
Choiseul	45	13	45	144	43	21	43	43	42	25	—	53
Micoud	74	87	77	57	74	61	74	96	73	66	—	48

During the year under review the water works system of Castries was thoroughly inspected and reported on by Mr. E. V. Acton, Engineer of the Port of Spain, Trinidad, Waterworks, and as a result an Ordinance was passed and a loan from General Revenue made to the Water Authority of £2,500, to enable an improved supply to be secured.

At Soufrière some progress was made in street improvements and more efficient lighting.

The question of lighting arrangements in Canaries and Gros Islet also received attention.

A grant of £200 and a loan of £800, both from General Revenue, were made to the village of Dennery for the provision of a small water supply, the carrying out of which, however, has been delayed by various circumstances.

Speaking generally, these small towns of St. Lucia, all of them being on the coast-line, are nicely laid out and situated, and are reasonably well kept and managed, and their general standard and appearance can bear favourable comparison with those of similar sized places in other islands.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The following is taken from the Treasurer's annual report:—

Trade.

"The total value of the imports for the calendar year amounted to £318,590 19*s*. 1*d*. as compared with £277,207 14*s*. 0*d*. in 1910. The countries from which they were imported are given below with figures for the previous year for comparison:—

	1911.	1910.
	£	£
United Kingdom	75,976	79,547
British Guiana	945	1,100
British West Indies	6,714	6,992
Canada	11,630	14,798
Ceylon	287	351
India	3,870	3,077
Newfoundland	548	1,528
Other British Colonies	256	152
United States of America ...	200,286	154,123
France	7,045	5,523
Germany	2,426	2,335
Foreign West Indies	985	1,034
Other Colonies	4,595	3,670
By Parcel Post	3,027	2,977
Total	£318,590	£277,207

The imports are summarised as follows:—

	1911. £	1910. £
I. Food, drink and tobacco ...	75,971	74,188
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	152,355	108,264
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	78,344	88,062
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified, including imports by parcel post	3,840	3,893
V. Bullion and specie	8,080	2,800

The increased importation of coal, £41,583 in excess of 1910, almost accounts for the difference between the total figures of the two years. A slight drop occurred in the imports from the United Kingdom with a corresponding increase from the United States. The latter country is, of course, our best market for food supplies. We obtained from there £39,882 or just over fifty per cent. of our imports of that class. From there also came the entire supply of bunker coal for our coaling business, valued at £146,834. Other large importations were cottons £2,184, boots and shoes £2,873, gasolene and petroleum £1,637, and building pitch and white pine £1,038. The imports of other descriptions amounted only to £6,855.

Doubtless some of our imported goods from the United States might have been of Canadian origin. Flour and fish, salted and dried, are large items of Canadian produce and, of such imports valued at £20,740 and £11,370, only £2,378 and £4,940 respectively were accounted for as from Canada. Deducting coal and petroleum, as assured imports from the United States, the figures for 1911 show £51,814 of other exports from that market for which Canadian enterprise might compete. But any further diversion cannot be expected until suitable direct steam communication, and freight charges, offer advantages that can favourably compare with the existing conditions of trade with the United States. We get a reliable fortnightly service from New York by the Quebec steamers, giving the opportunity for regular importations and quick sales. Without equal facilities from the Canadian market there can be no successful competition."

Exports.

"The total exports amounted to £273,111 1*s.* 2*d.*, or £45,479 17*s.* 11*d.* less than the imports, and £34,156 2*s.* 7*d.* less than the exports in 1910.

The following is a summary:—

Exports to.	Island Produce. £	Exports, other than Island Produce. £
United Kingdom	65,440	1,134
Canada	9,678	—
British West Indies	2,780	4,780

Exports to.	Island Produce. £	Exports, other than Island Produce. £
United States	1,687	—
France	31,719	160
Other Countries	1,183	277
Foreign West Indies	1,119	191
	£113,608	6,542
Bunker Coal	—	152,951

The exports of island produce, with declared values, are given below with figures for 1910 for comparison.

—	1911.		1910.	
	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £
Cocoa	2,073,600 lbs.	46,656	1,637,400 lbs.	40,935
Sugar Usine	4,288 tons	52,535	5,199 tons	64,987
„ Muscovado ...	172 „	1,555	76 „	760
Logwood	2,638 „	5,276	463 „	936
Molasses	74,306 galls.	1,400	95,220 galls.	1,914
Rum	12,410 „	1,034	4,692 „	391
Cotton	3,917 lbs.	275	17,770 lbs.	1,301
Honey	363 pkgs.	447	229 pkgs.	402
Limes, Green	234 „	129	35 „	13
Lime Juice	49 „	148	70 „	319
Firewood	1,115 cords	557	1,364 cords	682
Hides and Skins ...	151 pkgs.	820	161 pkgs.	926
Cocoanuts	19,750 (No.)	110	6,750 (No.)	119
Pimento Sticks ...	14,103 „	428	13,175 „	545
Fresh Fruit, Mangoes	36,000 „ 912 pkgs.	503	20,000 „ 1,408 pkgs.	521
Various, unspecified ...	—	1,735	—	1,551
Total	—	113,608	—	116,306

The value of the exports of ships' stores, which is probably between £8,000 and £10,000, is not included in the above figures, no proper statistical record of these having hitherto been kept. This omission will now be rectified."

Coaling Trade.

It will be seen from the figures below of shipments for the last five years, that 1911 was a bumper year for the coaling business. This is understood to have been largely due to poor crop conditions in the Plate, bringing much shipping which would usually have filled up there, north on the look out for freight.

Year.	Tons.	£
1907	118,503	142,381
1908	85,460	102,288
1909	96,462	115,754
1910	97,384	116,861
1911	130,056	152,962

This business affords steady and remunerative employment to a large number of carriers, both male and female, dwelling in and in the vicinity of Castries, by whom the vessels are discharged and loaded.

The following extract from the report of the Treasurer is of interest:

"In the coaling trade Port Castries takes first place in the British West Indies; and the business of the port in this direction is steadily increasing, the facilities for fast despatch being unrivalled. The wharfage accommodation is suitable for steamships drawing up to 27 feet. The coal supply is in close proximity to the berthing space and the delivery averages 100 tons an hour, with greater celerity when required. On 11th April the German Cruiser 'Bremen' received 550 tons in four hours, and on a more recent occasion 900 tons were delivered to H.M.S. 'Cornwall' in 5½ hours, equal to 164 tons an hour, being the quickest record for bunkering in the West Indies."

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

Work on the sulphur deposits at Ventine in the Soufriere District practically ceased and is scarcely likely to be taken up again.

The sugar factories at Cul de Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery were all working during the year.

The following figures show the quantity of rum distilled, consumed, and exported during the last five years:—

Year.	Distilled.	Consumed.	Exported.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
1907	57,213	51,453	3,652
1908	83,532	51,216	23,440
1909	72,633	46,949	27,883
1910	49,256	42,456	4,692
1911	63,961	44,516	12,787

Fishing is carried on all round the coast of the island and there is an ample supply, but it is only tapped sufficiently to meet the local demand.

Agricultural Industries.

The principal products of the Colony are sugar and cocoa. Lime cultivation is, however, making satisfactory progress and promises to become of very considerable importance. A fairly large area is already planted up and will soon reach the bearing stage, and cultivation is being rapidly extended. This cultivation is also attracting the attention of small growers.

The quantity and value of the export of sugar and cocoa during the past five years were as follows:—

Year.	Cocoa.		Sugar: Usine.		Other sugar, Muscovado, and products thereof.
	Quantity.	Value	Quantity.	Value.	
	Bags of 200 lb.	£	Tons.	£	£
1907	8,598	47,292	5,302	53,020	1,432
1908	6,775	30,488	4,881	53,691	2,813
1909	10,850	54,275	5,360	59,623	2,265
1910	8,187	40,935	5,199	64,988	2,674
1911	10,368	46,656	4,288	52,535	1,955

The Agricultural Superintendent reports that the smaller output of sugar is attributable to the very heavy rainfall of 1911, which caused damage by flood and also made it impossible to carry out proper tillage and weeding operations, besides waterlogging the soil and thus checking the growth of the canes.

As regards cocoa, there has been some small extension, and the methods of cultivation have received attention, but expenditure has been rather diverted to limes, in which the interest is growing.

The actual quantity of lime product exported—green limes and juice—was still quite small, but from now on, with larger areas coming into bearing and plant to deal with them being erected, we may expect to see a steady increase in the output.

The planting of cocoa-nuts is also being taken up, and there is no doubt scope in the Island for a very profitable extension of this cultivation.

Cotton planting has not proved a success in St. Lucia, and only a very negligible quantity was grown during the year.

The Agricultural School at Union, as originally conducted, was closed, and a scheme for training agricultural pupils at the Botanic Station was inaugurated, the details being fully explained and information as to them widely distributed. It cannot be said, however, that this has proved a success, only two youths having come forward so far to take advantage of the training offered.

The general activities of the department were well maintained and the staff was strengthened by the appointment of an Assistant Agricultural Superintendent, thus enabling a greater measure of time to be given than before by the officers to the country districts.

The peasant cocoa holdings have received special attention.

The Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, Dr. Watts, C.M.G., also visited a large number of estates in the Soufrière, Vieux Fort, and Micoud Quarters during the month of March last, studying local conditions and conferring with planters and others interested in the possibility of agricultural improvement and development.

Land Grants.

Fifty-one grants for Crown Lands were issued during the year, the acreage disposed of being 421 acres. The price of such land

is at the rate of £1 per acre, payable one-fifth on application and the rest in four annual instalments.

Sixty-nine new applications for land were filed.

Shipping.

The total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared at the Port of Castries, the only port of entry in St. Lucia, amounted to 3,996,163 tons, the highest record for the Colony.

This is a higher tonnage than in Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, or British Guiana, comparing it with the figures of 1910 for these places.

The number of steamers, 943, was far in excess of any previous year. Of these 817 were of British nationality.

The port was visited by seven warships and six yachts.

A summary of the statistics for the last five years is attached :—

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1907 ...	615	1,169,037	215	7,683	101	136,920	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	957,866	203	7,340	90	126,337	38	2,267
1909 ...	518	1,027,837	201	6,003	127	220,961	45	2,731
1910 ...	557	1,143,092	228	7,437	135	241,808	40	2,712
1911 ...	817	1,782,911	182	5,086	126	208,500	41	2,535

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1907 ...	614	1,166,991	216	7,606	100	134,803	30	2,089
1908 ...	487	958,607	201	7,387	89	124,520	38	2,267
1909 ...	517	1,025,251	197	5,574	129	224,895	44	2,662
1910 ...	559	1,146,983	228	7,928	134	239,687	40	2,712
1911 ...	815	1,778,865	182	5,110	127	210,621	41	2,535

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of the year had twelve vessels on the register, with a tonnage of 606. All these are small sailing vessels, locally owned with one exception,

a schooner of 417 tons. Of four of the vessels on the list aggregating 93 tons, all trace has been lost, and these will not reappear, so that the total of the port is in reality a very small one.

A new scale of fees for registration and measurement, more in keeping with local requirements than the old one, was adopted during the year.

The new lighthouse at Moule-à-Chique, the southern extremity of the Island, referred to in the last report, was completed. This admirable light is greatly appreciated by the shipping having occasion to come to the Island.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-five Ordinances were passed during the year 1911. Of these the more important were "Turtle and Fish Protection," "Weights and Measures" (by which the Imperial Standard of measure is substituted for the old Winchester measure, and provision is made for due inspection of weights and measures which has not hitherto existed), "Surveyors and Boundaries Settlement" (by which the existing law is consolidated and amended), and "Money Lending."

IV.—EDUCATION.

The 1911 Annual Report of the Inspector of Schools furnished the following figures:—

	1910.	1911.
Number of Schools	53	53
Number on Rolls	7,259	7,268
Average Attendance	4,625	4,625
Number Examined	6,745	6 227
Government Grant-in-Aid ...	£3,942	£3,912

Of the 53 schools 46 are Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 East Indian Mission (Presbyterian). Of the 7,268 children on the rolls, 3,598 are boys and 3,670 girls.

The census was taken on April 1st, 1911. The following figures show the growth of school attendance during the last two decades:—

—	1891.	1901.	1911.
Population	42,220	49,883	48,637
Average attendance	1,810	3,433	4,625
Percentage	4·3	6·9	9·5

A special census taken during the course of the year showed that nearly 75 per cent. of the prisoners in the Royal Gaol were

illiterates. The examination in agriculture, theoretical and practical, was carried out by the Agricultural Department. Of the 17 schools examined, seven showed improvement on the results of the previous year, seven retained their position, and three lost marks. It may be pointed out that agriculture is only taught in schools with juvenile boys; the girls' schools and infant schools have no school gardens.

Hygiene has been taught, as during the previous year, in every school in the Colony, from Standard II. upwards. The Inspector of Schools reports that the examination results in this subject were satisfactory and that, further, progress has been made in getting the children to appreciate the practical importance to themselves and their families of observing the simple rules of hygiene explained to them in school.

Of the two schools of secondary education, St. Mary's College, for boys, receiving a government grant of £400 per annum, had, during 1911, an average attendance of 46; St. Joseph's Convent School, for girls, receiving a government grant of £150 per annum, had an average attendance of 90.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The only general hospital in the Colony is the Victoria Hospital, within half a mile of Castries, a large stone building with outhouses, &c., capable of accommodating 80 patients. The daily average during 1911-12 was 65, and the cost works out at £1,701, or £26 per head. Considerable outlay has been incurred latterly in connection with this institution in an attempt to improve and uplift the tone and condition generally, which is meeting with fair success.

In the town of Soufrière and at the villages of Vieux Fort and Dennery, where there are resident medical officers, small buildings are provided and fitted to serve the purposes of casualty hospitals, and as such are very useful. There are seldom more than two or three cases under treatment at a time at these places, and often they are empty.

Situated on a breezy spot near the sea beach within a mile of the town of Soufrière is the general poor asylum, which takes in and makes good and welcomed provision for the human wreckage of the Colony, the majority of which drift there only in the last stage preceding dissolution.

The daily average at this institution was 61·63. This provision for paupers of the Island is supplemented by an outdoor relief system under the supervision of the Police Department.

Lower down on the shore itself is the yaws asylum, with a daily average of about 46·42, and here also in addition to yaws patients two or three lepers are housed, for whom separate accommodation has not yet been provided.

There are visiting stations at various other points where medical officers attend regularly on fixed days, and are available to those who require their services.

At Castries the Medical Officer in charge of the Victoria Hospital dealt with a very numerous out-patient clientele from the town at the hospital dispensary, but this has now been changed, and a separate dispensary established in the town, which is a preferable arrangement.

There is no reformatory or industrial school in the Colony.

Savings Bank.

There is a Government Savings Bank, with 1,626 depositors and a total sum on deposit at 31st December, 1911, of £19,778 5*s.* 4*d.* Over £18,000 of this sum stands invested in various securities by the Crown Agents.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.—The Police Force consisted of a chief, a sergeant-major, a staff sergeant, and 69 West Indian non-commissioned officers and men. The post of staff-sergeant, which remained vacant during the whole of the previous year, was filled by the appointment, in June, 1911, of one of the senior sergeants. The force is armed, and receives musketry and drill instructions, as part of the local forces, from a European musketry and drill instructor, under the supervision of the Staff Officer of the Windward Islands.

In addition to their ordinary duties, the police carry out a considerable amount of work in connexion with the details of administration, such as enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths; and in certain districts they are in charge of the post offices and the telephone exchanges.

The total expenditure on the department was £4,236, of which £3,666 was for personal emoluments and £570 for clothing, equipment, &c.

Prisons.—The total number of persons committed to the Royal Gaol was 317, of whom 66 were on remand and 250 for imprisonment on conviction. The daily average number in prison was 50·83—42·50 males, 8·29 females, and ·04 juveniles. The highest number in confinement was 73, and the lowest 31.

There was one escape during the year, a male prisoner working in a gang at the Botanical Station. He was re-captured shortly afterwards. Four prisoners were released on the occasion of His Majesty's Coronation.

The average number on the sick list was 1·95. The Medical Officer reports that on the whole the year was a healthy one so far as the prison was concerned, and there were no deaths.

The expenditure on the establishment was £1,363, and the average cost of a prisoner was 1*s.* 5½*d.* a day, or £26 14*s.* 7*d.* per annum. The total estimated value of prison labour was £615 16*s.* 2*d.*

Criminal Statistics.—The following table shows the average figures for the five years 1906 to 1910, the actual figures for the

first quarter of the year 1911, and those for the year ended the 31st March, 1912:—

—	Average 1906–10.	First Quarter of 1911.	1911–12.
Offences reported	1,810	248	1,224
Summary Convictions :—			
Offences against property ...	137	41	148
Offences against the person ...	320	52	291
Other offences	1,138	233	885
Convictions in Superior Court :			
Homicide	—	—	—
Offences against property ...	17	2	5
Offences against the person ...	5	2	6
Other offences	22	2	—

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—According to the census taken on the 2nd April, 1911, the population numbered 48,637, of whom 22,336 were males and 26,301 were females. Compared with the census of 1901, there was a decrease of 1,246 or 2½ per cent. The estimated population on the 2nd April, as shown by the reports of the Registrar of Civil Status, should have been 56,588, but the latter figures are based on the natural increase—the excess of births over deaths—and take no account of emigration or immigration, of which there are no records.

At the 31st March, 1912, the population is estimated to have been 49,205, made up of 22,521 males and 26,684 females. The birth-rate for the year ended on the same date was 35·5 per thousand, and the death-rate was 20·2 per thousand, still-births being excluded in each case. There were 251 marriages during the year.

Public Health and Sanitation.—All the Medical Officers report the health of the Colony during the year 1911-12 to have been generally satisfactory, with the exception that in the Castries, Soufrière, and Vieux Fort districts there were outbreaks among children of measles and whooping cough, and a sharp outbreak of influenza occurred in Castries during the month of February.

The reports of the Medical Officers are corroborated by the number of persons seeking attention at the various dispensaries throughout the Colony, the figures for the last three years being as follows:—

1909	13,716
1910	10,843
1911-12	10,587

Sanitary matters received strict attention during the year, and the reports received show that on the whole the work continues to be well carried out. The heavy rains, it was found, washed out

the " millions " fish that had been distributed in certain localities to keep down the numbers of mosquitoes. The places were at once re-stocked and the fish soon regained their former numbers.

The Chief of Police, whose department is charged with the carrying out of the sanitary regulations, reports that the usual inspections were paid by the inspectors but that there was nothing that called for special action.

Climate.—The average annual rainfall at twenty stations was 114·01 inches in the year 1911, the highest fall being at Warwick Estate in the Choiseul district, where 154·85 inches were recorded, and the lowest at Black Bay Estate, in the Vieux Fort district, which returned 73·74 inches. The rainfall in February, 1911, was 16·64, and was even more unusual than the abnormal fall in May of the previous year, as February is generally the dryest month of the year, its average over a period of twenty-one years being only 3·35 inches. The total year's rainfall at the station was 107·67 inches. The mean monthly temperature in the shade was 78·4°; the maximum shade temperature was 92° on September 16, and the minimum 60° on February 19. The corrected readings of the barometer ranged from 29·950 in October to 30·081 inches in July, the mean annual pressure being 29·993 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly inter-colonial mail service, performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers, was regularly carried out during the period under review; and the inter-colonial steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique (which touch at Castries going and coming en route between French Guiana and the Northern French Colonies), those of the Danish East Asiatic Company, and those of the Quebec Steamship Company (which call regularly on their fortnightly voyages from and to New York) continued their services as usual.

In May, 1911, a new contract was entered into between the Government of Canada and Messrs. Pickford and Black, under which the calls of the Company's steamers at St. Lucia were omitted. As the result of negotiations entered into with the Company, an agreement was come to by which their steamers from and to Halifax, sailing from the latter port at intervals of twenty-two days, call at St. Lucia, the Colony paying an annual subsidy for the service of £500. The agreement was for one year commencing from October, 1911.

The following comparison between the post office statistics for the years 1910 and 1911-12 shows that the business of the department continues to increase:—

	1910.	1911-12.
Letters and postcards:—		
Sent	103,304	106,239
Received	104,893	105,474
Inland	95,577	94,950
Parcels despatched	350	479
,, received	2,662	3,154

	1910.	1911-12.
British Postal Orders issued	4,602	4,986
,, ,, ,, value	£2,643	£2,769
,, ,, ,, paid	829	846
,, ,, ,, value	£353	£392
Money Orders issued	4,426	4,352
,, ,, paid	£4,216	£3,355

The revenue of the Post Office amounted to £1,740, and the expenditure to £2,160.

There was also duty collected at the Post Office on parcels amounting to £428.

There is regular and daily postal communication, under local contract, between Castries and the leeward coastal towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the Island, communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

All the towns and villages of the Colony are connected by telephone with Castries. During the year 1911-12 there were 214¾ miles of line open for traffic, and the subscribers numbered 137.

There were 115 messages transmitted, and 242 sixpenny tickets were sold to non-subscribers using public telephones. The total receipts were £839, and the expenditure amounted to £668.

General Remarks.

The year 1911-12 was a fairly eventful one.

The Census was effectively taken in April disclosing a small reduction in the number of the population during the last decade. The full and interesting report by the compiler of the Census, Mr. J. E. M. Salmon, will repay perusal.*

The celebrations in June of the Coronation of Their Majesties King George V. and Queen Mary throughout the Colony were an unqualified success and carried out with a loyal heartiness and co-operation among all classes which was most gratifying.

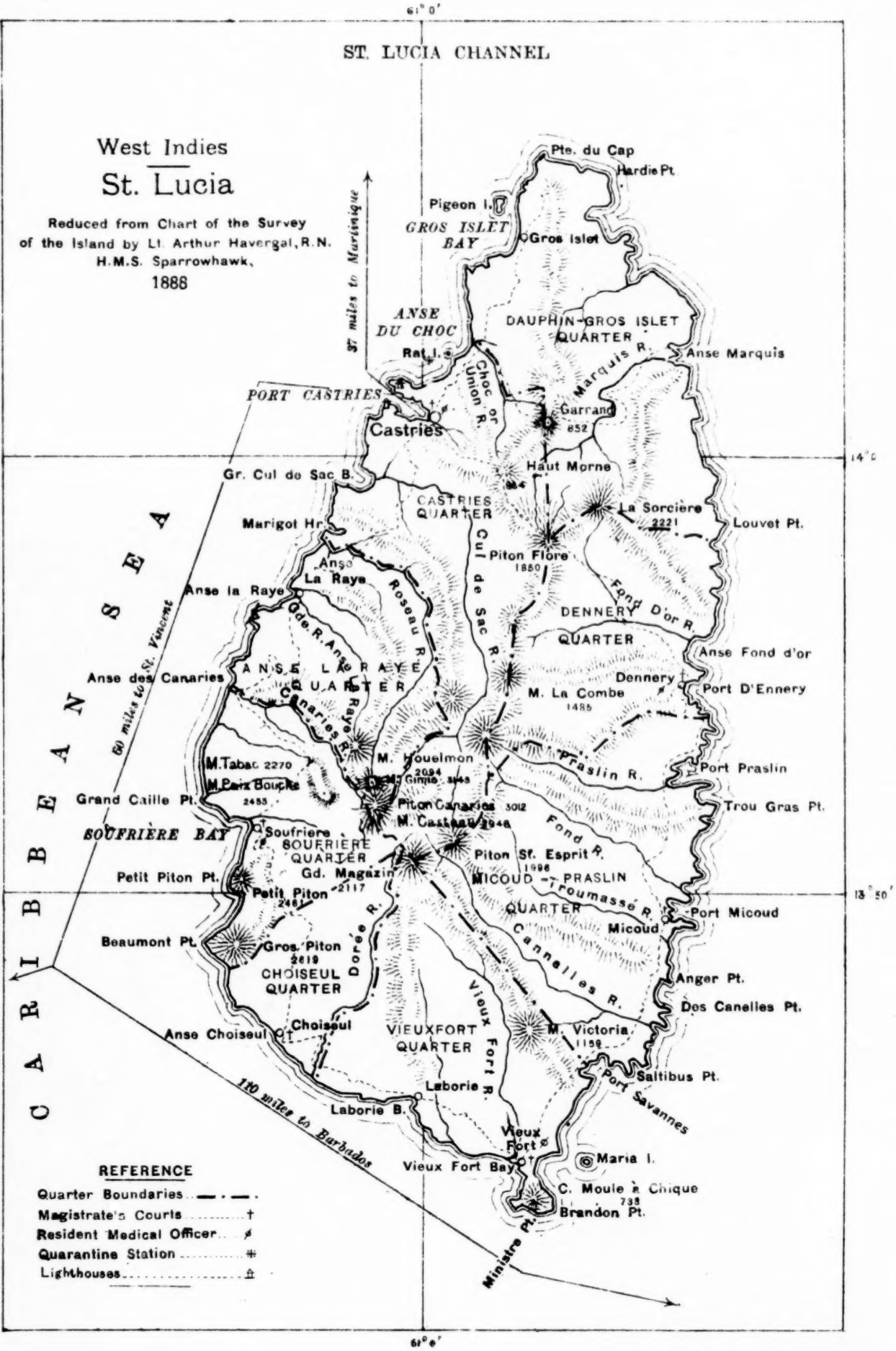
The whole was executed as planned, and with the adjuncts of fine weather, good organization, and most hearty assistance from all concerned, the people of the Colony enjoyed a two days' festival which will remain a glowing memory to them for many years, while at the same time a full appreciation of the occasion and its significance was duly secured. The essentially British character and features of the celebration were also strongly in evidence.

Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., Governor of the Windward Islands, was absent on leave from 11th July to 6th December, during which period the general government was administered by Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Lucia. Mr. A. De Freitas, Attorney-General, acted as Colonial Secretary at St. Lucia.

Mr. H. A. Smallwood, the Treasurer, was promoted to the post of Treasurer of the East African Protectorate, and left the Colony on 6th August, being succeeded later by Mr. E. D. Laborde, I.S.O., Chief of Police.

On the Governor's return from leave, His Excellency paid a visit of a month to the Colony early in January, 1912. As one

* The Report may be seen in the Library of the Colonial Office.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton 1913.

of the results of such visit, the political dead-lock which had endured since 1909 was removed, and the Legislative Council reconstituted with a full complement of Unofficial Members, a condition which is more in consonance with the business needs and the dignity of the Colony, and which it is hoped may not again be disturbed.

Mr. Cameron, the Administrator, was in March, 1912, nominated by the Governor with the approval of the Legislative Council as representative of the Colony at the Trade Reciprocity Conference at Ottawa, and left the Colony on this duty on 17th March.

The gradual progress in road improvement and opening of new lines of communication was continued, and the largest bridge yet erected in the Colony, over the Troumassee River, one of the main obstacles on the Windward line of highway, was brought near to successful completion.

The new lighthouse at Moule-à-Chique was another work of public importance undertaken during the year which has since been completed and opened at a cost of £3,105.

The old Road Tax referred to in the last report finally disappeared and the first annual assessment and collection of Income Tax was inaugurated on sound lines and with successful results.

The year was an exceedingly prosperous one as far as the public finances are concerned, but this was to a very large extent the result of the exceptional activity in the coaling trade, and similar conditions cannot always be expected to obtain.

Agriculturally, however, there is some progress, and the future prospects of an extensive and profitable lime industry in St. Lucia seem to be fairly assured, and from such the Colony stands to reap lasting benefits. The scope for cocoa-nut cultivation has already been mentioned.

Attention may be directed to a small pamphlet entitled "Hints to Settlers in St. Lucia," compiled by the Administrator and issued under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, in which information of interest as to the climate, cost of living, and possible openings for investment is given. The near-by areas suitable for cultivation of tropical products on any large scale are becoming more and more restricted, and the possibilities of St. Lucia, with its large tracts of forest and other land still undeveloped, are worth investigation. The pamphlet may be obtained from the West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., and may also be inspected in the Colonial Office Library.

The social and general condition of the Colony remains about stationary, but with a gradual trend towards improvement and uplifting, as means of inter-communication are gradually extended, and educational influences slowly permeate.

A sketch map of the Island is annexed, on which are noted the principal physical features of the country, as well as information in regard to distances and certain administrative details.

Government House,
Saint Lucia,
14th January, 1913.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
720	Falkland Islands	1911
721	Seychelles	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast...	"
723	Hong Kong	"
724	Sierra Leone	"
725	Gold Coast	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911–1912

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Surveys, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 792.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1912.

(For Report for 1911, see No. 742.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1914.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1914.

[Cd. 7050–33.] *Price 3d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
Shipping	11
Legislation	11
Education	12
Government Institutions	13
Judicial Statistics	14
Vital Statistics	15
Postal and Telephone Services	16
Military Forces	16
General Remarks	16
Map.	

No. 792.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1911, see No. 742.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
5th January, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Blue Book Report for 1912.

I regret the delay in transmission, to which several causes contributed in 1913.

I trust you will consider that the report shows steady and satisfactory progress in the administration of the Colony during the year, and that its compilation reflects credit on the Colonial Secretary, Mr. E. R. Drayton, C.M.G.

I have, &c.,
J. HAYES SADLER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(C13.) Wt.36076/850—1.1.14.1125 & 90. 2.14. B.&F. Ltd. G.11/2. A 2

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1912.

FINANCIAL.

The financial year ended March 31st, 1913, resulted in an addition of £2,334 to the Colonial assets, as the revenue for the year exceeded the expenditure by that amount.

2. The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908-9	73,182	72,661
1909-10	71,224	73,282
1910-11	81,413	75,561
1911-12	98,645	81,012
1912-13	86,393	84,059

It will be observed that the revenue for 1912-13 exceeded that of all previous years except 1911-12, when abnormal receipts from Estate Duties (£13,935) swelled the total. In 1912-13 only £2,178 was realised from that source.

3. The details of the revenue under the usual heads are as follows:—

	£
Customs	46,611
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue ..	26,812
Estate Duties	2,178
Fees of Office, &c.	1,939
Post Office	3,635
Telephones	1,984
Water Supplies	210
Revenue from Government Property	1,653
Interest and Sinking Funds	1,148
Miscellaneous Receipts	181
Land Sales	42
	£86,393

Customs revenue was satisfactory, yielding in fact £390 more than in the preceding year, but the revenue from Excise Duty on rum only realised £9,797 against an estimate of £12,000, in consequence of a failure of the local sugar cane crop caused by drought for a period of the year. In January, 1913 it became necessary to relieve the situation by reducing the import duty from 8/- to 6/- the proof gallon, so as to admit of more importation of rum from other Colonies.

Post Office revenue was no less than £2,036 in excess of last year's results, owing to increased business and to a new issue of stamps bearing the King's head instead of the badge of the Colony.

4. The expenditure detailed under the usual heads was as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of Public Debt	6,196
Pensions	2,815
The Governor	2,293
Colonial Secretary	1,813
Treasury Department	5,800
Post Office Do.	3,307
Audit Do.	729
Port and Marine	698
Do. (Special Expenditure) ..	86
Legal Departments	4,531
Police	5,326
Military Expenditure	567
Prisons	1,263
Sanitation	709
Medical Department	4,467
Hospitals and Asylums	6,222
Education	7,580
Do. (Special Expenditure)	722
Ecclesiastical	314
Charitable	734
Telephone Department	1,641
Carriacou District	1,050
St. Paul's and Richmond Hill Water Supply	225
Miscellaneous Services	5,543
Agricultural Department	1,382
Public Works do.	1,629
Do. do. (Special Expenditure)	377
Public Works Recurrent (*a*) Roads and Bridges	9,130
Do. (*b*) Other	1,336
Public Works Extraordinary	5,572
Total expenditure from Colonial Funds ..	£84,057
Agricultural Department (from balance of Imperial Grant)	2
	£84,059

It exceeded the expenditure of 1911-12 by £3,047, a result traceable as compared with that year, to (1) increased outlay on Sanitation, Medical Department, and Hospitals and Asylums, amounting to £1,157; (2) increased outlay on Education (chiefly on the new Secondary Schools and in repayment of a debt of £550 taken over with one of them) amounting to £1,711; (3) the cost of the new issue of stamps, £293, and the increased cost of the new mail steamer subsidy; and (4) the purchase of a second motor road roller, £378.

5. The surplus of assets at 31st March, 1913, amounted to £58,720, as compared with £56,419 at the same date in the preceding year, and with £38,742 at 31st March, 1911. The details of this surplus may be thus stated :—

	£
Reserve Fund, invested	20,256
Loans to District Boards	10,986
Advances for Land Settlement	6,207
Stores	2,289
Cash on deposit, etc.	18,982

The satisfactory revenue conditions of two succeeding years enabled the Government to increase the Reserve Fund by £4,500; to make further advances to District Boards for important parochial works; and to purchase more land, both in Grenada and in Carriacou, for purposes of the land settlement schemes in those islands.

6. The public debt is, as before, £123,670, in inscribed stock, and at 31st March, 1913, the Crown Agents held securities by way of sinking fund for its redemption in 1917-1942, amounting to £32,650. The debt of £550 on the Girls' Secondary School Buildings, taken over from the late governing body of that school, was repaid during the year.

7. The revenue and expenditure of the six District Boards of Grenada in 1912-13 were as follows —

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,069	4,197
St. Andrew's	2,623	2,860
St. Patrick's	2,050	2,440
St. Mark's	658	737
St. John's	1,502	1,516
St. David's	835	835
	£11,737	£12,585

That of the town of Hillsborough in Carriacou, which is administered by Town Wardens, was £97 revenue, and £84 expenditure.

8. The loans borrowed by the District Boards up to 31st March, 1913 (all due to the Government) were as under :—

	£
St. George's	12,181
St. John's	3,250
St. Andrew's	1,500
St. Patrick's	4,236

The St. Andrew's Board increased its debt by £600 during the year, for expenditure on an important drainage scheme for the town of Grenville, to which the Government contributed a grant-in-aid of £428. Interest and contributions to sinking funds are regularly paid annually by the boards.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

9. Comment on the statistics of the trade of the Colony for 1912, as returned in the Blue Book, must necessarily be preceded by a

caution that comparisons with previous years' results are not unlikely to be unreliable or somewhat misleading, because of recent changes in the valuation, classification, and statement of origin of the articles dealt with. The first change took place in 1910, and by it imports are now classified according to "Country of Consignment," instead of "The Place from which Imported." On 1st January, 1912, a more sweeping change was effected by the introduction of a new Official Import List, classifying and rearranging the imports according to a new system, which is now adopted with more or less uniformity throughout the British West Indies, and at the same time changing the method of their valuation for statistical purposes. For many years (since 1895, to be exact) this value has been arrived at in Grenada by adding fixed percentages to the several classes of goods imported, to represent freight and charges. Now the importers are required to declare to the statistical value themselves when making their import entries. For two or three years yet it will not, therefore, be safe to institute comparisons too closely as to the details of the trade returns.

10. According to the returns, the Colony's trade in the last five years is valued as under :—

	Imports	Exports
	£	£
1908	303,783	359,245
1909	268,236	284,846
1910	279,236	291,760
1911	309,227	264,640
1912	279,875	285,590

11. The following statement exhibits, as best it can be made up in the circumstances, a comparison for the years 1911 and 1912 of the principal articles imported :—

	1911.	1912.
	£	£
Apparel	12,455	5,880
Biscuits, Bread, and Cakes.. ..	4,330	5,192
Boots and Shoes	8,099	5,811
Bullion and Coin	5,200	16
Banknotes	1,362	1,696
Butter	2,746	2,763
China and Earthenware	—	1,172
Coal	2,400	1,758
Cotton Goods	33,559	34,540
Cutlery	446	330
Fish of all kinds	17,357	14,705
Glass and Glassware	—	1,325
Grain—Oats	4,308	5,070
Rice	6,421	8,601
Wheaten Flour ..	33,637	40,712
Haberdashery and Millinery ..	—	5,192
Hardware	—	1,863
Hats and Bonnets	—	2,015
Lard	1,814	1,305
Leather—Dressed and Undressed ..	3,363	1,648
Machinery	920	2,251

	1911. £	1912. £
Manure—Chemical and other ..	8,410	6,829
Meat—Canned, Salted, etc. ..	8,654	7,685
Medicines and Drugs	2,831	3,466
Metals, and Manufactures of ..	—	7,669
Oils—Cotton Seed	1,589	1,911
Olive and Refined Food ..	4,852	2,341
Kerosine	3,750	3,316
Oleomargarine	4,310	3,860
Silk, Manufactures of	249	761
Soaps	4,750	4,571
Spirits (Potable)	8,110	4,250
Sugar, Unrefined	5,037	11,402
„ Refined	4,001	3,303
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	2,380	1,335
„ Manufactured, Cigars ..	187	64
„ „ Cigarettes	1,042	912
Wine	1,913	1,900
Wood and Timber	16,031	11,055
Shingles	1,003	593
Furniture	3,101	2,885
Wool, Manufactures of	1,766	2,677

The marked increase in the importation of wheaten flour and refined sugar will be noted, being attributable to the same cause—a severe drought during part of the year 1912 affecting the sugar cane and ground provision crops.

12. The origin and destination of the imports and exports of 1912 are returned as follows :—

	Imports. £	Exports. £
United Kingdom	113,910	169,762
British Possessions	61,947	12,420
Foreign Countries	104,018	103,408

The United States of America leads the foreign countries in the bulk of its trade with the Colony, imports thence being valued at £93,749, and exports thither at £54,726. Canada is returned for imports valued at £12,065, and exports valued at £36, the principal imports being Spruce and White Pine Lumber, £7,009, Salted Fish, £2,366, and Oats, £835 : the exports were 20 cwt. of Nutmegs.

13. Articles imported by parcels post appear for the first time grouped together in the returns, and show a total of £6,267, of which the United Kingdom claims £4,598, and the United States of America, £395 ; Canada only stands for £23, which is not surprising, in view of the rates and conditions imposed by the Dominion Post Office.

14. The exports of the three principal staples of the Colony in 1911 and 1912 compare as follows :—

	1911 £	1912 £
Cocoa	223,104	225,317
Nutmegs and Mace	20,673	36,779
Cotton and Cotton Seed ..	9,003	10,984

15. The average annual value of the cocoa exported in the last seven years has been £224,294. The bulk of it goes to the mother country, the percentage of the total in 1912 being 56, while the United States of America and France each received about 22 per cent.

16. Over 85 per cent. of the nutmegs and mace went to the United Kingdom, and all of the cotton (valued at £9,019) went there: but the neighbouring Colony of Barbados absorbed the bulk of the cotton seed, £1,290 out of the total export of £1,964 in value being sent there.

17. Among minor products of the Colony exported, attention may be directed to the following values in 1912: Wood and Timber, £2,303, Hides, £595, Turtle and Turtle Shell, £406, Fruit, £468, Coconuts and Copra, £241, and Lime Juice, £123. The last two items may be taken as indicating the beginnings of industries likely to assume some importance in the future. The lime juice is the product of the island of Carriacou, where large cultivation of limes is proceeding on the estates of one landowner, while preparations are being made by others for similar action. The lime tree grows readily and fruits abundantly in this dependency, while, so far, it is free there from any serious disease or troubles.

18. The local year for the cocoa crop ends on 30th September, and the results for the last four years are as follows:—

	Bags.
1909	67,329
1910	73,863
1911	67,174
1912	70,082
Average	69,605

Prices were good. In the London market the year began rather badly, but the conditions improved about April, and during the year prices ran from 62*s.* to 70*s.* In reviewing the future prospects of cocoa, it is satisfactory to note that during 1912 the consumption increased so markedly that production failed to keep pace with it, one estimate giving for the year, production, 240,000 tons, and consumption, 245,000. The increase in consumption is most marked in the United States of America, where the imports have almost trebled themselves in the last ten years, and on this already remarkable rate of progress the effect of the recent tariff concessions cannot fail to be satisfactory from the point of view of a cocoa-producing island.

19. The nutmeg crop for the year ended 30th September, 1912, was excellent, both in quantity and in prices. 8,624 barrels and 608 half-barrels of nuts, with 303 cases and 736 bags of mace were exported, as against 6,496 barrels, 456 half-barrels, 292 cases, and 341 bags in the previous year.

20. Carriacou's cotton crop was also good, 1,255 bales of lint and 4,395 bags of seed being shipped, as compared with 893 bales and 3,731 bags in 1911. There is no doubt, however, that results, both in quantity and prices, would have been better but for the deep-rooted habit of abnormally "ratooning" the Marie Galante cotton, which unfortunately prevails in the dependency. The Government are taking steps this year to deal with this practice, and, if necessary, legislation will be resorted to to secure proper conditions of cultivation.

21. No success has so far attended the effort to bring about planting of cotton in certain districts in Grenada, and the ginnery erected has had little or no work, because of the cultivation being attacked by diseases. A series of experiments are being, however, carried out by the local Agricultural Department, which may possibly eventuate in better conditions being arrived at.

22. The first chapter of the history of the Carriacou land settlement scheme may be said to have been completed in 1912, because towards the close of that year the Government, in view of the immense success which has attended the allotment of the estates bought in 1903, felt justified in making a further important purchase—the Mount Pleasant Estate of 488 acres—for sale to the peasantry. Possession of the property, which is under lease, cannot be obtained by law until 1st January, 1914, when its survey into lots will begin. As there will thus be a well marked division in time between the first section of the scheme and the one now in view, it will be of interest to place on record some facts about the first section at the end of 1912.

Area dealt with	1,510 acres
Area allotted	1,089 ,,
Area of reserves	421 ,,
Number of lots resulting	393
Total expenditure	£8,450
Cash receipts	£7,976
Balance outstanding	£474
Balance still due from allottees	£692
Value of unsold lots	£64
Value of reserves and other Government property resulting from purchase ..	£3,673

23. The transaction, therefore, from the financial point of view, has been a complete success, while the remarkable prosperity that has attended the dependency since its inauguration, of the stable continuance of which there is every prospect, would have amply justified the effort even if financial loss instead of gain had been the outlook. One problem of the future remains to be handled, and that is how best to secure the peasants in their holdings. At present they are only protected for a period of twelve years from being absorbed by land-grabbers, and it is of vital importance to the future of the little island that this absorption should not be allowed.

24. The cultivation of limes and coconuts in Carriacou is making rapid strides, and so remarkable altogether is its recent progress from poverty to comparative affluence, a result, be it remarked, largely, if not wholly, due to the sterling good qualities of its hardy peasants, that it seems not impossible that this island gem of the Carribbean will eventually earn for itself a place of distinction.

25. Steady progress was made during 1912 with the land settlement scheme in the island of Grenada, which dates from 1910. At the end of the year the position may thus be summarized :—

Area dealt with	453 acres
Area allotted	247 ,,
Number of lots resulting	152
Total expenditure	£3,015
Cash receipts	£248

Another block of land, 62 acres in extent, was actually purchased before the end of the year, but not yet surveyed; and in 1913 a large block, of 344 acres, has been bought for purposes of the scheme. The land purchased is being well taken up by the peasants, and although the same striking results as in Carriacou are hardly to be expected, there can be no doubt that much good is being done, and with the coming return of many of the Colony's labourers from the Canal Zone, seeking investment in land for their money, much activity in this direction is probable in the next few years.

26. The quantity of rum made fell off considerably in 1912, only 40,103 gallons being distilled, against 63,356 gallons in 1911. As remarked in an earlier part of this report, the cause of this was a severe drought, affecting the sugar cane crop, and shortly after the close of the year there were large importations of rum from neighbouring Colonies to make up the local deficit.

27. 196 liquor licences were issued during the year, as compared with 161 in 1911, and the revenue from this source was £768, as against £634 in the preceding year. As was remarked in last year's report, this revenue from licence fees is supplemented in Grenada by a Trade Duty, levied on actual consumption of spirits, which, in the financial year 1912–13, realized £2,979, as against £3,655 in the preceding year. The licences are granted by District Licensing Boards, and the system worked satisfactorily in 1912.

28. The local ice and soap factories continued at work during the year. The former keeps the sister Colonies of St. Vincent and St. Lucia supplied with ice, as well as providing for the local consumption.

SHIPPING.

29. The total tonnage of shipping inwards and outwards at the three ports of the Colony in the last five years was as follows :—

	Tons.
1908	566,245
1909	586,074
1910	590,451
1911	535,161
1912	565,788

Of the total in 1912, 541,070 was steam tonnage, representing 169 steamers, all British. There are 96 small sailing vessels on the local shipping register, aggregating 1,370 tons.

LEGISLATION.

30. Eighteen Ordinances were passed into law in 1912, the most important of them being (1) the Import Duties Ordinance, introducing a new tariff of import duties, which was commented upon in last year's report (Cd. 6007–42); (2) an Ordinance providing for the eradication of noxious weeds, based on similar legislation in South Africa; (3) an Ordinance improving the collection of the land and house taxes; (4) an Ordinance enlarging the membership of the

Board of Health by the addition of one delegate from each district, to be elected annually by each District Board from its members; (5) a Shipping Ordinance, prescribing better conditions for the small vessels engaged in the inter-colonial trade, and requiring certificates of moderate competency to be held by their masters and mates; and (6) extending the jurisdiction of magistrates so as to include certain offences against the person hitherto dealt with by the Supreme Court.

31. A consolidated edition of the Laws of the Colony down to the end of 1911 was issued on 1st May, 1912.

EDUCATION.

32. *Primary.*—The primary education system of the Colony is mainly denominational, there being only 11 Government schools, out of a total of 51, the remainder being styled "Grant-in-Aid Schools," and divided among the several religious denominations as follows:—

Roman Catholic	22
Anglican	11
Wesleyan Methodist	5
Church of Scotland	2

Calculated on the average attendance, and excluding school fees and caretakers' wages, the cost per head under the grant-in-aid from Colonial Revenue in 1912 was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Government Schools	1	0	7
Anglican	1	0	7
Wesleyan..	1	0	6
Roman Catholic..		16	6
Church of Scotland		13	6

The total expenditure of the schools, as returned for the year under review, was £5,497, the Government grant being £5,447 (in 1911, £4,966 and £4,920). The pupils on the roll were 10,372, and the average attendance was 5,261 (in 1911, 10,905 and 5,377).

33. A Ragged School was opened in St. George's, in December, as an experiment, to provide for the education of a number of children of the poorest class, who could not attend the ordinary schools for lack of decent clothing.

34. *Secondary.*—The Boys' Secondary School, opened in September, 1911, with 38 pupils, made rapid progress during the year, which ended for it with 72 pupils on the roll and an average attendance of 70. The numbers have since increased to 82, and extension of the buildings and increase of the staff have become a necessity, and have both been attended to in the current year. The total cost of the school was £953, and the school fees realised £289.

35. The Girls' Secondary School was opened in January, 1912, with Miss M. E. Martin, late headmistress of the High School, Montserrat, as the headmistress. At the end of 1912 there were 23 pupils on the roll, the average attendance being also 23. The total cost was £394, and the school fees amounted to £94.

36. The St. Joseph's Convent School (founded in 1876), keeps up its satisfactory record for good work, and its grant was increased this year by the Government from £100 to £150 in recognition of its usefulness to the community. The number on roll is 71, the daily average 59, and the total cost £321.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

37. *Colony Hospital.*—*1,376 patients were treated in 1912, as compared with 971 in 1911, and of these 1,090 were discharged as cured, 143 as relieved, and 46 died. The daily average was 97·4, and the cost per patient £18 8*s.* 2*d.* (£20 19*s.* 9*d.* in 1911). The receipts for paying patients were £92, and the number of attendances in the outpatient department were 1,152.

38. The hospital was much improved and its work expanded during the year. An English Nurse Matron, Miss J. S. Gardner, was appointed in January, and, on the recommendation of a Special Committee of the Legislative Council, extension of the wards was commenced towards the end of the year so as to accommodate about 36 more patients, while arrangements were made for the appointment of an Assistant Resident Surgeon to cope with the increased work. The construction of a Maternity and Lying-in Ward was almost completed, and also an extension of the Administration Buildings, so as to enable the dispensing of medicines to paupers and labourers in the three adjoining medical districts to be undertaken from the 1st January, 1913. These projects have all materialised in the current year.

39. *Yaws Hospital.*—The number of cases treated and discharged as cured was 379, and there were no deaths. The daily average was 58, and the cost per patient, £9 12*s.* 5*d.* (£10 12*s.* 11*d.* in 1911). The treatment of the disease by salvarsan was carried out with much success, and there is now good reason to hope that the disease in time may be eliminated from the Colony.

40. *St. Andrew's Hospital.*—199 patients were treated in 1912 (166 in 1911), of whom 173 were discharged as cured, 20 as relieved, and 6 died. The daily average was 12, and the cost per patient is returned as £35 13*s.* 8*d.*, but it has since been found that this cost includes the expenditure for medicines for the whole parish, and arrangements have been made in 1913 to secure a more correct statement in future. The number of prescriptions compounded at the dispensary, which deals with the whole parish, was 10,320, of which 7,205 were free of charge, and the receipts from the remainder amounted to £156.

41. *Carriacou Hospital.*—The number of patients treated was only 186, as compared with 213 in 1911 and 282 in 1910. Of these 129 were discharged as cured, and 22 as relieved, and 7 died. The daily average was 23, and the cost per patient £30 8*s.* 4*d.* The number of prescriptions compounded at the District Dispensary was 3,378, of

---

*370 were cases of ankylostomiasis.

which 1,743 were free of charge, and from the remainder, and from sale of medicines, £104 was realised.

42. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The number under treatment was 169, 75 males and 94 females. The number admitted was 42, of whom three came from St. Vincent. The St. Lucia patients (except one, who has since died), 27 in number, were removed in the first quarter of the year, that Colony having now provided its own asylum. Twenty-one patients were discharged as cured, and 9 died; the daily average was 112, and the cost per head £21 9*s.* 3*d.* (£19 9*s.* in 1911). Many improvements were effected in the buildings, and steps were taken to connect up the infirmary wards with the new water closet system, which works well.

43. *Poor Asylum.*—The accommodation at this hospital for incurables is for 58 inmates, and the daily average in 1912 was 48. Twenty-two died, and 15 were discharged during the year, and the cost per head was £10 9*s.* 1*d.* (£10 6*s.* 10*d.* in 1911).

44. *Hospital for Consumptives.*—The construction of this much needed institution was commenced in 1912, and it has been opened in the current year, providing thereby accommodation and treatment on modern lines for 24 cases, 12 of each sex. It is situated on Richmond Hill, on a cool and breezy site adjacent to the Lunatic and Poor Asylums, thus enabling the administrative staff of those institutions to be utilised to some extent for it.

45. *Savings Bank.*—Again this year the deposits in the Savings Bank increased remarkably, the amount at credit of depositors at the end of the year totalling £28,096, as compared with £25,594 in 1911 and £22,962 in 1910. £28,000 of this was invested in sundry colonial securities. The number of depositors was 1,806, and the average credit per depositor £15; in 1902 this average was £6 3*s.* 7*d.*

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

46. *Police.*—The improvement in the Police Force commented upon last year continued in 1912. Discipline and the standard of efficiency in musketry were both well maintained. The cup presented by the Governor to the police of the Windward Islands for good rifle shooting was won this year by the Grenada force. The recently created detective branch did some good work and justified its existence. A European Sergeant-Major was appointed in December, taking the place of a Sub-Inspector, the last holder of which office retired in 1911; and an Armourer Sergeant, trained in England, was appointed for the Windward Islands in April, the workshop and apparatus being kept at Grenada and periodical visits paid by him to the other islands.

47. Communication by heliograph between Grenada and Carriacou was established in December, the signallers being policemen. Some such system was much needed, and its establishment has proved a great boom to all concerned.

48. *Prisons.*—The committals numbered 262, of which 195 were males, 62 females, and 5 juveniles. The daily average was 45·09 (males 40·21, females 4·9, and juveniles ·79), and the cost per head

per annum, £39 5*s.* 9*d.*, a remarkable increase on the cost in 1908 (£19 12*s.* 6*d.*), when the daily average was 75, owing to the presence of prisoners from St. Vincent and St. Lucia, since removed. The standard of efficiency reached in past years was well maintained, and an effort made in 1913 to secure better religious ministrations to the prisoners has proved effective in 1913.

49. *Criminal Statistics.*—The Attorney General reports that "during 1912 there was a general increase of crime as compared with the years immediately preceding. It is to be observed, however, that there has been no increase in the more serious forms of crime. There was no indictment for murder, one indictment for manslaughter of a newly-born infant by its mother, and two for attempt at murder, the defendant in one of the two last mentioned cases being acquitted by the jury. It appears to me that such increase as exists is to be found chiefly in the class of summary offences. On the whole, I have formed the opinion that the increase in crime during 1912 is probably fortuitous."

VITAL STATISTICS.

50. The estimated population at 31st December, 1912, was 68,485. At the census of 1911 it was returned as 66,750, and the present estimate takes into account the effects of emigration and immigration as well as the natural increase. The birth rate per thousand was 38·19 and the death rate 22·9. The year was not a healthy one, the death roll reaching 1,575, which is a large number for Grenada. Diarrhoea, dysentery, and gastro-enteritis were the principal causes of death, and there were no less than 76 deaths from phthisis recorded.

51. The rainfall at Richmond Hill station, 63·98 inches, was the smallest recorded since 1900, when 63·45 inches were received. The average rainfall at this station for the last twenty-two years is 76·98 inches, the maximum being 105·89, in 1892, and the minimum 56·69, in 1891.

52. A case of bubonic plague was introduced from Trinidad in May, but fortunately the subject was under suspicion from the moment he arrived, and was removed from the ship to the isolation hospital at the quarantine station, where he died.

53. A most important change affecting the health of the lower classes came into operation on 1st October, when the fees of medical officers for attending "labourers" were considerably reduced; and on the 1st January, 1913, a further improvement was effected by reducing the cost of "labourers'" medicine from one shilling to sixpence per prescription. It has thus become possible for a labourer in Grenada to go to the residence or station of a district medical officer and obtain medical advice and medicine for one shilling and six pence, while the fees for visits to houses have been correspondingly reduced.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

54. *Post Office.*—The following summary of the work done by the Post Office in the last two years shows that the remarkable increase commented upon in the report for 1911 continued:—

	1911	1912
Letters and post cards	570,479	578,021
Newspapers, books, &c.	212,011	228,985
Parcels	9,432	15,684
Registered and insured articles and letters	12,451	14,579
Money and postal orders issued and paid	£31,865	£34,875

The British postal orders included in the above totalled £6,084, as compared with £4,972 in the preceding year, and remittances from Grenadians in the Panama Canal Zone totalled £6,407, the average for the five years 1907–11 being £6,260.

55. *Telephones.*—The switchboard installed at the principal exchange in 1911 continued to give trouble, and it has been decided in 1913 to replace it by a better one; but, apart from the difficulties arising from this source, the service was well maintained in the year under review, and sixteen new house services were provided, making a total of 331 instruments in use, of which 51 are "switched" telephones. The revenue for the financial year was £1,984, and the expenditure (including loan charges, £226) was £1,641.

MILITARY FORCES.

56. St. George's Corps of Volunteer Infantry, which was enrolled on 7th April, 1911, continued in active existence during the year, and was inspected by Brigadier-General Dalrymple-Hay, Commanding the Forces in Jamaica, in the month of June. Towards the close of the year a movement was set on foot in St. Andrew's Parish for the formation of a mounted section of the Volunteer Force. The local conditions there are well suited to the establishment of such a corps, and in 1913 it has come into existence and is doing excellent work. A new Staff Officer, Captain E. F. Henderson, Leicestershire Regiment, arrived on the 23rd October and assumed his duties in the Windward Islands.

GENERAL REMARKS.

57. An important public question, dormant since 1895, again came to the front in 1912. The harbour of St. George's, admittedly an excellent one, only requires certain improvements to make it one of the best in the West Indies, and the approaching completion of the Panama Canal acted as a stimulus to a revival of the question. The Governor appointed a representative local Committee, with the Colonial Secretary as Chairman, to consider the matter in all its bearings, and on 11th June a full report was made, strongly advising that

the necessary work be undertaken. Later on in the year the Legislature provided funds for an expert investigation of the matter, and at the opening of 1913, a harbour works' engineer, Mr. I. C. Barling, arrived, and conducted a complete enquiry and survey. The report of the firm of engineers which he represented has not yet reached the Government, but it may reasonably be hoped that it will indicate that the work may be successfully and economically undertaken, and that the great natural advantages of Grenada in this respect will be made of some real use to her people.

58. Two fairly large schemes of drainage in connection with the towns were undertaken during 1912 by the District Boards of St. Andrew's and St. John's, with the assistance of grants and loans from public funds. That in the town of Grenville was not quite completed within the year, but it is proving a great benefit, and is now being extended. That in the town of Gouyave represented a second instalment of work begun in a previous year, and the Medical Officer reports that "there has been a marked decrease of the number of cases of malarial fever in the neighbourhood since the laying down of these drains." Another and minor scheme affecting a rural district in St. Andrew's, known as La Digue, was successfully carried out by the Government, and the Medical Officer reports "a most decided improvement in the general health of the people living near, especially as regards malarial fever."

59. Three important bridges over dangerous crossings of rivers were completed, viz.: the Sarah Hall Ravine, the Tempé River, and the Providence River; a most necessary diversion of the Main Road at Palmiste, St. John's, avoiding thereby the use of a long strip of sea beach for road purposes, was effected; and the conversion of a byway in St. Patrick's into a main road, with easier gradients than the existing line of road, was proceeded with. When this last piece of work is completed there will be a road fairly suitable for motor traffic from St. George's in the south to Sauteurs in the north, via the south-east, east, and north-east of the island.

60. On the 19th December the Honourable Frank Gurney, unofficial member of the Legislative Council for 23 years, died in England, greatly regretted by the whole community.

61. The Governor, Sir James Hayes Sadler, was absent on leave from the 5th August to the 20th November, and during his absence the local Government was administered by the Colonial Secretary, and the Government of the Windward Islands by Mr. E. J. Cameron, Administrator of St. Lucia, the holder of the dormant commission.

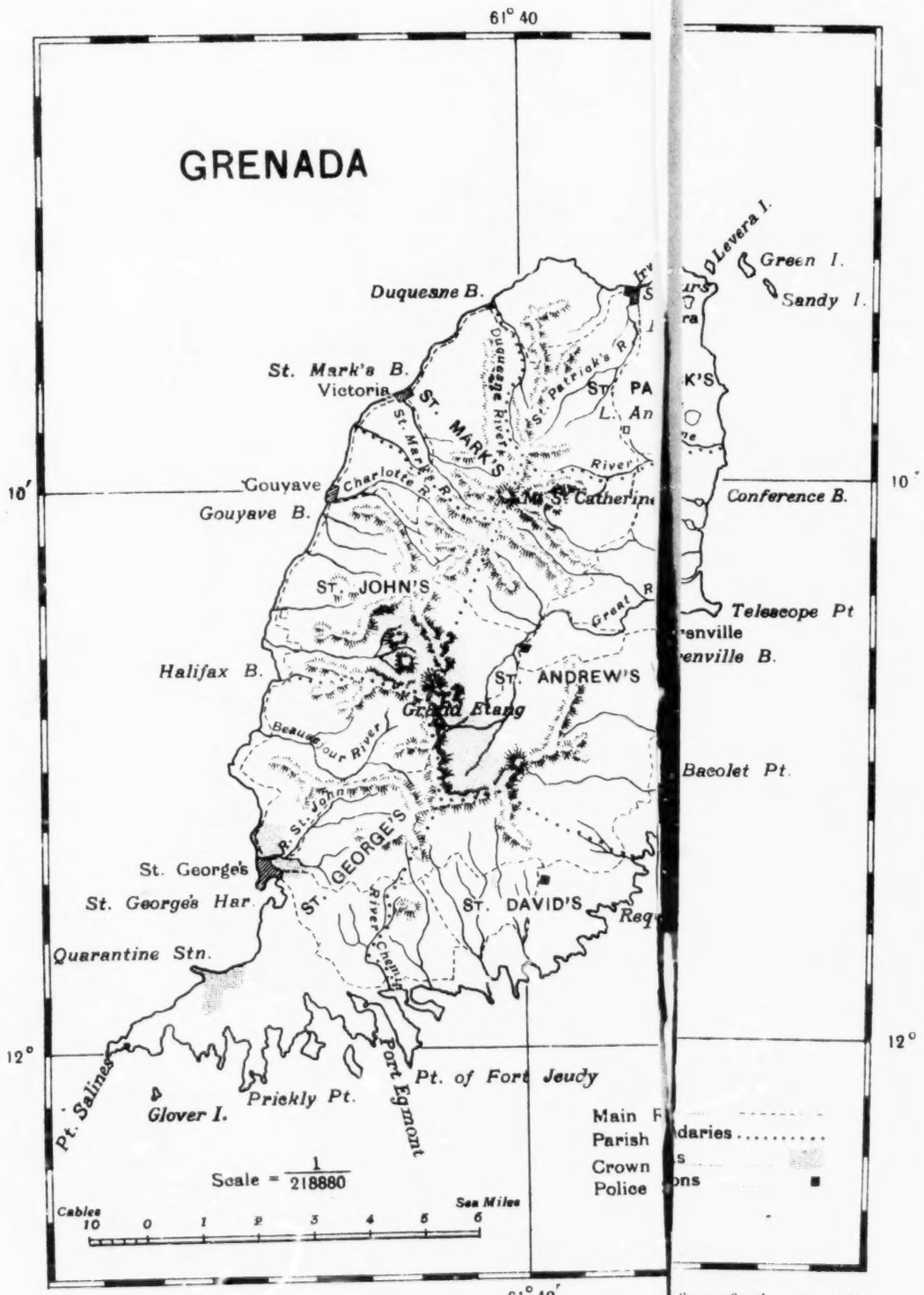
62. In the year 1912 progress was made in nearly every direction by the Colony of Grenada, and the future is full of promise. It may truthfully be said by one who has been connected with her administration from that date onwards that on the 1st June, 1885, when she became the headquarters of the Windward Islands Government, Grenada entered on a new cycle of her life. She emerged from a condition of semi-torpidity to one of active existence, and she has since then been engaged in realising her destiny. Her future rests with her sturdy sons, and when one

witnesses their zeal and activity, and recognises the whole-hearted manner in which they co-operate in details of the administration there can be little hesitation in predicting for her a leading place among her compeers in the British West Indies.

E. DRAYTON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
27th December, 1913.



C. O. Nº 20.

Survey, Southampton, 1914

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"
761	Somaliland	1912–1913
762	Hong Kong	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912–1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912–1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912–1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 794.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1912-13.

(For Report for 1911-12, see No. 752.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1914.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1914.

[Cd.7050-35.] *Price* 2½*d*.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. Financial	4
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	8
III. Legislation	14
IV. Education	14
V. Government Institutions	15
VI. Judicial Statistics	16
VII. Vital Statistics	17
VIII. Postal and Telephone Services	17
IX. General Remarks	18
Sketch Map.	

No. 794.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1911–12, see No. 752.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,
20th January, 1914.

Submitted.

J. HAYES SADLER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
8th January, 1914.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1912-13, together with my Report thereon.

I have, &c.,
EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lieut.-Col. Sir J. Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.
Grenada.

(C19.) Wt.36076/850—1.1.14. 1125 & 90. 3.14. B.&F. Ltd. G.11/2. A 2

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1912–13.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1913, including £150 from Imperial funds in aid of agriculture, amounted in round figures to £66,293, a decrease of £5,686 as compared with the revenue of the preceding year, but £932 only less than the estimate.

The following statement gives the detail in pounds only :—

Heads of Revenue.	1911-12. £	1912-13. £
1. Customs	35,781	32,606
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues ..	7,710	7,198
3. Licences, Excise, &c.—		
(*a.*) Licences—		
Retail Spirit, &c. ..	1,524	1,532
Distillery	100	100
Animals, Vehicles, and Guns	566	580
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boat, &c.	536	518
(*b.*) Excise—		
Duty on Rum ..	12,306	9,930
(*c.*) Road Tax	1	—
(*d.*) Stamp Duty—		
Various Revenue Services	677	721
(*e.*) Fines and forfeitures of Courts	307	428
(*f.*) Revenue seizures and penalties	4	2
(*g*). Income Tax	1,706	1,530
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c. ..	4,522	4,445
5. Post Office	1,740	2,557
6. Telephone	838	833
7. Rent of Government Property	804	800
8. Miscellaneous	243	65
9. Interest	1,483	1,519
10. Repayment of Loans	175	175
	£71,031	£65,548
11. Land Sales	647	594
Total Local Revenue ..	£71,678	£66,142
12. Imperial Dept. of Agriculture— Grant-in-aid	300	150
Total Revenue ..	£71,978	£66,292

It will be seen from the figures quoted in the first paragraph that it was not expected that the revenue of 1912–13 would come up to that of the year previous, which was an unusually prosperous one, but it proved a fair average year, as will be seen from the annexed table for the last quinquennial period :—

	£
1908–9	65,694
1909–10	65,739
1910–11	65,066
1911–12	71,978
1912–13	66,292

Customs and Excise duty were the heads which accounted for the chief falling off. The latter was due partly to disturbance caused by a change of law substituting Imperial for the old Winchester measure, and partly to a decrease in the drinking habits of the population.

Post Office receipts were swelled by the large demand for the new Georgian issue.

The variation in other heads was no more than usual.

The recurring decrease for some years in the number of licences for sale of intoxicating liquor referred to in the last report was arrested, £1,532 being the collection, as against £1,524 the year before. The number of licences, and the revenue derived therefrom, is shown below :

Description of Licence.	No. issued during quarter ended on				Revenue.
	30th June, 1912.	30th Sept., 1912.	31st Dec., 1912.	31st March, 1913.	
					£ s. d.
Wholesale	2	2	2	2	40 0 0
Retail Spirit.. ..	41	41	41	41	1,348 0 0
Bottle	2	2	2	2	80 0 0
Refreshment House	2	2	2	2	60 0 0
Hotel..	—	—	—	—	—
Occasional	4	2	2	2	4 2 6
					£1,532 2 6

The expenditure amounted to £67,825, including £199 from the Imperial Agricultural Grant-in-aid, £49 of which was from the unexpended balance of previous years' grants.

The expenditure from local funds was £67,626, being £771 less than estimated, and £1,154 less than in the year before.

The following statement gives the detail :—

Heads of Expenditure.	1911-12. £	1912-13. £
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	9,396	9,394
2. Pensions and Gratuities ..	2,534	2,448
3. The Governor	2,093	2,328
4. Government Office	1,060	1,071
5. Treasury, &c.	2,887	3,091
6. Post Office	2,159	2,226
7. Port and Marine Department	1,119	1,341
8. Audit Department	546	578
9. Legal Departments	3,932	3,983
10. Local Forces	579	719
11. Police	4,293	4,467
12. Prisons	1,350	1,173
13. Medical Department	2,980	3,086
14. Sanitation and Hygiene ..	156	600
15. Hospitals and Asylums ..	4,237	4,739
16. Charitable	522	531
17. Education	5,041	5,075
18. Ecclesiastical	1,600	1,600
19. Agriculture	804	1,150
20. Miscellaneous Services ..	6,226	5,306
21. Colonial Engineer's Department	3,048	2,966
22. Public Works Recurrent ..	7,357	7,293
23. Public Works Extraordinary	4,849	2,448
Total Local Expenditure ..	£68,780	£67,625
19a. Agriculture (from Imperial Funds)	548	199
Total Expenditure ..	£69,328	£67,824

The only expenditure of an unusual character was £368 odd under the head Sanitation, in connection with a campaign against rats which was started and vigorously conducted throughout the year.

In other respects it was an average year, estimated expenses being cut down here and there where possible in the endeavour to counterbalance the slight fall in the revenue below the estimated figure.

The following gives the figures of expenditure for each year of the last quinquennial period :—

	£
1908–9	65,037
1909–10	64,446
1910–11	67,288
1911–12	69,328
1912–13	67,824

As a result of the transactions of 1912–13, the Colony's surplus at 31st March was diminished by £1,483 and stood at £26,430 making with the accumulated Public Buildings Insurance Fund, amounting to £4,816, a total surplus of £31,246.

The above Insurance Fund is increased annually by a direct addition from public revenue of £300 as well as by the sum of accruing interest which is reinvested.

Of the surplus, £25,606 is invested in securities by the Crown Agents in England, £500 is on deposit locally at the Colonial Bank, and £3,282 is on loan to the Castries Town Board and Water Authority.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1913, stood at £142,229 11*s.*, and the accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption at £20,670 2*s.* 9*d.* The debt is made up of the following :—

	£	s.	d.
Castries Harbour Loan	48,350	0	0
Immigration	7,400	0	0
Central Factory	6,900	0	0
Public Works	50,579	11	0
Castries Waterworks (Colony's contribution towards cost)	12,000	0	0
For loan to Castries Town Board (for Waterworks and other purposes) ..	17,000	0	0
	£142,229	11	0

Of the above the interest and redemption charges on £17,000 are recovered from the Town Board's municipal revenues, as also on £550 of the £50,579 11*s.* for Public Works.

Currency.

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper. A few Bank of England notes are occasionally seen. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents by the Bank and mercantile firms, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.*

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates and dues, market dues and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last three years of the towns and villages, the amount of their indebted-

ness at the 31st March, 1913, and the balance standing to their credit at the same date :—

Town or Village.	1910-11.		1911-12.		1912-13.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1913.	Credit Balance at 31st March, 1913.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries	6,301	5,990	6,440	5,396	5,571	8,396	20,832	—
Soufrière	527	557	544	577	523	523	1,500	117
Vieux Fort	177	138	174	211	163	193		42
Laborie	81	55	80	67	82	105		99
Canaries..	43	46	78	86	51	55		43
Dennery	153	113	338	176	159	125		465*
Gros Islet	100	79	102	134	104	107		211
Anse la Raye	84	49	81	184	88	96		33
Choiseul	43	43	42	25	45	62		35
Micoud	74	96	73	66	67	49		66

*Includes grant of £200 from General Revenue for new Waterworks not yet commenced.

During the year under review the improvement of the Castries waterworks supply referred to in the last report was completed and opened. By this Castries obtains an increased daily gallonage of 169,000 of the best possible quality from the high mountain sources far at the back of the town, and is thus placed in an enviable position both as regards water for domestic use and to meet the demand of the continually increasing volume of shipping calling at the port.

From various causes the desired Dennery water supply could not be undertaken during the year, but it has not been shelved ; a final decision as to filter beds and ways and means of meeting the increased cost has recently been come to, and the materials, etc., are at the time of writing under order.

In the other small towns there has been nothing that calls for special record ; their condition, favourably referred to last year, continues to be maintained.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The following is taken from the Treasurer's Annual Report :—

" The value of the imports was £315,361, or £3,239 less than the previous year. The countries of origin are shewn as under. The figures given are for the calendar year.

Countries whence imported.	*Value.*
	£
United Kingdom	71,495
Canada	12,294
Other British countries	13,726
United States of America	196,059
France	6,848
Germany	2,765
Denmark	1,205
Peru	2,361
Other foreign places	5,531
Parcel Post	3,077
	£315,361

"The imports from the United Kingdom apparently continue to fall. In 1910 and 1911 they were respectively £79,547 and £75,976. In 1912 they were £71,495. The imports from the United States show a slight increase, as also the imports from Canada. Probably much of the flour and possibly other articles which appear as imports from the United States were the produce of Canada. When certificates of origin come to be produced under the Customs preferential tariff the imports from Canada will show a considerable increase.

"The imports from the United States include £141,601 bunker coal.

"Goods to the value of £22,819 were entered duty free under the exemption list in the tariff, as follows :—

	£
For Agriculture and manufacturing industries	11,916
,, Government	4,749
,, Castries Town Board	2,059
,, Churches	771
,, Coasting Steamer	136
,, Governor and Administrator	94
Under General List	3,094
	£22,819."

A summary of the imports is as follows :—

	1911.	1912.
	£	£
I. Food, drink and tobacco ..	75,971	72,811
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	152,355	150,451
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	78,344	88,778
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified, including imports by parcel post	3,840	3,321
V. Bullion	8,080	—

Exports.

The total declared value of exports was £287,716, being some £14,000 in excess of the previous year's total.

The following is a summary :—

Exports to	Island Produce £	Exports other than Island Produce. £
United Kingdom	67,818	2,376
Canada	8,481	—
France	23,633	—
Holland	3,248	—
United States	2,350	18
Germany	152	1,709
Barbados	1,970	171
Other places	862	6,122
Bunker Coal	—	166,312
Ships' Stores	—	2,494
	£108,514	£179,202

The value of imported goods exported as ships' stores has been kept for the first time and works out, according to the Treasurer's report, at £2,494, which is a rather lower figure than had been supposed.

The output of usine sugar was the lowest for some years. Cocoa was slightly less than in 1912.

Lime juice has risen from £148 to £1,007, and this will probably be more than doubled in 1913.

Coaling Trade.

This important business continues to thrive. Although not quite up to the figure of the previous record year, the shipment was not far short of it, as the annexed table shows :—

Year.	Tons.	£
1908	85,460	102,288
1909	96,462	115,754
1910	97,384	116,861
1911	139,056	152,962
1912	134,783	166,312

The actual importation of coal, 129,466 tons, was the highest yet recorded.

The following paragraphs of interest are taken from the Treasurer's report :—

"Comparing these figures with the shipping statistics for 1911 of the twenty-three principal ports in the self-governing Dominions, Crown Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates, published in the Board of Trade Statistical Abstract, only twelve of those ports were ahead of St. Lucia in steam tonnage, namely, Hong Kong, Singapore, Colombo, Gibraltar, Malta, Penang, Aden, Port Natal, Cape Town, Calcutta, Victoria, B.C., and Bombay.

"Bunker coal to the amount of 134,783 tons was supplied to 585 steamers. The facilities for quick coaling at St. Lucia cannot be made too well known. Coal is delivered at the rate of 100 tons an hour, and with much greater celerity when required. On 6th February, 1913, 1,116 tons were delivered to H.M.S. "Cumberland" in 5½ hours, equal to 203 tons an hour.

"Fresh water is also delivered from alongside the wharves at the rate of 4,000 gallons an hour. The charge for water is for every 100 gallons supplied to warships 1*s.*, and 1*s.* 6*d.* to all other vessels. The quantity taken in 1912 was 3,307,804 gallons.

"Ships are coaled and watered day and night."

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The sugar factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery were all working during the year.

The following figures show the quantity of rum distilled, consumed, and exported during the last five years :—

Year.	Distilled.	Consumed.	Exported.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
1908	83,532	51,216	23,440
1909	72,633	46,949	27,883
1910	49,256	42,456	4,692
1911	63,961	44,516	12,787
1912	59,739	31,865	26,577

During the year a steam plant for concentrating lime juice was installed on one estate, and several small temporary works were put up to deal with small first crops which are now in process of being replaced by more complete and modern installations.

The question of the erection of a small central factory by the Government, with a view more particularly to stimulating lime cultivation among the peasantry, was discussed, and this has since taken satisfactory and practical shape, and bids fair to meet with a considerable measure of success.

Fishing is carried on regularly all round the coast of the Island, but only to meet local daily demand.

Agricultural Industries.

Sugar and cocoa head the list of the Colony's important products. Lime cultivation is, however, making very rapid strides, and in the course of a year or two there is likely to be a very marked development in the cropping capacity of quite a number of estates, while the area planted in limes is steadily being added to.

The quantity and value of the export of sugar and cocoa during the past five years were as follows :—

	Cocoa.		Sugar: Usine.		Other sugar, muscovado, and products thereof.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	Bags of 200 lb.	£	Tons.	£	£
1908 ..	6,775	30,488	4,881	53,691	2,813
1909 ..	10,850	54,275	5,360	59,623	2,265
1910 ..	8,187	40,935	5,199	64,988	2,674
1911 ..	10,368	46,656	4,288	52,535	1,955
1912 ..	9,573	43,099	4,246	48,830	2,117

Lime juice was exported to the value of £1,007, as against £148 in the year previous.

The Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture and the Entomologist and Mycologist attached to his department paid several visits to the Colony during the year.

Early in 1913 a decision was taken by the Government to acquire a property in the southern part of the island for the establishment of a new Agricultural Nursery and Experiment Station to take the place of that at Union, which has never been satisfactory; the remainder of the land not needed for the above purpose is to be disposed of on the lines of a small land settlement scheme. No such step has hitherto been taken in St. Lucia, and it remains to be seen how it will work out in practice. The progress made will be matter for record in the current year's report.

Land Grants.

Thirty-five grants for Crown lands were issued during the year, the acreage disposed of being 247 acres. The price of such land is at the rate of £1 per acre, payable one-fifth on application and the rest in four annual instalments.

Fifty-four new applications for land were filed.

Shipping.

The total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared at the port of Castries, the only port of entry in St. Lucia, amounted to 3,490,042. The steam shipping entered included 28 colliers, with 129,465 tons of coal.

The port was visited by six warships and four yachts.

A summary of the statistics for the last five years is attached :—

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1908	487	957,866	203	7,340	90	126,337	38	2,267
1909	518	1,027,837	201	6,003	127	220,961	45	2,731
1910	557	1,143,092	228	7,437	135	241,808	40	2,712
1911	817	1,782,911	182	5,086	126	208,500	41	2,535
1912	684	1,488,397	216	5,591	106	155,205	30	1,733

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1908	487	958,607	201	7,387	89	124,520	38	2,267
1909	517	1,025,251	197	5,574	129	224,895	44	2,662
1910	559	1,146,983	228	7,928	134	239,687	40	2,712
1911	815	1,778,865	182	5,110	127	210,621	41	2,535
1912	686	1,492,443	216	5,572	165	248,136	30	1,733

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of 1912 had thirteen vessels on the register, with a tonnage of 608. All these are small sailing vessels locally owned, with one exception, a schooner of 417 tons, the register of which has since been cancelled.

Five new vessels, aggregating 95 tons, were added during the year.

New lights were projected at Tapion and Vigie, on the promontories at the entrance to Castries harbour, as also new and improved leading lights for the harbour. The projects have now taken due shape, and, when complete, will be a great addition to the safety and comfort of the port.

Public Works.

Under this head, in addition to the ordinary annual upkeep of roads and byways and maintenance of public buildings and property, which involves very considerable outlay, various extraordinary works were undertaken, and two large works of primary importance were carried to completion during this year.

These were the bridge across the Troumassee River on the windward side of the island, the total outlay on which was £1,701 4*s.* 10*d.*, and the new lighthouse and light at Moule-a-Chique, the total expenditure on this valuable installation being £3,104 15*s.* 8*d.*

The bridge is one that has long been needed, the river which it spans being about the largest and most dangerous on the line of the Colony's main highways.

The light is a third order flashing white light, and is one of the finest lights, if not the finest, at present existing in the West Indies, and can be seen at a distance of 40 miles and over.

It adds materially to the comfort and safety of the increasing run of shipping coming to the port of Castries.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed during the year, but none were of particular importance. Various regulations were also made and promulgated under the authority of existing Ordinances, those for the management and control of the Victoria Hospital and the new Lunatic Asylum, and for the destruction of rats under the Public Health Ordinance being worthy of note.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The 1912 Report of the Inspector of Schools furnishes the following figures :—

	1911.	1912.
Number of Schools..	53	52
„ on rolls	7,268	7,307
Average attendance	4,625	4,814
Number examined	6,227	6,572
Government Grant-in-aid ..	£3,912	£3,925

Of the 52 schools 45 are Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 East Indian Mission (Presbyterian). Of the 7,307 children on the rolls 3,614 are boys, 3,693 girls.

The examinations in agriculture were carried out by the Agricultural Department The number of schools examined was 16, and the Superintendent of Agriculture reports that the marks obtained average nearly 7 per cent. more than those of the previous year. He also states that the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture visited the three school-gardens in Castries and expressed his appreciation of the progress that had been made in agricultural teaching in the primary schools of St. Lucia.

Hygiene has been taught, as in previous years, in every primary school in the Colony from standard II upwards. The head teachers are also supplied by Government with quinine and ulcer remedies for free distribution. The Inspector of Schools reports that the results of this campaign against malaria and "sore-foot" have been most satisfactory, and that the diminution in the number of absentees from school from one or other of these maladies has been most marked.

St. Mary's College, the secondary school for boys, received a Government grant of £400 during 1912–13 ; the average attendance for 1912 was 45, of whom 8 were Government scholars from the primary schools and 4 scholars nominated by the Roman Catholic vestry. St. Joseph's

Convent, the secondary school for girls, received a grant of £150; the average attendance was 90.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The Victoria Hospital at Castries is the one general hospital of the Colony. It is a fine stone building and well situated, and has had much done for it of late years. The daily average of patients during 1912–13 was 46 males and 39 females, and the cost works out at £1,832 15*s.* 10*d.*, or 1*s.* 2*d.* per head per diem.

New rules for the institution were passed during the year.

A fine new Lunatic Asylum, capable of accommodating 80 to 100, was opened during the year. This is established in what used to be the Ordnance Store Buildings, at Toc, which were handed over to the local Government by the Imperial War Department and have been remodelled for asylum purposes at a cost of £2,496.

A European steward has been obtained, who has charge of the institution under the medical superintendence of the Victoria Hospital House Surgeon. The daily average of patients here during the year was 27·8 males and 33·7 females, and the cost £1,260, or about £20 10*s.* per head.

This establishment puts an end to the unfortunate state of affairs which existed while the only provision for dealing with lunacy was at the former very unsuitable location and premises on the edge of the town of Soufrière.

Small buildings are provided at Soufrière, and at the villages of Dennery and Vieux Fort, which are used on occasions as casualty hospitals and serve the purpose of sheltering accident and other rare emergency cases.

The general Poor-house is at Malgretoute, on the sea beach within a mile of Soufrière, and shelters a daily average of 65 patients.

The Yaws Asylum is in the same vicinity. Much improvement has taken place of late at these last two institutions under the present Medical Officer in charge, Dr. Hughes. Much work has also been done with Salvarsan, and the hospital has been kept full with cases brought to be operated on with the new remedy.

There are visiting stations at various other points where Medical Officers attend regularly on fixed days and are available to those who require their services.

At Castries the general dispensary was removed from the Victoria Hospital and established in town under the charge of the Medical Officer of the No. III or Castries and Anse-la-Raye District, by whom a very large number of cases were treated.

There is no reformatory or industrial school in the Colony.

There is a Public Library and Reading Room in Castries, receiving grants from the Government of £100 per annum and from the Municipality of £25 per annum; it leaves a good deal to be desired, but there has been some movement latterly towards better conditions.

In Soufrière there is quite a neat and useful little library, and a small grant of £20 is made by the Government towards its support.

In the village of Dennery a very modest institution of the kind also exists and receives Government aid.

Savings Bank.

There is a Government Savings Bank with 1,649 depositors, and a total sum on deposit at 31st December, 1912, of £20,150. Over £19,417 of this stands invested in various securities by the Crown Agents.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Police Force consisted of a Chief, a Sergeant-Major, a Staff Sergeant, and 69 West Indian non-commissioned officers and men. The Force is armed and receives musketry and drill instructions from its Sergeant-Major, who is a European military non-commissioned officer.

In addition to their ordinary duties, the police carry out a considerable amount of work in connection with the details of administration, such as enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths; and in certain districts they are in charge of the post offices and the telephone exchanges.

The total expenditure on the department was £4,510, of which £3,886 was for personal emoluments and £624 for clothing, equipment, &c.

A great addition to the comfort and contentment of the Force has been the establishment during the year of a canteen under rules duly made by and under the direct supervision of the Chief. Most things that the men need can be obtained at the canteen at very reasonable rates.

Prisons.—The total number of persons committed to the Royal Gaol was 445, of whom 86 were on remand and 359 for imprisonment on conviction. The daily average number in prison was 42·39—29·55 males, 12·69 females, and 0·15 juveniles. The highest number in confinement was 55 and the lowest 29.

The average number on the sick list was ·92. The Medical Officer reports that on the whole the year was a healthy one so far as the prison was concerned, and there were no deaths.

The expenditure on the establishment was £1,174, and the average cost of a prisoner was 1*s.* 6½*d.* a day, or £28 2*s.* 8½*d.* per annum. The total estimated value of prison labour was £427 16*s.* 9*d.*

Criminal Statistics.—The following table shows the average figures for the five years 1907 to 1911, and the actual figures for the year ended the 31st March, 1913:—

	Average 1907–11	1912–13
Offences reported	1,517	1,635
Summary Convictions:—		
Offences against property	142	156
Offences against the person	305	228
Other offences	1,011	1,249
Convictions in Superior Court:—		
Homicide	—	—
Offences against property	11	14
Offences against the person	5	8

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar of Civil Status computes the population at 31st March, 1913, to have been 49,963, divided into 22,919 males and 27,044 females. Emigration and immigration are not taken into consideration in the computation, and the figures are based on the natural increase of the population, the census figures of 1911 being used as the starting point. The population at the same date in the previous year was estimated at 49,205.

The birth-rate of the year (excluding still-births) was 34·5 per thousand of the total population, compared with 35·5 per thousand in the previous year. The number of births was 1,829. The death-rate was 19·3 per thousand, as compared with 20·2 per thousand in 1911–12. There were 224 marriages during the year; in 1911–12 the number was 251.

Public Health and Sanitation.—The public health during the year was quite normal, and the medical officers agree in reporting that it presented no feature calling for special comment. This is borne out by the slight decrease which occurred in the death-rate.

Sanitary affairs received the usual strict attention, and the Chief of Police (whose department is entrusted with the carrying out of the sanitary regulations) states that in Castries there were 53 convictions and in the country districts 65 convictions for breaches of the law.

In addition an active campaign was started in Castries against rats, under the direction of the Port Health Officer, Dr. King, and much good work has been done both in reducing the numbers of the vermin, and rat-proofing, etc., the buildings which harboured them. It is rather a costly undertaking, but very expedient for the protection of this important shipping port. A visit was also paid to the Colony, more particularly in this connection, by an expert from England, whose recommendations for more up-to-date and effective sanitary control have since been under consideration. The Government's powers, however, are somewhat circumscribed by want of a sufficiency of funds to meet so wide an enlargement of sanitary energies.

Climate.—The average annual rainfall recorded at 25 stations during the year 1912 was 72·98 inches; in 1911 it amounted to 114·01 inches, recorded at 20 stations. The highest rainfall was recorded at Warwick Estate, in the Choiseul District, where 120·73 inches were received. The lowest amount, 39·12 inches, was received at Moule-a-Chique, at the south-western extremity of the island. November was the wettest month, and February the driest.

The mean monthly temperature recorded in the shade at the Botanic Station in Castries was 79° F.; the maximum recorded at the same place was 91·5° F. in September, the minimum being 64° F. in April.

The mean monthly corrected readings of the barometer ranged between 29·929 in October and 30·256 in November. The mean annual pressure was 30·039.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers was regularly carried out during the year under review; and the intercolonial

steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique (which touch at Castries going and coming *en route* between French Guiana and the northern French Colonies) also regularly called, as did the vessels of the Quebec Steamship Company (which call on their fortnightly voyages to and from New York) and of the Danish East Asiatic Company.

The contract between the Colony and Messrs. Pickford & Black, reference to which was made in the last Report, under which the Company's steamers call at St. Lucia on their voyages to and from Halifax, was also regularly carried out during the year.

The total revenue of the Post Office was £2,557, and the expenditure £2,226, giving a balance in favour of revenue of £331.

The principal postal statistics for the last two years are as follows :—

	1911–12.	1912–13.
Letters and Postcards :—		
Sent	106,239	105,753
Received	105,474	105,422
Inland : sent and received ..	94,950	94,148
Parcels despatched	479	544
„ received	3,154	3,278
British Postal Orders issued ..	4,986	4,729
„ „ „ value ..	£2,769	£2,643
„ „ „ paid ..	846	1,097
„ „ „ value ..	£392	£536
Money Orders issued	£4,352	£4,536
„ „ paid	£3,355	£3,868

There is a regular and daily postal communication, under local contract, between Castries and the leeward coastal towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the island communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

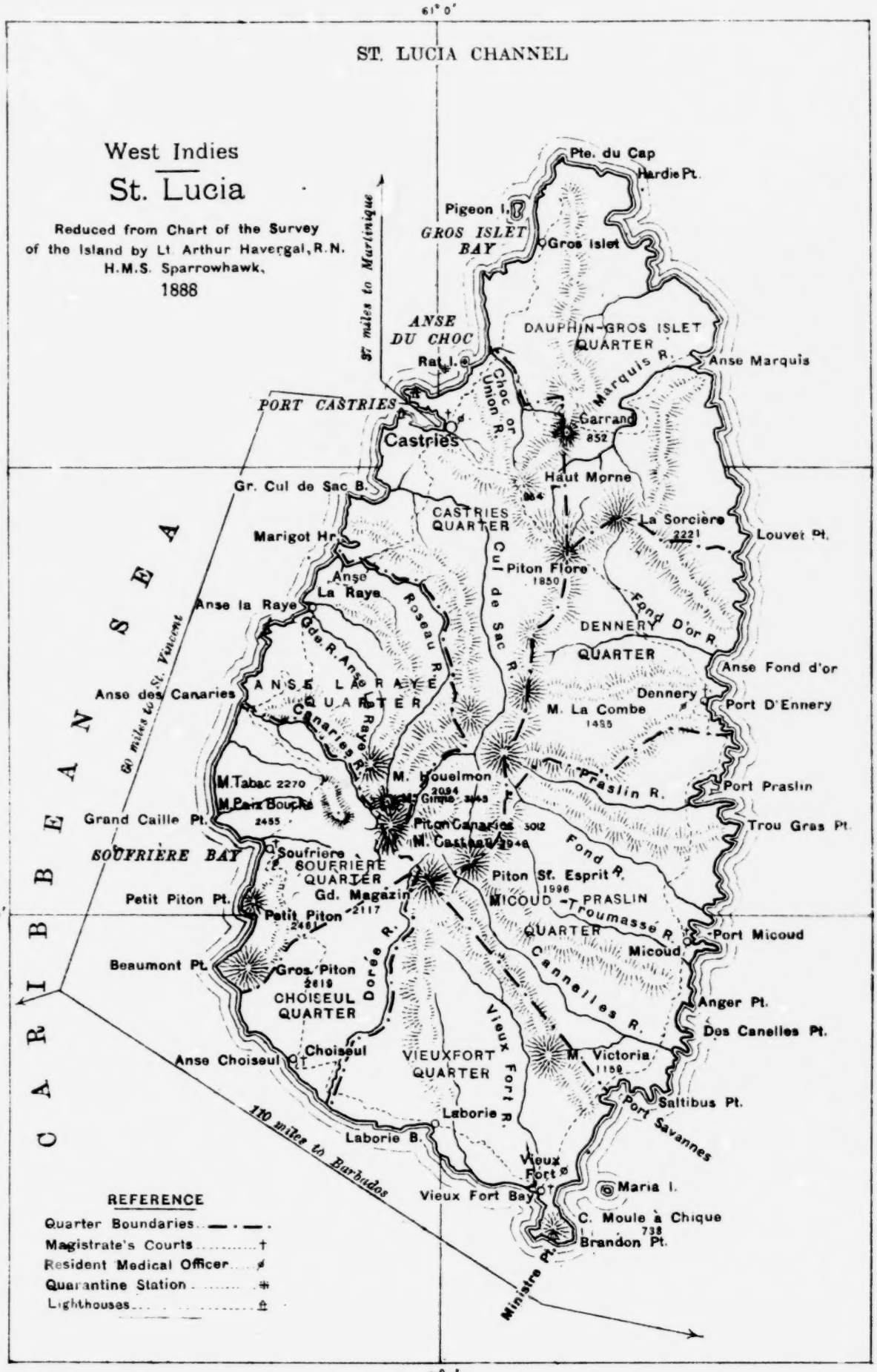
All towns and villages of the island are connected by telephone with Castries.

The total mileage in operation during 1912–13 was 216 miles, with 140 subscribers, as compared with 137 in the previous year. The messages transmitted numbered 172, and 543 three-penny tickets were sold to non-subscribers using public telephones. The sale of tickets showed an increase of 124 per cent. on the previous year. The revenue for the year was £833, and the expenditure £442.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1912–13 was one of reasonably satisfactory progress as indicated by the detail already given, but there were no especially remarkable occurrences.

Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., Administrator, who, as recorded in the last report, left the Colony on duty on 17th March, 1912, as the Colony's representative at the Trade Reciprocity Conference at Ottawa, had the honour of being elected by his colleagues Chairman of the West Indian delegates. The Conference was satisfactory and successful



C. O. Nº 21

Ordnance Survey, Southampton 1914.

and its results in improved transport and increased trade are now beginning to appear.

Mr. Cameron went on leave from Canada on 20th April until 1st August, the administration devolving on the Honourable A. DeFreitas, Attorney General, as Senior Resident Member of the Executive Council.

Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., Governor of the Windward Islands, proceeded on leave on the 6th August and was absent till 20th November, during which period the general government was administered by Mr. Cameron at St. Lucia, Mr. A. DeFreitas acting as Colonial Secretary.

The Governor paid a visit of five weeks to the Colony in February and March, 1913.

The bright spot on the St. Lucia horizon is the growth of the lime industry and the prospect it affords of remunerative return to the different classes of land holders, both large estate owners and the smaller men. It is in the development of its agricultural possibilities, to the attraction of capital and men, and the opening up to useful cultivation of its large areas of unused or only partially used lands, that the Colony must look for its real expansion and ascent to importance.

The establishment of a Government lime juice factory has undoubtedly done good, and should prove a potent factor in stimulating cultivation among the peasantry, especially when its full scope and the advantages it offers become more clearly understood.

In concluding the last report I shall write here, I can only express the hope that as time goes on this most beautiful and rich island may gradually come to occupy the more prominent position in West Indian affairs to which its size, soil, and material advantages give it a right to aspire, and I may express the hope that, in any summary of its history at a later date, these last five years may find a favourable mention as a period of some slight progress towards the desired end, albeit less rapid than many, myself included, could have wished to see.

A sketch map of the island is annexed, on which are noted the principal physical features of the country, as well as information in regard to distances and certain administrative details.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Administrator.

Government House,
Saint Lucia,
8th January, 1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
761	Somaliland	1912–1913
762	Hong Kong	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912–1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912–1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912–1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 795.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1912-13.

(For Report for 1911–12, see No. 747.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1914.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY & FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W. and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 166, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1914.

[Cd. 7050-36.] *Price* 3*d*.

A

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—Financial	4
II.—Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	8
III.—Legislation	17
IV.—Education	17
V.—Government Institutions	18
VI.—Judicial	20
VII.—Vital Statistics	21
VIII.—Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	23
IX.—General Observations	23
Map.	

No. 795.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1911-12, see No. 747.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
8th January, 1914.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency, for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my annual report on the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1912–13.

I have, &c.
C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Lt.-Col. Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

(C23.) Wt. 36076/850.1/1/4. 1125 & 90. 3.14. B. & F. Ltd. G.11/2. A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1912–13.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and tables give the heads of Revenue and Expenditure and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1911–12 and 1912–13, as well as the total Revenue and Expenditure for each of the last five years 1908–9 to 1912–13 :—

Table 1.

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected 1911–12 £	Amount collected 1912–13. £
1. Customs :		
Import	14,982	17,268
Export	968	1,043
2. Port and Harbour Dues :		
Tonnage	607	609
Port	95	109
3. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue :		
Licences—Liquor ..	532	596
Do. —Other ..	1,257	1,313
Excise	4,607	3,453
Land and House Tax ..	3,209	3,023
Income Tax	662	691
Other Internal Revenue	803	953
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements in aid	1,633	1,576
5 Post Office	2,053	4,037
6. Telephones	569	625
7. Rent of Government Property	34	38
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans	1,651	1,548
9. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	55	68
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	541	724
Total Local Revenue ..	£34,266	£37,674
11. Parliamentary Grant : In aid of Agricultural Department	585	414
Total General Revenue	£34,851	£38,088

The principal decrease is to be found under Head 3, Excise, and this was due to an inadequate production of rum in the local distilleries, the deficit being made up by imported spirit. Other decreases are nominal and do not call for comment. The principal increase is under Head 1, Customs, and was due to a general expansion of trade and increased circulation of money, owing to the remunerative prices obtained for the staple crops of arrowroot and cotton.

Table 2.

Comparative Yearly Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates	Expenditure 1911–12.	Expenditure 1912–13.
	£	£
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	756	526
2. Pensions	2,042	2,095
3. The Governor	1,589	1,702
4. Government Office	658	690
5. Treasury and Customs	1,514	1,767
6. Audit Department	337	343
7. Legal Departments	2,406	2,011
8. Local Forces	291	255
9. Police, Prisons, Port, and Excise	3,433	3,434
10. Medical Department	1,880	2,030
11. Hospitals and Asylums	3,059	3,108
12. Poor Relief	672	701
13. Education..	2,058	2,178
14. Post Office	1,370	1,818
15. Telephone Department	518	528
16. Miscellaneous	2,219	2,310
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department	496	531
18. Public Works Department ..	646	669
19. Public Works Recurrent ..	2,465	2,774
20. Public Works Extraordinary ..	3,238	2,416
21. Agricultural Department ..	1,123	1,252
22. Southern Grenadines Department	334	369
23. Government Cotton Ginnery ..	—	73
Total Local Expenditure	£33,115	£33,580
21A. Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds)	618	413
Total General Expenditure	£33,734	£33,993

Table 3.

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years 1908–09 *to* 1912–13.

Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	—	Total.	—	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1908–9	Local .. 30,810 Imperial Grant 585	31,395	Local .. 26,647 Imperial Grant 553	27,200
1909–10	Local .. 27,855 Imperial Grant 585	28,440	Local .. 30,732 Imperial Grant 598	31,330
1910–11	Local .. 29,540 Imperial Grant 585	30,125	Local .. 29,759 Imperial Grant 584	30,343
1911–12	Local .. 34,267 Imperial Grant 585	34,852	Local .. 33,116 Imperial Grant 619	33,735
1912–13	Local .. 37,674 Imperial Grant 414	38,088	Local .. 33,579 Imperial Grant 414	33,993

The operations of the financial year have again been successful. The Revenue collected has been the largest on record, namely £38,088, the actual Expenditure £33,993, was £179 short of that estimated for the year, and the Surplus on the year's working was £4,095. In view of the fact that there was no alteration in taxation, and that over £2,000 was spent during the year out of current Revenue upon extraordinary public works, the financial situation may be regarded as satisfactory.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets on the 31st March, 1912, was £7,775. On the 31st March, 1913, the account showed an excess of £11,869.

In addition to the surplus of £11,869, the sum of £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruption of the Soufrière volcano in 1902–03, is invested in trust securities, and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any possible future disaster which may result from the violence of the elements.

There are also other funds of lesser importance showing assets to the Colony, some of which are extinguishable by time, while others, like the Graham Bequest Fund, the Alexander Fund, and the Thompson Home Fund, are used only in respect of the interest they bear.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt, the last loan instalment having been repaid in May, 1910. There is only one municipal debt, extinguishable in November, 1913, amounting to £50 at 31st March, 1913, for which, in case of default, the Colony is ultimately responsible, and which

constitutes a first charge upon its revenues. There is no likelihood, however, of the Colony being called upon to pay any of this sum, as the municipality concerned is well able to bear the interest and repayment involved.

The Colony is similarly responsible for the unpaid balance of the hurricane loan to planters from the Imperial Treasury, which was at 31st March, 1913, £8,842, towards the repayment of which a sum of £2,803 was in hand, invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies at short call. This loan is being steadily redeemed by borrowers at the rate of £750 per annum to the local Government, by whom annual payments are in turn made to the Imperial Treasury.

Currency.

Gold, British and American, notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Kingstown is vested in a board, one-half of the members of which are elected by the ratepayers, and the other half nominated by the Government.

The Chairman of the board is annually elected by the members forming that body, but cannot in any circumstances be elected for more than two years in succession.

The small towns of the Colony, of which there are six, are controlled by wardens appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns during the last five years :—

Revenue.

Town.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,695	1,736	1,711	1,756	1,790
Georgetown ..	118	143	142	158	159
Chateaubelair ..	35	33	35	33	34
Calliaqua	32	32	35	39	47
Barrouallie	38	37	41	251	47
Layou	20	26	21	23	22
Bequia	9	9	10	11	12

Expenditure.

Town.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,790	1,778	1,813	1,697	1,907
Georgetown ..	109	126	151	153	193
Chateaubelair ..	27	21	31	40	20
Calliaqua	32	27	25	30	64
Barrouallie	41	20	27	257	49
Layou	24	17	13	25	39
Bequia	4	17	1	7	6

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at the 31st December, 1912, were as follows :—

	£	£
Kingstown Water Supply	400	
Loan for repair of Rose Place Drain, Kingstown	171	
	—	571
Georgetown Water Supply		50
Barrouallie Water Supply		184
		£805

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1911.	1912.
Class I.—	£	£
Beef, salted or cured	466	434
Biscuits	3,263	5,042
Butter	2,101	2,151
Coffee	577	517
Fish, salted, &c.	4,973	6,006
Fish, pickled	1,707	1,376
Flour, wheaten	11,116	15,932
Flour, other kinds	585	1,294
Hams and Bacon Hams	360	485
Medicinal extracts and preparations ..	814	1,497
Oats	516	699
Oilmeal and cake	451	508
Oil, olive	587	694
Pork, salted or cured	1,636	2,213
Rice	2,911	4,696
Spirits	957	1,266
Sugar, muscovado	236	723
Sugar, refined	726	955
Sugar, crystallized	514	651
Wine	972	875
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	1,233	1,521
Class II.—		
Leather, unmanufactured	403	394
Manure	80	499
Oil, Cotton seed	587	494
Oil, petroleum	1,786	1,946
Timber and shingles	8,428	7,594
Shooks, staves, &c.	1,212	1,341
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas	25,946	25,000
Rope, cordage, and canvas	1,223	788

Chief Articles.	Value.	
	1911.	1912.
	£	£
Hardware	2,702	2,191
Agricultural Implements	722	897
Machinery	997	1,195
Musical instruments	541	307
Earthen and glassware	1,212	1,015
Furniture	993	912
Matches	413	510
Paints	543	470
Boots and shoes	1,523	2,052
Cement	940	1,693
Soap	1,515	1,904
Class IV.—		
Horses..	506	603
Class V.—		
Bank Notes	2,776	2,192

In the course of his Annual Report the Collector of Customs reports as follows :—

The total value of the imports for the calendar year amounted to £129,142, as compared with £110,926 in 1911. The countries from which they were imported are given below, with figures for the previous year for comparison.

	1912.	1911.
	£	£
United Kingdom	54,895	50,834
Canada	23,726	19,630
British West Indies	10,795	8,311
India	4,237	2,715
Newfoundland	3,301	2,743
Ceylon	119	128
Other British Colonies	3	1
United States of America	25,459	21,218
France	2,298	2,270
Denmark	1,810	969
Germany	878	908
Holland	507	331
Foreign West Indies	362	432
Other Countries	752	436
	£129,142	£110,926

The Imports are summarised as follows :—

	1912.	1911.
	£	£
1. Food, Drink and Tobacco	56,668	42,406
2. Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	13,824	13,792
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	55,694	51,242
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified ..	724	710
5. Bullion and Specie	2,232	2,776
	£129,142	£110,926

It will be observed that the two classes which practically account for the total increase in the value of importations in 1912, as compared with those of 1911, are 1 and 3—in the former an increase of 34 per cent., and in the latter 9 per cent.

EXPORTS.

The total Exports amounted to £111,684, or £17,458 less than the Imports, and £6,941 less than the Exports in 1911.

The following is a summary :—

Exported to	Island produce.	Exports other than Island produce.
	£	£
United Kingdom	76,310	564
Canada	3,005	8
British West Indies	21,027	7,279
Other British Possessions	—	150
United States of America	2,717	38
France	63	—
Foreign West Indies	501	13
Other Countries	4	5
	£103,627	£8,057

The exports of island produce, with declared values, are given below, with 1911 figures for comparison :—

	1912.		1911.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Arrowroot ..	3,948,681 lbs.	£48,854	4,264,130 lbs.	£40,430
Cassava Starch ..	177,820 ,,	1,287	221,562 ,,	1,268
Cotton :—				
Sea Island ..	405,128 ,,	32,073	511,947 ,,	40,529
Marie Galante..	46,822 ,,	1,951	26,167 ,,	1,090
Cocoa	224,535 ,,	4,366	285,778 ,,	5,069
Sugar :—				
Crystallized ..	87,411 ,,	615	363,945 ,,	2,470
Muscovado ..	311,008 ,,	2,032	406,512 ,,	2,934
Syrup	6,929 galls.	349	7,056 galls.	338
Cotton Seed ..	1,285,200 lbs.	3,363	1,414,894 lbs.	3,851
Molasses	11,844 galls.	503	15,180 galls.	598
Pea nuts	3,638 bush.	955	4,080 bush.	1,060
Pease—Dried ..	1,702 ,,	581	1,116 ,,	396
Firewood ..	855 cords	419	667 cords	325
Whale Oil ..	5,394 galls.	340	4,560 galls.	227
Hides	—	416	—	379
Logwood	45 tons	135	—	—
Wool—Raw ..	1,080 lbs,	54	605 lbs.	30
Spice :—				
Nutmegs ..	3,942 lbs,	74	4,132 lbs.	40
Other	1,140 ,,	21	1,204 ,,	18
Corn	240 bush.	48	818 bush.	152
Honey	106 galls.	15	84 galls.	12
Animals	—	3,586	—	5,556
Lime Juice ..	691 galls.	35	471 galls.	23
Coffee	298 lbs.	5	178 lbs.	5
Fruit—Fresh ..	—	49	—	65
Various :—				
Unspecified ..	—	1,501	—	2,091
		£103,627		£108,956

The total trade, therefore, of the Colony for the year was £240,826, as compared with £229,551 for 1911, being an increase of £11,275.

The total imports and exports for five years 1908 to 1912 were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1908	113,713	94,739
1909	87,810	88,698
1910	97,737	101,180
1911	110,926	118,625
1912	129,142	111,684

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1908 to 1912 are given below :—

Imports.

—	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	45,260	30,232	43,254	50,834	54,895
British Colonies ..	48,388	43,027	31,688	33,530	42,180
Foreign Countries ..	20,065	14,551	22,794	26,562	32,067
Total ..	113,713	87,810	97,736	110,926	129,142

Exports.

—	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	54,444	46,328	63,981	73,378	76,874
British Colonies ..	37,758	40,386	35,306	42,166	31,469
Foreign Countries ..	2,537	1,984	1,893	3,081	3,341
Total ..	94,739	88,698	101,180	118,625	111,684

Manufactures and Fisheries.

The Central Cotton Ginnery was established by the Government in the year 1903–4. This ginnery has been of great assistance in the development of the cotton industry. It is extremely improbable that the industry would, without it, have reached its present successful state. With the charge of a 1d. per pound for ginning and baling, the accounts showed a balance in favour of the ginnery of £894 2*s.* 7*d.* at the end of the 1910–11 crop year,* and at the end of the 1911–12 crop year the profits amounted to £1,494 5*s.* 4*d.*

There are three private ginneries in the Colony, the largest of which is situated in Kingstown, and is fitted up with five gins.

The co-operative cotton-buying scheme for peasants at the Govern-

*The crop year is from 1st September to 31st August of the succeeding year.

ment Factory, described in the 1910–11 Report, continues to prosper, and is yearly conducing to the improvement of the cultivation of this product by small holders and also is increasing the circulation of ready money in the Colony. During the cotton season just closed, 1912–1913, £4,710 worth of cotton was bought at the Government Ginnery from small growers.

About 37 tons of cotton seed of the 1912–13 crop were crushed by the disintegrator at the Government Ginnery for manurial purposes.

The price of lint during the year was for some special bales as high as 28*d.* per pound. The average sale price was, however, from 17*d.* to 20*d.* for Sea Island cotton, while Marie Galante sold from 6*d.* to 10*d.* a pound.

The export of whale oil was £228 in 1911–12 and £340 during the year under review. This is now apparently a dying industry, owing to the reduction in the number of whales visiting these waters. Numerous species of sponges are to be found in the Grenadines, some of which are said to be of commercial value, but unfortunately it has not yet been found feasible to investigate the possibility of the establishment of a sponging industry.

The turtling industry, evidently a declining one also, accounts for an export value of £85, as against £302 in 1911–12, £176 in 1910–11, and £515 in 1909–10.

Agricultural industries and Agricultural Department.

The following extracts from the annual Report of the Agricultural Superintendent are significant of the conditions in the above connexion which existed during the year under review :—

It is with regret that another very unfavourable cotton season has to be recorded. Up to the end of October, although the rainfall was below the average, the cotton fields were full of promise, the plants were bolling heavily, and were quite healthy. From October to January the weather was very wet—rain falling almost every day. The almost ripe bolls were not able to open, and boll diseases destroyed a large proportion of the crop.

An estimate of the past season's crop and its value, compared with the crops and values of the two previous seasons is now given.

Product.	1910–11.		1911–12.		1912–13.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£
Sea Island cotton ..	561,526	42,114	487,116	38,563	428,032	33,886
"Marie Galante" cotton	26,748	1,003	46,822	1,951	58,737	2,030
	tons.		tons.		tons.	
Cotton seed ..	787	3,935	700	3,500	640	3,200
Total ..	—	47,052	—	44,014	—	39,166

The average price of St. Vincent Sea Island cotton in 1910–11 was taken at 18*d.*, and the 1911–12 and 1912–13 crops at 19*d.* per lb. The "Marie Galante" cotton was estimated at 9*d.* per lb. in 1910–11, 10*d.* per lb. in 1911–12, and 8½*d.* in 1912–13. Cotton seed was placed at an all round value of £5 per ton.

The acreage returned as under cultivation was 4,344 acres of Sea Island cotton and 1,100 acres "Marie Galante." The total acreage was smaller by 661 acres than that of the previous season. This was due to a smaller planting of Sea Island cotton, namely 724 acres, as a result of the poor yield of the previous season. The "Marie Galante" area was, however, increased by 63 acres.

The table given below shows the acreage planted in Sea Island cotton in each of the past eight seasons; the yield of lint and the yield per acre.

Crop.	Acreage planted.	Weight of lint in pounds.	Yield of lint per acre in pounds.
1905–6	790	137,460	174
1906–7	1,533	268,275	175
1907–8	3,200	432,000	135
1908–9	3,000	372,000	124
1909–10	2,528	356,139	141
1910–11	3,587	561,526	156
1911–12	5,068	487,116	96
1912–13	4,344	428,032	98
			Average for 8 years. 136

The records for the last two seasons clearly show the disastrous effects of unseasonable weather.

The returns for "Marie Galante" cotton showed that 1,100 acres were under cultivation last crop. The season was a fairly good one in the Southern Grenadines, where this cotton is grown, and yields above the average were obtained. As mentioned in previous reports the acreage returns are not very reliable; besides, the cotton is largely intercropped with Indian corn and pigeon peas.

The following are the "Marie Galante" crop totals for the 1911–12 and 1912–13 crop seasons.

Crop.	Area planted.	Total Yield.	Yield per acre.	Estimated Value.
1911–12 ..	1,037 acres.	46,822 lb.	45 lb.	£1,951
1912-13 ..	1,100 ,,	58,737 ,,	53 ,,	£2,080

The following figures are also interesting and instructive :—

Table showing the Quantity and Value of Cotton exported during the period from 1903–4 *to* 1912.

Year.	Sea Island Cotton.		All Cotton.	
	Weight.	Estimated Value.	Weight.	Estimated Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
1903–4	Not known.	—	43,392	794
1904–5	77,814	3,890	126,178	4,494
1905–6	121,174	6,059	138,150	7,674
1906–7	225,632	16,922	263,036	18,169
1907–8	388,833	29,162	427,819	30,787
1908	387,178	28,426	420,830	30,048
1909	330,936	20,684	350,186	21,325
1910	493,494	37,238	521,956	38,409
1911	511,947	40,529	538,114	41,619
1912	405,128	46,822	451,950	34,024

In regard to the Starch Industry the Agricultural Superintendent writes :—

The minimum sale price fixed for arrowroot of good quality by the local Arrowroot Growers' Association in the European, Canadian, and United States markets was 3*d.* per lb. This price, however, induced shippers of arrowroot of low grade to export it in large quantities to the United Kingdom, where it was not wanted. It is feared that substantial monetary losses will be incurred as a result of this action. The low grades are chiefly produced by the peasantry.

The following table shows the exports and value of arrowroot and cassava starch in each of the last five years.

Year.	Arrowroot in pounds.	Value.	Cassava Starch in pounds.	Value.
		£		£
1908	4,886,379	27,713	236,502	1,352
1909	5,594,498	31,792	195,166	1,009
1910	5,302,725	30,089	138,112	781
1911	4,254,130	40,430	221,562	1,269
1912	3,948,681	48,854	177,820	1,287

St. Vincent arrowroot is unrivalled as a raw material in the manufacture of chocolate and for general starch purposes. The soil, climate, and water conditions of the Colony are apparently more suited to this cultivation than that of any of the other Islands except, perhaps, Bermuda. That Colony's production, however, does not exceed 30 to 40 tons per annum as against some 2,000 tons produced in St. Vincent. Apart from that point of view, it is evident that the market for arrowroot is of such a limited nature that St. Vincent can, by herself, for many years to come, satisfy fully, indeed more than fully, all the requirements of it.

Of the Cacao and other minor industries Mr. Sands says :—

There was little to record. Some slight extension of planting was undertaken in places where there was a good depth of soil. The exports of cured cacao in 1912 were, however, smaller than those of the three previous years.

The exports of cured cacao for the past five years are given below :—

Year.	Weight in pounds.
1908	218,664
1909	241,294
1910	235,236
1911	285,869
1912	223,373

The increased attention mentioned in last year's report as being given to the planting of coconuts was continued. Besides the importation of over 10,000 nuts for planting purposes, a large number of plants were raised from nuts produced locally. The greatest extension of planting took place on the Carib Country estates, but on several other estates in the Windward and Leeward districts plantations were extended.

Groundnuts.—These are grown on a fairly large scale, more particularly on the light sandy soils of the higher Windward district. The export of unshelled nuts to the intercolonial markets—chiefly Trinidad—which amounted to 3,638 bushels in 1911, was increased to 4,080 bushels in 1912.

It might be possible to make an extension of planting and inaugurate an export trade with Canada under the new preferential tariff should prices prove satisfactory.

Anthrax, which not so many years ago constituted such a scourge amongst stock, has been conspicuous by its entire absence during 1912–13. It is gratifying to know that the special vigorous measures taken to suppress this disease have been successful. A watchful eye, however, continues to be kept in case the disease should resuscitate, the blood spores of every animal dying being microscopically examined as soon as possible after death by the Government Veterinary Surgeon. There are stringent regulations strictly enforced providing for immediate report to the Government Veterinary Surgeon direct, or to the nearest Police Station, of any animal that dies.

During the year the Agricultural Department has undergone reorganization. The definite post of Agricultural Instructor has been abolished and there are now two officers, the Agricultural Superintendent and the Assistant Agricultural Superintendent in the Department instead of three as formerly. The establishment of an Agricultural pupil system at the Experiment Station (referred to under the head of this Report relating to Education) instead of the Agricultural Residential School has permitted of this reduction and change. Both officers are able to do more constant travelling than formerly and planters and peasants benefit appreciably in this connection by the new scheme. As usual useful experimental work in cotton, arrowroot, cassava, sugar, etc., has been carried out by the Department. It is pleasing to note that advice from the officers of the Agricultural Department is now more readily sought and taken and that agriculturists are recognizing that the best agricultural methods can only be devised and plant diseases and pests only fought and conquered by the assimilation of knowledge derived from science and practice.

Land Settlement and Crown Lands.

The sales during the year under the land settlement scheme were 144 in all—rural lots 81, township lots 61 and 2 acre lots. In addition 228 acres of Crown land were sold out in small lots. Available Crown land consists of mountain lands, which are only suitable for small holdings for growing provisions and native produce.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands was £724, as against £542 in the previous year.

The allotment, under the land settlement system, of Union Island, referred to in last year's Report, has continued to make good progress, nearly two-thirds of the Island being now sold and apportioned. Cultivation has increased 50 per cent. and there is every indication that the policy of the Government in regard to this dependency is fast justifying itself. A Revenue Officer is stationed in Union Island who, amongst other duties, is in charge of a branch Money Order Post Office and Government Savings Bank established for the convenience of the Islanders.

Shipping.

A table of the entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1911 and 1912 is appended, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping during the last five years. These figures do not include ships of war, of which four, all British, visited the Colony during 1912 :—

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1911.				1912.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ..	368	8,232	367	8,048	382	9,438	347	8,445
American ..	1	295	1	295	1	125	1	125
Dutch ..	2	108	2	108	6	369	3	272
Venezuelan	—	—	—	—	2	52	2	52
Totals ..	371	8,635	370	8,487	391	9,984	353	8,894

Steamers.

Nationality.	1911.				1912.			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	97	134,542	97	134,542	101	140,588	100	138,922
Danish	4	6,385	4	6,385	7	11,216	7	11,216
Totals	101	140,927	101	140,927	108	151,804	107	150,138

Total Shipping for the Past Five Years.

—	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards ..	170,154	161,505	145,523	149,562	161,788
Outwards	169,829	161,489	145,394	149,414	159,032
Totals ..	339,983	322,994	290,917	298,976	320,820

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances, eighteen in number, were added to the Statute Book during the year 1912 :—

The Customs 1900, Amendment 1912.
Jurors and Witnesses Remuneration.
Land and House Tax 1904, Amendment 1912.
Land and House Tax 1904, Amendment 1912 (ii).
Excise.
Appropriation.
Passenger Boats (Life-Saving).
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund.
Arrowroot (New Market Fund).
Aliens.
Licences.
Summary Conviction Offences 1911, Amendment 1912.
" Shakerism " Prohibition.
Opium.
Wireless Telegraph Amendment.
Supplementary Appropriation.
Customs Duties.
Georgetown Extension.

Probably the most important of these Ordinances is the " Shakerism" Prohibition Ordinance, an Ordinance passed to render illegal practices of a degrading and demoralizing nature, indulged in under the guise of a pseudo-religion by persons who called themselves Shakers or Penitents. This custom was rapidly gaining ground in the Colony, sweeping into the vortex of its orgies the most ignorant and superstitious of the people. At the time of writing, owing to this legislation, Shakerism is practically a " dead letter " in the Colony.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1911–12 and 1912–13 are as follows :—

—	1911–12.	1912-13,
Number of schools	26	26
Number on roll at 31st March.. ..	4,475	4,537
Average attendance	2,193	2,251
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid	1,702	1,710

There is a boys' secondary school in Kingstown, with an attendance of 40 to 50 pupils. The fees charged are £2 per term for each scholar, except those under ten years of age in the lowest form, for whom the fees are £1 6*s*. 8*d*. per term, but when two or more brothers in forms above the lowest attend, there is a reduction made of 6*s*. 8*d*. for the second and 13*s*. 4*d*. for the third. An exhibition to this school is awarded every year.

There is a girls' secondary school, under Government supervision, in Kingstown, the attendance at time of writing being 24. The fees are the same as at the boys' secondary school.

The attendance at the primary schools continues about the same.

During the year the Agricultural School referred to in former reports was closed under a scheme of reorganization, and was reopened as the Grammar School, the Girls' High School taking up its quarters at the former Grammar School Buildings. Under this reorganization scheme six pupils of the standard of the pupils formerly taught at the Agricultural School are instructed by the Assistant Agricultural Superintendent in practical agriculture at the Experiment and Botanical Stations. These pupils are apprenticed for two years and receive graded allowances in proportion to the length of their apprenticeship, coming every day to their work, and living with their parents or guardians.

The fifteen acres of land attached to the Experiment Station is all fully worked up in various products, such as cotton, arrowroot, sugar, cassava, &c., by the boys themselves, while each pupil is allowed a small piece of ground as a vegetable garden, the produce of which may be disposed of for his own benefit.

A small stock farm affords a valuable practical illustration of how stock should be kept and fed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 772 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making with those remaining from the previous year, 816 cases treated, as against a total of 1,014 in 1911–12.

The daily average was 55, as against 60·3, 57, and 55·8 in the previous three years.

The death rate was 5·7 per cent. of the total cases.

Operations numbered 104 as against 128 in 1911–12.

The medical officer is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is set aside for the detention of male lunatics who are violent, or manifest destructive tendencies. Other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the Pauper Asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable any violent or difficult case is, by arrangement with that Government, sent to Grenada, but sometimes the asylum there has not got the requisite accommodation, and the transfer is delayed.

There were 24 cases under treatment during the year (11 being new admissions), of whom 6 were discharged cured, 4 died, and 2 were transferred to Grenada.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care in the Grenada asylum was 23, at a cost of £449 3*s*. 9*d*. to the Colony.

The number of inmates of the Leper Asylum on the 31st March, 1912, was 6; during the year there were 4 admissions, 1 died and 1 was discharged, leaving 8 inmates in the asylum at the end of the year.

Under a Public Health Ordinance which was passed in 1910 compulsory segregation of pauper lepers is now provided for.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte at a considerable elevation overlooking the town of Kingstown.

At the commencement of the year under review there were 88 inmates of the asylum, and the admissions and discharges during the year were :—

—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	20	19	39
Discharged	3	9	12
Died	18	7	25
Total	21	16	37

leaving 90 on the 31st March, 1913.

The total expenditure in 1912–13 was £1,008 on the pauper and leper asylums, including the cost of lunatics kept locally—against £994 last year.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Early in the year 1911–12 the old military hospital was renovated and opened as a yaws hospital capable of holding 50 patients. The disease of yaws has long been ravaging the homes of the labouring population in the Colony, and the institution of this hospital is much appreciated by them. The introduction of Professor Ehrlich's new remedy, Salvarsan (606), has more than doubled the number of patients passing through and out of this hospital as cured during the year.

A casualty hospital with four beds was opened at Georgetown in the Windward district in August, 1912. This is meant for emergency cases, and is a great boon to the people of a district situated 24 miles by road from the Colonial Hospital at the capital town of Kingstown.

Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Savings Bank for the past five years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including interest capitalized).
		£	£	£
1908	1,121	6,693	5,929	14,313
1909	1,063	6,624	7,371	13,869
1910	1,095	8,686	6,877	15,994
1911	1,163	9,526	7,923	17,971
1912	1,194	8,657	8,083	18,935

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus :—

	At 31st Dec., 1911.	At 31st Dec., 1912.
	£	£
Kingstown	16,115	16,655
Georgetown	1,107	1,445
Barrouallie	744	799
Union Island	5	36
Total	£17,971	£18,935

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £166.

There was invested of savings bank funds at 31st December, 1912, the sum of £17,146.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The St. Vincent police force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, and 49 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates.

They are drilled, and have some training in the use of arms, and are supplied with Martini-Enfield rifles.

In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties in connection with excise supervision, district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges. The prison is worked entirely by the police, save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs outside.

In Kingstown a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

Two hundred and fifty-seven persons were committed to prison in the year, of whom 158 were men, 96 women, and 3 juveniles. The daily average was 26·86, as against 28 in 1911–12.

The number of cases reported to the police in 1912–13 was 581; of these 82 were for offences against the person, 42 for praedial larceny, 39 for other offences against property, and 418 for other offences. Only 491 of the above cases were brought before a magisterial court.

The total number of persons brought before the magisterial courts was 1,249; of these 372 were for offences against the person, 122 for praedial larceny, 164 for other offences against property, 8 for offences against the Masters and Servants Act, 106 for offences against revenue laws, municipal, road, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, and 477 for other offences. These figures are inclusive of the cases reported by the police.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 859, as against 883 in 1911–12.

These convictions are classed as follows:—

For offences against the person	216
„ malicious injury to property..	9
„ praedial larceny	99
„ other offences against property	99
„ offences against Revenue Acts, &c. ..	85
„ offences against Masters and Servants Act	8
„ other offences	343
Total ..	859

The convictions in the Supreme Court were 5 for offences against property, 3 for offences against the person and 1 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows:—

In the Inferior Courts	151
In the Supreme Court	2

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901, on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. The population by the official census of April, 1911, was 41,877, which had increased at 31st March, 1913, to 44,434.

The births registered in 1912–13 were 1,678 (849 males and 829 females), as against 1,790 in 1911–12; of these 1,004 or 59·83 per cent. were illegitimate.

Still-births were 104—32 legitimate and 72 illegitimate—the figures for the previous year being 36 and 58 respectively.

Marriages were 137—a decrease of 16 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages:—

Denomination.	1910–11.	1911–12.	1912–13.
Church of England	50	67	62
Church of Scotland	9	5	7
Wesleyan	60	65	49
Roman Catholic	7	13	17
Plymouth Brethren	1	3	2

The total registered deaths were 878, as against 914 in 1911–12, being 19·75 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The infant mortality (infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 185, being 21·07 per cent. of the total number of deaths. The similar figure in 1911–12 was 183 or 20·02 per cent.

Appended is a table of the causes of death :—

General diseases (includes syphilis, 80 ; tubercle, 48, tetanus, 18 ; malarial fevers, 11 ; dysentery, 21)	221
Diseases of nervous system	34
,, ,, circulatory system	48
,, ,, respiratory system	35
,, ,, digestive system	196
Parasites	48
Age	103
Still-born	104
Other diseases	89
Total ..	878

In the towns the authorities are realizing more and more the importance of stricter sanitation and are taking steps accordingly. In the villages, however, sanitary matters are still on a primitive basis, although the Government, through their District Sanitary and Medical Officers, spare no pains to impress upon the population generally the necessity for care in this direction. The establishment of an organized Sanitary Department now under contemplation should have far reaching effect. In the meantime the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1910, are being more rigidly enforced than has hitherto been the case.

A Trained Nurses' Association has recently been formed, which has for its object the better training of nurses and midwives and the prosecution of women practising midwifery illegally. This Association has the sympathy and financial support of the Government and it is hoped will be a means of achieving something in the direction of diminution of infantile mortality.

The rainfall for the year 1912–13 (at the Botanic Station, 206 feet above the sea level) was 94·89 inches, as against, 119·07 inches in 1911–12.

Rain fell on 275 days during the year.

The maximum fall in twenty-four hours was 3·04 inches on the 8th December.

December was the wettest month, with 11·93 inches. A good deal of damage was done to the roads during that month owing to the heavy rain, while the effect on the cotton crop was disastrous.

May was the driest month, with 2·71 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 78° F. Maximum for the year was 80·6° F. (in September) and the minimum 73·5° F., which was experienced in February.

Except in August and September, when the atmosphere is uncomfortably hot, although not even in those months insalubrious, the climate may be regarded as most healthy for both Europeans and coloured persons. Malaria is hardly known, while yellow fever has proved itself to be a disease of the past.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly mail service from and to England continued to be performed by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At Trinidad the mails are transferred into the intercolonial ships, which call weekly at St. Vincent on regular days—one week with outward mails on the way round the islands, and the following week on the way to Trinidad with homeward mails. The service was carried on in a satisfactory manner.

The steamers of the Pickford and Black Line, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments, continued to run as usual, while occasional calls were made by the steamers of Scrutton's Direct Line and the Quebec Steamship Line. The East Asiatic Line of steamers from Copenhagen via London and the Danish West Indies also made occasional calls.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward district of the Colony is served three times a week, the Leeward district daily, and the Grenadines once a week.

The postal order system continues to grow in popularity, and its extension to the district towns has been accomplished.

The volume of work in the Post Office also continues to expand, which is a sure sign of the upward march of the Colony.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £625, including £304 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £528. The main installation is in Kingstown with branch lines all over the island. The service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In 1913 Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein honoured the Colony with a visit and stayed for the month of March as a guest of the Administrator and Mrs. Gideon Murray. During this time she visited nearly every part of the Colony either on horseback or by carriage, being accorded everywhere she went a most loyal and spontaneous welcome from all sections of the community. She brought with her from England a most graciously worded message from King George to his subjects in the West Indies. This message was received in St. Vincent, as in every other portion of His Majesty's West Indian possessions, with much loyal enthusiasm and gratification.

From October, 1912, until February, 1913, the Administrator was on leave of absence in England. During Mr. Murray's absence, His Honour R. B. Roden, Chief Justice, acted as Administrator.

As already stated earlier in this Report the season for cotton was not a good one; still the remunerative prices obtained for arrowroot compensated in a degree for the disappointment over the former crop. On the whole the colonists have no reason to regard the position with a heavy heart, for cultivation, trade and revenue continue to expand. Moreover it has been possible for the Government during the past two years to undertake many public works of convenience which for lack of funds had hitherto been indefinitely delayed.

If I were asked what I regarded as the pressing point for consideration in the St. Vincent agricultural problem to-day, I should without hesitation reply 'Manure.' Any land, however fertile, which is cropped year after year with little or no application of manurial-substances will "lose heart" and in time become arid and unfertile.

The Government at the moment has under consideration a scheme for turning the cotton seed produced every year in the Colony into manure by erecting machinery for the separation of the oil from the seed, the residue being applied as manure; but pending the materialization of any action that the Government may be able to take it is important that agriculturists in their own interests should make every endeavour to obtain manures and not grudge the necessary outlay upon what for the moment appears unproductive expenditure, but which will repay itself handsomely over a series of years.

The approaching opening of the Panama Canal is already causing an influx of visitors to these Caribbean Seas, and if exquisite scenery and a healthy climate be inducements to travellers then as years speed on we may well expect to see St. Vincent one of the most favoured tourist spots amongst the many beautiful West Indian Islands.

A sketch map of the Colony is attached to this Report.

C. GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

30th October, 1913.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton 1914

C. O. № 22

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
762	Hong Kong	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912-1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912-1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912-1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913
794	St. Lucia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908–9
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1938, amounted to £96,768, of which £1,400 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £27,332 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £11,186.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1938, amounted to £26,404.

The main heads of taxation are:—

	Yield for 1938. £
Import Duties	40,357
Export Duties	4,217
Licences	3,744
Excise Duties	5,108
Land and House Tax	6,498
Income Tax	5,063
Stamp Duties	1,179
Estate Duties	872
Trade Duties	2,522

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows:—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and shoes (canvas with rubber soles).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s*. per pair.
Boots and shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and elastic).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 3*s*. per pair.
Boots and shoes (other kinds).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem*.
Flour, wheaten	5*s*. per 196 lb.	7*s*. 6*d*. per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s*. 3*d*. per 100 lb.	3*s*. 4*d*. per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s*. 3*d*. per 100 lb.	3*s*. per 100 lb.
Machinery — electrical, marine, water and sewerage and industrial.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*.	15 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Machinery — Agricultural.	5 per cent. *ad valorem*.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Sugar, refined	6*s*. 6*d*. per 100 lb.	9*s*. 9*d*. per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	4*s*. 2*d*. per 100 lb.	6*s*. 3*d*. per 100 lb.
Hardware—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	22½ per cent. *ad valorem*.
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7*d*. and under per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d*. per pair.
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7*d*. per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 7*d*. per pair.
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 9*d*. per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s*. 8*d*. per 100 lb.	2*s*. 6*d*. per 100 lb.

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Oils, edible, lucca, olive and similar oils.	1*s.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Oils, edible, cotton seed and soya bean.	10*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 3*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured—cigars and cigarettes.	10*s.* 5*d.* per lb.	15*s.* 8*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, snuffs and other manufactured tobacco.	5*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	8*s.* 3*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured.	2*s.* per lb.	2*s.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	7*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	11*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor cars (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor car parts... ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent *ad valorem.*
Motor car parts (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor car tyres and tubes	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	3*d.* per gallon.	5*d.* per gallon.
Meats—beef and pork ...	6*s.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	10½*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Metals—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter	10*s.* 5*d.* per 100 lb.	25*s.* per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1*s.* and under per yard).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1*s.* per yard).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent. preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1938 was £5,108.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon is imposed on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £1,179 in 1938; the summary of the rates is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreement under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25	0	1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof	0	1	0
Agreement for the purchase of or otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed	0	2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for	0	0	6

	£	s.	d.
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the-value of £10...	0	2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50	0	2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	0	2	0
Bank cheques	0	0	1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight	0	0	1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds—not exceeding £1	0	0	1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10	0	0	2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25	0	0	3
For each additional £25 or part thereof	0	0	3
Bills of lading	0	0	3
Bills of health	0	4	0
Bills of sale absolute	0	10	0
Bills of sale by way of security	0	5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100	0	5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof	0	2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10	0	1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25	0	2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50	0	7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof	0	7	6
Customs ships' manifests	0	1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards	0	0	3
Shipping Bill	0	0	1½
Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property for every £100 or fractional part...	0	10	0
Release of mortgage	0	10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange	0	2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards	0	0	1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100	0	10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	0	10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax is levied of 2s. per acre or part thereof on land in St. Vincent, and of 3d. to 1s. per acre or part thereof on land in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A tax is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent and in Union Island at the following rates:—

Upon houses of which the assessed annual rental shall be—

Over £3 and not exceeding £5 : 2s. per house.
Over £5 and not exceeding £6 : 2s. 6d. per house.
Over £6 and not exceeding £7 10s. : 3s. 4d. per house.
Over £7 10s. and not exceeding £9 : 4s. per house.
Over £9 and not exceeding £10 : 5s. per house.
Over £10 and not exceeding £12 10s. : 6s. 8d. per house.
Over £12 10s. and not exceeding £15 : 10s. per house.
Over £15 at the rate of £5 per centum of the assessed annual rental.

No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £6,498 in 1938.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the month of January with a fine of 3d. on amounts not exceeding £1 and of 8 per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st January are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

Water Tax in Country Districts.

Certain districts outside of the limits of the various towns have been provided with pipe-borne water supplies. The boundaries of these districts are prescribed by Order in Council and a graduated tax was levied on all houses situated within such a district until 15th December, 1937, when the levying of this tax was discontinued for economic reasons.

A house of which the assessed annual rental did not exceed £2 10s. was taxed 6d., a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceed £2 10s. but did not exceed £5 was taxed 1s., and a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeded £5 was taxed 2s.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands.—The amount of revenue collected from sales and leases of Crown Lands during 1938 was £967 0s. 8d. as compared with £793 2s. 2d. in the previous year, and the arrears were approximately £900, as compared with £1,016 19s. 2d. in the previous year.

Surveys.—Eight surveys in connection with building sites, encroachments, and purchased lands were performed by the Crown Surveyor. No surveys were undertaken by surveyors in private practice.

Three Rivers Land Settlement Scheme.—At the end of the year under review there remained one rural lot at Three Rivers Estate for sale equal in area to 12 acres 1 rood 13 poles and valued at £122 10s. 0d. The revenue collected during this year under the scheme was £957 5s. 8d. as compared with £814 16s. 8d. in 1937.

Visits of His Majesty's Ships.—His Majesty's Ship *Orion* visited the Colony in March and in August.

Official.—His Excellency Sir Henry Bradshaw Popham, K.C.M.G., M.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony for the following periods during the year: 5th April to 19th April; 27th December to 3rd

January, 1939. His Excellency was on short leave of absence in September, when the Government of the Windward Islands was administered by His Honour A. A. Wright, C.M.G.

His Honour A. A. Wright, Administrator of St. Vincent, was appointed to be Administrator of St. Lucia, and left this Colony to take up his new appointment on the 8th of July, 1938.

The Honourable L. P. Spence, Colonial Treasurer, administered the Government of St. Vincent from the 9th to the 12th of July, 1938, and from the 23rd of September to the 12th of October, 1938.

The Honourable W. L. Heape, Colonial Secretary, Grenada, administered the Government of the Island from the 13th of July to the 23rd of September, 1938.

His Honour Major W. Bain Gray, C.B.E., was appointed Administrator of St. Vincent, and arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government on the 12th of October, 1938.

Visit of West India Royal Commission.—The Vice-Chairman and five members of the West India Royal Commission, which has been appointed by His Majesty the King to investigate the social and economic conditions of the peoples of the British West Indies, arrived in the Colony on the 27th of December, 1938, and remained until the 5th of January, 1939. The other members of the Commission visited the Colony on the 17th of January. 1939.

Electricity.—Kingstown and environs are lighted by electricity generated by a model Diesel plant of 130 kilowatts capacity generating at 230-400 volts A.C. three-phase 50 cycles.

A refrigerating plant is also run as an adjunct to the Electricity Department.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Title of Publication.	*Price.* s.	d.	*Agent for Sale.*
St. Vincent Blue Book	10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do. Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do. Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

(21938) Wt. 2629—4374 625 1/40 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

RHODESIA-NYASALAND ROYAL COMMISSION
Report [Cmd. 5949] 7s. 6d. (7s. 11d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE WEST INDIES
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Cmd. 6070] 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES
Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

COLONIAL STUDENTS
Report of the Colonial Students Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1938 [Colonial No. 161] 9d. (10d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List	[Colonial No. 157] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Audit Service List	[Colonial No. 162] 4d. (5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 163] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 172] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Police Service List	[Colonial No. 168] 1s. (1s. 2d.)
Colonial Veterinary Service List	[Colonial No. 160] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2 : York House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2 : 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1 : 26, York Street
CARDIFF : 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST : 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

ADEN
BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1933

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 822.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Report for 1912 see No. 792.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1914.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C., and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1914.

[Cd. 7622-13] Price 2*d*.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
Legislation	10
Education	10
Medical	12
Judicial Statistics	15
Vital Statistics	15
Meteorological	16
Savings Banks	17
Public Works	18
Postal and Telephone Services	19
Land Settlement Schemes	20
Military Forces	22
General	22
Map.	

No. 822.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 792.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,

27th October, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report by Mr. F. H. Watkins, I.S.O., Colonial Secretary, on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1913.

I have, etc.,

DOUGLAS YOUNG,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable

Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,

etc., etc., etc.

(C103) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 1.15. B.&F.,Ltd. Gp.12 2.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1913.

FINANCIAL.

1. The total revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were as under :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1909–10	74,224	73,282
1910–11	81,413	75,561
1911–12	98,645	81,012
1912–13	86,393	84,059
1913–14	91,258	85,827

2. The total revenue, surpassing all previous records except that of 1911–12, exceeded the estimates—£81,225—by £10,033, and the revenue of the preceding year by £4,865. The receipts from customs duties, which brought in £53,900, exceeded anticipations by no less than £10,900. Excise receipts fell short of the estimate by £2,520, but the increased collections on imported rum, which produced £3,119 in 1913, as compared with £30 in 1912, account for this deficiency. The large increase of duties for unrefined muscovado sugar of the previous year was more than maintained, £4,107 being collected, as compared with £3,603 in 1912.

3. The details of revenue under the usual heads, as compared with those of the preceding year, were :—

	1912–13.	1913–14.
	£	£
Customs	46,611	53,900
Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue	26,812	26,250
Estate Duties	2,178	246
Fees of Office, etc.	1,939	2,341
Post Office	3,635	2,518
Telephones	1,984	2,243
Water Supplies	210	226
Revenue from Government Property	1,653	1,922
Interest from Sinking Fund ..	1,148	1,153
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	181	235
Land Sales	42	224
	£86,393	£91,258

4. The expenditure of £85,824, although £211 less than estimated, is the largest in the records of the island, storm damages, which were unusually heavy during the year, necessitating an expenditure of £1,055, being £855 more than anticipated.

5. The details of expenditure, as compared with those of the preceding year, were as follows:—

	1912–13.	1913–14.
	£	£
Charges on account of Debt	6,196	6,196
Pensions	2,815	2,993
The Governor	2,293	2,225
Colonial Secretary	1,813	1,826
Treasury Department	5,800	5,729
Post Office Department	3,307	3,039
Audit Department	729	726
Port and Marine	698	571
Do. Special Expenditure ..	86	—
Legal Departments	4,531	4,594
Police	5,326	5,440
Military Expenditure	567	839
Prisons	1,263	1,299
Sanitation	709	921
Medical Department	4,467	4,626
Hospitals and Asylums	6,222	7,422
Education	7,580	8,103
Do. Special Expenditure	722	293
Ecclesiastical	314	314
Charitable	734	747
Telephones	1,641	1,842
Carriacou District	1,050	927
Water Supply, Richmond Hill	225	235
Miscellaneous	5,543	5,083
Agricultural Department	1,382	1,394
Public Works Department	1,629	1,568
Do. Special Expenditure	377	—
Public Works Recurrent:—		
(a) Roads and Bridges	9,130	10,288
(b) Other	1,336	1,474
Public Works Extraordinary	5,572	5,110
Total Expenditure from Colonial Funds	84,057	85,824
Imperial Department from balance of Imperial Grant	2	3
	£84,059	£85,827

6. At the opening of the year under review the surplus stood at £58,720; at the close at £64,154, which was distributed as follows:—

	£
Reserve Fund	20,621
Loans to District Boards	13,315
Land Settlement Schemes	6,860
Balance of Stores on Hand	3,100
Current Cash	20,258
	£64,154

7. The reserve fund was increased during the year by £365, representing interest on the St. George's and Sauteurs Waterworks Loans from general revenue. The whole of the reserve stood invested at the close of the year as follows :—

Description of Stock.	Rate. per cent.	Actual. £
Gold Coast	3	2,687
Zanzibar Guaranteed Debentures ..	3	1,564
Transvaal	3	1,112
Strait Settlements	3½	3,477
Southern Nigeria	3½	4,167
Sierra Leone	3½	2,979
Queensland	3¾	4,270
Sierra Leone	4	365
		£20,621

8. The public debt was £123,670 and the sinking fund £35,069.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the District Boards in the financial year ended the 31st March, 1914, were as follows :—

	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
St. George's	4,108	4,168
St. Andrew's	2,731	2,776
St. Patrick's	2,134	1,884
St. John's	1,693	1,588
St. Mark's	607	682
St. David's	818	818
Hillsborough	92	87
	£12,183	£12,003

10. The loan debts of the District Boards were as follows :—

	£
St. George's	13,024
St. Andrew's	1,850
St. Patrick's	4,236
St. John's	3,400
St. Mark's	987
St. David's	—
Hillsborough	—
	£23,497

against which the following amounts have been paid to the Government for the formation of sinking funds :—

	£
St. George's	1,698
St. Andrew's	199
St. Patrick's	129
St. Mark's	—
St. John's	646
	£2,672

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

11. The value of the imports and exports of the Colony in the last five years is as follows :—

	Imports. £	Exports. £
1909	268,236	284,846
1910	279,236	291,760
1911	309,227	264,640
1912	279,875	285,590
1913	282,927	367,149

12. The origin of imports was as follows :—

From	Value. £	Percentage.
United Kingdom	113,076	40
British Colonies	69,135	24
Foreign Countries	100,716	36
United States (alone) ..	88,342	31
Canada (alone)	9,214	3

while the subjoined table gives the principal details of the articles imported into Grenada :—

	£
Apparel	4,652
Biscuits, Bread and Cakes	5,289
Boots and Shoes	5,509
Bullion and Banknotes	1,621
Butter	2,696
China and Earthenware	1,064
Coal	2,260
Cotton Goods	28,984
Cutlery..	212
Fish of all kinds	15,676
Glass and Glassware	1,439
Grain :—	
Oats	4,910
Rice	8,286
Wheaten Flour	42,917

	£
Haberdashery and Millinery	5,640
Hardware	2,360
Hats and Bonnets	2,575
Lard	2,163
Leather, Dressed and Undressed	1,374
Machinery	1,904
Manures, Chemical and Other	8,958
Meats, Canned, Salted, etc.	7,669
Medicines and Drugs	3,388
Metals and Manufactures of	9,140
Oils :—	
Cotton Seed	2,381
Olive and Refined Food	2,593
Kerosine	4,103
Oleomargarine	4,347
Silk, Manufactures of	628
Soaps	4,250
Spirits (Potable)	6,556
Sugar, Unrefined	10,875
Do. Refined	2,817
Tobacco, Unmanufactured	541
Do. Manufactured, Cigars	2,376
Do. do. Cigarettes	1,113
Wine	2,529
Wood and Timber	7,716
Shingles	621
Furniture	2,637
Wool, Manufactures of	2,347

13. The trade in chemical manures has largely increased of late years, partly owing to the gradual exhaustion of the soil, and partly to more scientific methods of cultivation being adopted.

14. In consequence of the failure of the sugar crop, resulting in the distillation of rum becoming dependent on imported molasses, a marked increase in the importation of spirits took place. So depleted were the stocks of rum that a reduction of the protective duty of 8*s*. to 6*s*. a gallon was necessary to allow the importation of rum, which resulted in 11,225 gallons, as compared with 69 gallons in the previous year, being imported.

15. Importations of sugar were again above the average owing to the sugar crop having been practically destroyed by drought, the value of unrefined sugar imported being £10,875, as compared with £11,401 in 1912.

16. The exports for the year showed an increase over those of the previous year of £81,000, or 28 per cent., the total value being £367,149, as against £285,590 in 1912.

17. The distribution of the exports appears as under :—

To	Value. £	Percentage.
United Kingdom	228,232	62
British Colonies	6,496	2
Foreign Countries	132,421	36
Canada (alone)	401	—
United States (alone) ..	89,666	24

18. In quantity the exports of cocoa slightly exceeded those of 1912 —105,284 cwt. as against 101,043 cwt.; while the value rose from £225,317 to £303,073, an increase of 35 per cent.

19. The value of nutmegs and mace export rose to £25,205 and £18,939, as compared with £21,737 and £15,040 in 1912, respectively.

20. The cultivation of cotton is confined entirely to Carriacou, and the industry is steadily progressing. Marie Galante is practically the only variety planted, efforts to establish Sea Island cotton having so far proved unsuccessful. The cotton exported last year was of the value of £10,499, as compared with £9,019 in 1912, while the value of cotton seed sent away was £2,779, as against £1,964 in the previous year.

21. The other products exported included :—

	Value. £
Lime juice	240
Avocado Pears	373
Coconuts	316
Copra	255
Turtle shell	473

SHIPPING.

22. The shipping tonnage, inwards and outwards, in the last five years has been :—

Year.	Total.
1909	586,074
1910	590,451
1911	535,161
1912	565,780
1913	656,191

Of the total in 1913, 633,302 was steam tonnage, representing 172 steamers, all British.

LEGISLATION.

23. Twelve Ordinances, two of which were the annual enactments for expenditure, were passed by the Legislature in 1913, the more important being :—

No. 2, to render the police force liable to military duty in case of invasion.

No. 4, to amend the Water Supply Ordinance, by giving the water authority power to make assessment of the annual rental of all houses and buildings within its district liable to water rates which were exempt from taxation.

No. 5, to consolidate and amend the law relating to wireless telegraphy.

No. 10, to provide for the adhesion of the Colony to the Canadian West Indian Preferential Agreement signed at Ottawa on the 9th April, 1912, and to amend the Import Duties Ordinance. The duties on goods enumerated in the schedule of the Ordinance which were the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom or Canada were fixed at four-fifths of the duty imposed on similar goods imported from elsewhere, while the duty on Canadian flour was reduced, preferentially, by at least 6*d.* on every hundred pounds weight.

No. 11, to declare the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorized by the Government and to provide for the creation of inscribed stock.

No. 12, to give power to terminate or suspend pensions when the holders became the directors or servants of companies carrying on business in the Colony.

EDUCATION.

24. The Board of Education for primary education consists of the Governor as President and of not less than ten members, of whom one-half shall be, and one-half shall not be, Roman Catholics.

25. The education staff of the Colony consists of an Inspector of Schools, who is responsible for the inspection and examination of the schools and for checking the administration of the moneys voted for primary schools, an Assistant Inspector of Schools, who is secretary of the Board of Education and who is in charge of agricultural instruction in the schools, a clerk and a copyist.

26. Schools for primary education are of two descriptions—namely, Government schools, maintained wholly from public funds, and grant-in-aid schools, maintained partly from private contributions or local

funds and partly from public funds. The number of Government and aided schools in 1913 was as follows :—

Government	11
Roman Catholic	23
Anglican	12
Wesleyan	5
Church of Scotland	2
	53

27. By the Primary Education Ordinance and Code schools for primary education are graded in four classes, namely :—(a) industrial schools, to be established in important centres of population, at which practical instruction in agriculture or industrial occupations will be given ; (b) combined schools situate in important centres of population where, in addition to the instruction prescribed in the lower division schools, the more advanced pupils are taught in higher standards prescribed in the code ; (c) lower division schools, where the three R's are thoroughly and exclusively taught within certain limitations and ages, and (d) infant schools for children under the age of seven years. Infant schools may be attached to combined or lower division schools, provided the rooms of the two departments are separated by screens or otherwise. The combined schools are divided into three grades—A, B, and C—grade A including those with average attendance exceeding 180, grade B an average attendance between 120 and 181, and C an average attendance of 120 or less, the salaries of the head teachers and the number of the staff varying according to the grade. Additional allowances according to the grade of the schools are also granted where 80 per cent. of the pupils have successfully passed in the three R's and extra subjects at the annual examination. Head teachers of combined schools are entitled to pensionable allowances under the provisions of the Ordinance on retirement from service.

28. Applications for grants in aid of the erection, extension or improvement of buildings may be considered by the Board, provided that the amount shall not exceed one-half of the sum required, or £150 for the erection of, and £100 for the extension and improvement of, schoolhouses. The sum of £75 is annually voted for the upkeep of latrines.

29. Religious instruction forms part of the daily instruction in aided schools and, so far as circumstances permit, in Government schools, for which latter the Board has the power to arrange separate days and hours.

30. On the 31st December, 1913, the number on roll in the Colony was 11,314 and the average attendance 5,695, or 50·3 per cent. of the number registered, as against 10,372, 5,268, and 50·7, respectively, on the 31st December of the previous year. At the annual examinations 4,087 were presented, of whom 486 received instruction above Standard IV b. Twenty-eight probationers, 34 first year, 12 second year and 7 third year pupil teachers, or 81 in all, were examined. At the local examination of the College of Preceptors 23 teachers were examined, as against 14 and 20 in 1912 and 1911 respectively.

31. The amount on the Estimates for grants in aid of primary schools for 1914–15 is £6,122 as against £5,600 in 1913–14, while £350 was owed for building grants.

32. *Grenada Boys' Secondary School.*—The school was reorganized and reopened in 1911 with 38 pupils, which number increased to 80 in 1913. The institution is intended to prepare boys for agricultural, professional and commercial life in the Colony and elsewhere. Among the subjects taught are the agricultural sciences, which form an important part of the curriculum, military drill, bookkeeping and hygiene. In the year under review the expenditure was £1,051, £361 being received as fees, while the estimate for 1914–15 is £1,424. The ordinary tuition fee is £2 a term, and for boys under ten years of age £1 6*s.* 8*d.*, but in the case of two or more pupils of a family a reduction of one-fourth is made for the second and third boy, and one-half for those over three. Exhibitions tenable for three years or more are offered to boys attending the primary and secondary schools in Grenada.

33. *Girls' Secondary School.*—This School was reopened by the Government in January, 1912, and is undenominational. The Board offers three exhibitions to girls attending primary and private schools and one to pupils of the school. The number of pupils in 1913 was 25, and the expenditure £416, £104 being received as fees. The estimate for 1914–15 is £462.

34. *The St. Joseph's Convent School,* which has a daily average of 75, received a Government grant of £150, while £166 was paid in fees and £70 in voluntary contributions.

MEDICAL.

35. The year under review was, on the whole, healthy, no disease being epidemic, although several small outbreaks of infectious diseases occurred in different parts of the Colony. Ten cases of smallpox and 21 of typhoid were notified, and an outbreak of measles in one of the districts near the chief town took place towards the middle of the year. It is satisfactory to note that malaria was less prevalent than in the previous year and was of a mild type, which is due to improvements in the drainage of the towns, especially of Grenville, where the energy and well directed efforts of the District Board and Medical Officer have given appreciable and beneficial results.

36. Tuberculosis was made a notifiable disease and an Anti-Tuberculosis Society was formed. One hundred and eleven cases were notified.

37. During the year great stimulus to local efforts to combat the baneful effects of ankylostomiasis was imparted by the visit of Mr. Wickliffe Rose, the Director General of the International Health Commission of Washington. The endemic disease, which is due to the presence in the upper part of the intestine of a small worm less than half-an-inch in length, produces anæmia and loss of energy, and is a considerable factor in the spread of tuberculosis. The Ankylostomiasis Ordinance of 1910 makes it plain that the importance of eradicating the disease had been recognised by the medical and sanitary authorities in Grenada. The Ordinance makes it lawful for the sanitary authority, on the report of a medical officer, to require any person suffering from ankylostomiasis to attend for treatment at a public dispensary or to remain in a public hospital and to require estates to provide suitable latrine accommodation. Provision is made for public latrines in towns, villages and schools. The General Board of Health is empowered to frame rules for enforcing the proper use of latrine accommodation and the cleansing of infected areas, and for generally carrying out the objects of the Ordinance.

38. The visit of Mr. Wickliffe Rose was followed by a generous grant of £1,856 being made by the International Health Commission, to be expended in 1914 and 1915 for the twofold purpose of suppressing and diminishing existing human infection and of preventing new infection by measures for avoiding pollution of soil and water and for guarding individuals from infection. The grant has been apportioned as follows:—

	£
Medical Officer in Charge (£550, with quarters, or £50 in lieu)	600
Travelling allowance for Medical Officer	50
Assistant Medical Officer	400
Travelling Allowance for Assistant Medical Officer ..	50
Four Microscopists, to be trained locally..	300
Rent of Quarters of Microscopists..	45
Clerk to Medical Officer in Charge..	100
Porterage	60
Contingencies	100
Two Passages	50
Microscopes	70
Lanterns	21
Microscopic Sundries	10

Much of the value of the work under the Commission will depend upon how far adequate, continuous and energetic measures are taken in the future, locally, for the improvement of sanitation and the enforcement of sanitary regulations are adopted and carried out.

39. *Colony Hospital.*—The admissions into the hospital for the year numbered 1,530, while 2,709 were prescribed for in the out-patient department, 728 prescriptions being free. The total cost per patient was £20 1*s.* 3*d.* a year. Two wards were opened for the reception of patients, and they have been a great boon to the Resident Medical Officers. On the 15th April the maternity ward

with four beds was formally opened by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, who graciously consented to the ward bearing her name.

40. *Yaws Hospital.*—The total number of cases admitted during the year was 211. Some of the patients were treated with salvarsan (606) with most encouraging results. The expenditure was £413, being £8 5*s.* 2½*d.* a year, for each patient.

41. *St. Andrew's Hospital.*—One hundred and seventy-five were treated in the wards, as compared with 199 in 1912, the average number of patients being reduced to 10. Only 24 cases of ankylostomiasis were treated in the wards, most cases being looked after in the houses of the sufferers. The number of prescriptions compounded in the dispensary was 12,675, of which 7,477 were free. The total cost of each patient was £38 8*s.* a year.

42. *Carriacou District Hospital.*—One hundred and ninety nine patients were admitted during the year, as against 186 in 1912, the cost being £30 8*s.* 4*d.* a year, while the total expenditure amounted to £649 18*s.* 8*d.* and the receipts to £90 15*s.*

43. *Consumptive Hospital.*—The inauguration ceremony of this institution was performed on the 4th April by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, who graciously permitted the hospital to bear her name. The institution consists of 2 wards, 1 male and 1 female, of 10 beds each, and is solely for tuberculous patients, who are admitted by the Medical Superintendent on the recommendation of the District Medical Officers. During the 163 days the hospital was open 16 male and 22 female patients were admitted, of whom 1 male and 5 females died, 12 being discharged as improved and 20 remaining as inmates at the end of 1913. A few selected cases were treated with Tuberculin, but sufficient time has not elapsed to judge the results. The expenditure from the 21st July to the 31st December was £435.

44. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The number under treatment was 145, of whom 112 remained in from the previous year, and 33 were admitted and 24 were discharged, while 11 died. The daily average number of inmates was 115 and the net cost to the Colony £1,954 15*s.* 9*d.*, the average cost a head, inclusive of all patients, being £21 11*s.* 9*d.* a year.

45. *Poor Asylum.*—This is practically an asylum for incurables, the accommodation being for 38 males and 20 females. During 1913 the total number admitted was 40, the daily average being 52, 32 males and 20 females, the expenditure being £626 or a cost of £11 19*s.* 11*d.* a year for each inmate.

46. During the year the fees for medical attendance and the cost of medicines for labourers were materially reduced, in compensation for which the office of Medical Officer became pensionable and the District Medical Officers were allowed forage allowances.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

47. The strength of the Police Force was 81 of all ranks, and comprised the Chief of Police, a sergeant major, 5 sergeants of police, of whom 3 were sanitary inspectors, an armourer sergeant, a bugler, 67 corporals and privates, and 2 clerks. The standard of efficiency in musketry was good, all the members of the force undergoing the course laid down for the Territorial Army in England. The number of rural constables was 150.

48. Two hundred and sixty-two persons were admitted to the Richmond Hill Prison in 1913, the daily average being 52, an increase of 7 on that in 1912. The males showed an average of 47, the females 5 and the juveniles ·33. The total expenditure of the prison was £1,957, against which had to be set the value of the labour of the prisoners, estimated at £631, and the sales of broken stones, realising £43, which thus gave a net expenditure of £1,283.

49. The Acting Attorney-General reports that the number of persons brought before the magisterial courts was 2,564, as against 2,592 in the previous year, which slight decrease is the more gratifying as there had been appreciable increase in 1911 and 1912. Of the 2,564, 1,852 were summarily convicted. Of 36 persons committed for trial in the Supreme Court, 22 were convicted. Despite special efforts to eradicate the crime, convictions for prædial larceny showed a marked increase, the numbers as compared with the past years being :—

1910	128
1911	105
1912	185
1913	260

VITAL STATISTICS.

50. The population of Grenada and its dependencies on the 31st December, 1913, was estimated to have been 69,307. According to the census returns on the 2nd April, 1911, it was 66,750, and on the 31st December, 1912, 68,485. Allowing for a natural increase of 1,083 and for an excess of emigration over immigration of 261 during 1913, the above result, an increase of 2,557 since the census, is reached.

51. The following table shows the population according to districts on the 31st December last, namely :—

District.	*Population.*
St. George's	16,540
St. Andrew's	17,099
St. Patrick's	10,838
St. John's	7,852
St. Mark's	3,682
St. David's	6,733
Carriacou	7,249
	*69,993

52. The number of births was 2,427, and the birth rate 34·80, as compared with 38·19 for the previous year, which decline is due to the emigration of a large number of the male population to Brazil, while 388 marriages were registered, an improvement of 49 on the total in 1912.

53. The number of deaths was 1,344, a decrease of 231 as compared with the previous year and more than 100 below the average of the past twelve years, while the rate was 19·27 as compared with 22·9 in 1912. The chief causes of death were :—

Diarrhœa	74
Dysentery	64
Enteritis	25
Gastro-enteritis	195
Fevers	106
Phthisis	67

The number of still-born children notified was 148.

METEOROLOGICAL.

54. The rainfall was 74·85 inches, 10·87 more than in 1912 and 5·53 above the average for the past three years. The average rainfall in 23 years, 1891 to 1913, was 76·90 inches, so that the precipitation for the year under review was 2·05 inches below that average. The highest annual rainfall in the period of 23 years was in 1892, when

*The district figures necessarily cannot be amended in respect of emigration.

105·89 inches were recorded, and the lowest in 1891 with 56·69. The average rainfall in each month within the period was as under :—

January	4·50
February	2·98
March..	2·93
April	2·45
May	4·69
June	9·03
July	9·47
August	9·67
September	8·13
October	7·23
November	8·07
December	7·75

In 1913 the highest maximum temperature in the shade was 88, on the 13th April, the 17th May, the 8th June and the 10th September, which is the lowest for years, while the minimum was 70, recorded on the 13th April and the 3rd November.

SAVINGS BANKS.

55. The balance to the credit of the depositors at the end of the year was £27,936, a decrease of £159 as compared with that of the previous year, but, despite the decrease in the amount of deposits, the number of depositors rose from 1,806 in 1912 to 2,356 in 1913, with an average of £11 17*s*. 1*d*. to the credit of each. The decrease in the amount of deposits was due to the establishment of a savings department in connection with the Royal Bank of Canada, which opened a branch in Grenada during the year and which offers greater freedom and simplicity in depositing and withdrawing money. The investments at the end of the year anounted to £28,500 and the profits to £176, which were carried to general revenue.

56. In the Carriacou Savings Bank the amount to the credit of depositors at the end of 1913 was £3,683 or £381 in excess of that shown at the end of 1912. There were 175 depositors, of whom 42 were creditors of over £25, while there was a surplus of £282 on the working expenses.

PUBLIC WORKS.

57. The expenditure under the Public Works Department during the financial year was £13,495, of which the following is a statement of the different sub-heads :—

	£
Personal Emoluments	1,195
Other charges	373
Public Works Recurrent :—	
Maintenance of Public Buildings	1,005
Upkeep of Bridges and Culverts	302
Storm Damages	1,055
Upkeep of Main Roads	3,210
Upkeep of Road Roller	220
Other charges	1,015
Public Works Extraordinary	5,111
	£13,495

58. The ordinary expenditure on the upkeep of main roads was apportioned as follows :—

	£
Southern District	1,254
Eastern District	1,258
Western District	698

while that on special work authorised and taken in hand was allotted as below :—

	£
Bridges and Culverts	303
Main Roads..	170
By-ways	230

59. The principal public works extraordinary undertaken were a reinforced concrete causeway over the Observatory River and foot-bridge over the Brunette River, improvements to the St. David's main road in anticipation of motor-car traffic, the enlargement of the Boys' Secondary School buildings and Quarantine Station, the purchase of "Carlton" as a residence to be rented to the Colonial Secretary, the construction of waterworks for the town of Victoria, and the establishment of rifle ranges for the Volunteer Force at St. George's and Grenville.

60. In addition to the expenditure under the Public Works Department, the following amounts were expended on by-ways and streets under the authority of the District Boards and under the Hillsborough Town Fund :—

	£
St. George's	1,319
St. Andrew's	1,110
St. Patrick's	863
St. Mark's	310
St. John's	544
St. David's	713
Hillsborough (Carriacou)	31
	£4,890

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

61. The comparative statement below shows the extent of Post Office business in 1912 and 1913 :—

	1912.	1913.
Letters and Post Cards	578,021	623,515
Newspapers, Books, etc...	228,985	291,598
Parcels	15,684	12,652
Registered and Insured Letters.. ..	14,579	17,188
Money and Postal Orders issued and paid	34,875	35,447

62. Grenada is regularly visited by the following lines of steamers :—

(1) The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, under a ten-year contract from August, 1907, the Colony paying an annual subsidy of £900 during that period. The steamers of the Company leave Southampton every alternate Wednesday for Barbados and Trinidad, connecting at the latter island with an intercolonial steamer, which sails on the same day for Grenada, arriving there on alternate Wednesdays in the morning and proceeding to the northern British West Indian Islands. The intercolonial steamer returns to Grenada from the northern islands on the afternoon of the Monday following, and connects the next day at Trinidad with the transatlantic steamer which leaves for Southampton via Barbados.

(2) The direct line of steamers between London and the West Indies and British Guiana. The steamers of this line are, at present, combined with the Royal Mail cargo service, and arrive on alternate Tuesdays with cargo and mails from London. During the cocoa crop they also return as a general rule on the homeward voyage, fortnightly, for cargo.

(3) The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Canadian steamers call on alternate Wednesdays from Halifax, via Bermuda, and once a month on Wednesday on their homeward passage.

(4) The steamers of the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company leave New York for Grenada at intervals of 10 to 14 days, and after leaving the Colony call at Trinidad and British Guiana and return to Grenada en route to New York, the length of the direct passage being about eight days.

In addition to the above lines, more than 40 mails are sent or received in the year by other steamers and sailing vessels.

63. The coastal service, for which a subsidy of £1,755 a year is paid, is performed by two small steamers of the Royal Mail Company, which carry mails, passengers and cargo, and give a daily service on the leeward coast between St. George's and Sauteurs, a bi-weekly service on the windward side between St. George's and Grenville and a weekly service between Grenada and Carriacou.

64. Grenada is connected with the outside world by the cable of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, to which is paid an annual grant of £600 a year. Since the 1st October, 1914, the rates have been sensibly reduced, those for the principal places being per word :—

United Kingdom	2*s.* 6*d.*
Canada and United States ..	1*s* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 8½*d.*

Deferred rate messages to the United Kingdom, British Colonies and other places, where applicable, are chargeable at half rates.

LAND SETTLEMENT SCHEMES IN GRENADA AND CARRIACOU.

65. In 1915 the twelfth and last instalments for the lots purchased at the initiation of the land settlement scheme in Carriacou will be due, and the allottees, on final payment, will possess titles in fee simple. The scheme was inaugurated in 1903 when the Beausejour and Harvey Vale Estates were acquired in order to establish a peasant proprietary in the island. The regulations passed on the 1st May, 1903, provide for the local administration of lands acquired for this purpose under a Land Officer. A valuation of the lots is made by assessors, whose valuation covers the cost of purchase, legal expenses and survey. In allotment preference is given to cash purchasers, and then to purchasers paying more than 25 per cent., and, in every case, to an existing tenant. In the case of those paying 25 per cent. or more of the purchase money, twelve years is allowed for payment of the balance by annual instalments payable over twelve years, interest at 5 per cent. being charged. During the twelve years no allotment may be alienated, let or encumbered without the consent of the Government.

66. The earnest demand of peasants willing and eager to become land owners made the extension of the scheme imperative, and other estates, Belair and Bellevue, were shortly afterwards acquired for the purpose of land settlement, while in 1913 the Mount Pleasant Estate was also purchased under the scheme.

67. The success of the scheme may be gauged by the figures below connected with its administration.

	Beau-sejour.	Harvey Vale.	Belair.	Belle-vue.	Total.
Acres purchased	709	384	302	115	1,510
Acres allotted	536	318	225	10	1,089
Acres reserved	173	66	77	105	421
Number of lots	223	78	87	5	393
Expenditure	£4,179	£2,501	£1,411	£358	£8,449
Receipts for lots sold	—	—	—	—	£8,543
Balance due for lots	—	—	—	—	£124
Value of unsold lots	—	—	—	—	£64
Value of reserves and other property	—	—	—	—	£3,673

68. As already mentioned, the Mount Pleasant Estate was acquired in 1913 for settlement, the Legislative Council, on the 13th October, passing a resolution approving of £3,800 being advanced from surplus funds for its purchase and for the expenses incidental to its survey for sale in small lots, which amount is to be eventually refunded by the proceeds of the sale of the lots. The estate comprises 510 acres, of which 25 were reconveyed to the former owner after possession had been obtained from the lessees, and part of it has been divided into 141 lots of 2½ to 3 acres each in the low-lying lands, and of as much as 4½ acres in the higher lands.

69. The success of the Carriacou land settlement led to a similar scheme being inaugurated in the island of Grenada in 1910, when an estate called Morne Rouge, in the south of the island, was surveyed in lots, while shortly afterwards 50 acres of land of the True Blue estate were purchased. In 1911 300 acres of land in St. David's parish were also bought for the purposes of land settlement. At present the progress of the scheme may be gauged by the statement below, giving details of the scheme to the 31st December last :—

	Morne Rouge.	Wester-hall.	Cali-vigny.	St. Cyr.	Totals.
Acres dealt with	369	296	63	297	1,025
Acres to be allotted	186	280	60	—	526
Acres of reserves	183	16	3	—	202
Number of lots	63	104	23	—	190
Area already allotted	148	239	—	—	387
Expenditure	—	—	—	—	£3,725
Revenue	—	—	—	—	£553
Amounts due by allottees ..	£388	£1,118	—	—	£1,506
Value of unsold lots	£125	£217	£440	—	£782
Value of reserves (nominal) ..	£250	£60	£10	—	£320

MILITARY FORCES.

70. At the end of 1912 a mounted section of the Volunteer Force was raised in the St. Andrew's District, and, 25 members being enrolled, Lieutenant A. W. Duncan was appointed to command that part of the force. In September the mounted infantry spent three days in camp for field training. The force of the two sections was maintained at full strength during the year. Rifle ranges were laid out at Queen's Park in St. George's and at Telescope Point in St. Andrew's, and the efficiency of the force in this as in other directions was greatly increased.

71. The details of the expenditure for the financial year were :—

	£
Staff Officer's Salary (Part payable by Grenada)	112
Do. House Allowance	14
Do. Horse Allowance	11
Do. Travelling Expenses	2
Drill Instructor	36
Maintenance of Corps	432
Outfit of Mounted Infantry	40
Maxim Gun and Ammunition	191
Telephone	1
	£839

GENERAL.

72. Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein arrived in Grenada on the 31st March and remained in the island until the 5th April, during which period Her Highness motored across the Grand Etang, and opened the Princess Marie Louise Maternity Ward at the Hospital and the Princess Marie Louise Hospital for Consumptives at Richmond Hill.

73. As has been mentioned in a previous paragraph, the year was memorable for the visit of Mr. Wickliffe Rose, the Director of the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission or Foundation known as the International Health Commission, with a view of securing for Grenada and other West India islands the beneficial results of the great work accomplished in the Southern States. The benefits of the eradication of ankylostomiasis, which is responsible for great suffering and loss of life, besides decrease of economic efficiency, in tropical countries, will be incalculable.

74. With regard to the approaching opening of the Panama Canal, the Secretary of State, at the close of 1912, deemed it desirable to have a careful investigation in islands where plague had not yet made its appearance, as to the conditions of the nature and distribution of rats, with the object of determining what action was necessary to safeguard these islands from the introduction of rat-borne diseases. For this purpose Dr. St. John Brooks, an expert in such matters, arrived in Grenada in May, and, after visiting the different districts of the island and Carriacou, submitted a report on the sanitary conditions, organisation, and requirements of the Colony, more especially in respect to the extermination of rats and to other measures for avoiding plague importation.

C. O. No 20.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1914.

75. The Panama Canal also brought into prominence once more a subject which for many years had been under public discussion—namely, the improvement of St. George's Harbour—and the matter took concrete form in 1912 in the report of a local committee. Upon the recommendations of the report Mr. I. C. Barling, a harbour works engineer representing the firm of Messrs. Coode, Matthews, Fitzmaurice & Wilson, arrived in Grenada early in the year and remained several weeks in the island, submitting later on a full report embodying proposals and estimates for two alternate schemes for the dredging of the harbour, the construction of wharfage, moorings, etc. The first scheme, involving an expenditure of £91,000 (£70,800 for wharfage, £13,600 for dredging, buoys, etc., £5,700 for sheds and £900 for a boat harbour), provides for a wharfage front of 850 feet, sufficient to berth two steamers. The alternative scheme, the cost of which was estimated at £60,000, proposed the construction of a wharf 450 feet in length for one steamer, corresponding with the western portion of the wharfage in the larger scheme. An estimate for the establishment of a coal depôt was given at £16,000.

76. At a special meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th April a resolution was passed by the majority approving of the Colony entering into reciprocal trade relations with Canada under the terms and conditions of the Preferential Tariff Agreement signed at Ottawa in April, 1912, which was the outcome of the Commission under the Chairmanship of Lord Balfour of Burleigh. According to the agreement, which is to continue for ten years, the West Indian Colonies, now ten in number, which are signatories, give a preference to Canadian imports of 20 per cent. over foreign goods, and, in return, Canada gives the same, but, as she already gave a preferential tariff to all British countries with the exception of Australia, the West Indies are the gainers by about 13 per cent. The agreement will be the commencement and development, it is hoped, among the islands of a stronger patriotism, a larger outlook, and a truer Imperialism.

77. Grenada depends for its prosperity, almost for its existence at present, upon cocoa and spices, and the highly remunerative prices obtained for these staples have resulted in the neglect of other industries. Were the price of cocoa to fall below remunerative production, the Colony would be in sore straits, and the necessity for adopting a policy of broadening its productive capacity by the encouragement of minor products, such as ground provisions, for supplying local demands, which now depend on imported foodstuffs, more particularly on the land settlements, is urgent and imperative.

F. H. WATKINS,
Colonial Secretary of Grenada

22nd October, 1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
794	St. Lucia	1912–1913
795	St. Vincent	"
796	Bermuda	1912
797	Ceylon	"
798	Gibraltar	1913
799	St. Helena	"
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
801	Seychelles	"
802	Ceylon	"
803	Bermuda	"
804	Weihaiwei	"
805	Gambia	"
806	Gold Coast	"
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
808	Sierra Leone	"
809	Bahamas	1913–1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1912–1913
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	"
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913–1914
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	"
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 835.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1913-14.

(For Report for 1912-13 see No. 795.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

March, 1915.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-26] *Price 2d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—Financial	4
II.—Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	9
III.—Legislation	19
IV.—Education	19
V.—Government Institutions	20
VI.—Judicial	23
VII.—Vital Statistics	24
VIII.—Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	26
IX.—General Observations	26

No. 835.

ST. VINCENT.

(For Report for 1912–13 see No. 795.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House.
St. Vincent,
31st December, 1914.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to Your Excellency, for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my Annual Report on the Blue Book for the financial year 1913–1914.

2. I regret the delay that has occurred in forwarding this Report this year, but the reason is that I only returned from leave of absence on the 4th November.

I have, &c.,
GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
G. B. Haddon-Smith, C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

(C130) Wt.36076/850. 1125&90. 3.15. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11/2. B2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1913–14.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following comparative statements and tables give the heads of Revenue and Expenditure and the amounts received under those heads for the years 1912–13 and 1913–14, as well as the total Revenue and Expenditure for each of the last five years 1909–10 to 1913–14 :—

(Table 1.)

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected 1912–13. £	Amount collected 1913–14. £
1. Customs :		
Import	17,268	15,219
Export	1,043	1,097
2. Port and Harbour Dues :		
Tonnage	609	650
Port	109	93
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue :		
Licences—Liquor	596	612
„ Other	1,313	1,373
Excise..	3,453	3,661
Land and House Tax ..	3,023	3,030
Income Tax	691	718
Other Internal Revenue ..	953	1,068
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid	1,576	1,630
5. Post Office	4,037	2,676
6. Telephones	625	671
7. Rent of Government Property..	38	75
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans..	1,548	1,030
9. Miscellaneous Receipts.. ..	68	92
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	724	628
Total Local Revenue	£37,674	£34,323
11. Parliamentary Grant :		
In aid of Agricultural Department	414	—
Redemption of Public Works Loan	—	50
Total General Revenue ..	£38,088	£34,373

The principal decreases are to be found under Head 1, Import Duties, and Head 5, Post Office. The former was due chiefly to the abolition from the 1st April, 1913, of the additional one-tenth import duty which has been levied from year to year for the past 16 years. The latter decrease is to be accounted for by the smaller sale of stamps to stamp collectors, who in 1912–13 eagerly bought up quantities of the new George V. issue. There were no increases of any appreciable nature.

(TABLE 2.)

Comparative Yearly Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure according to the classification employed in the Estimates	Expenditure. 1912–13.	Expenditure. 1913–14.
	£	£
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt	526	122
2. Pensions	2,095	2,114
3. The Governor	1,702	1,709
4. Government Office	690	767
5. Treasury and Customs	1,767	1,994
6. Audit Department	343	349
7. Legal Departments	2,011	2,110
8. Local Forces	255	265
9. Police, Prisons, Port, & Excise	3,434	3,453
10. Medical Department	2,030	2,411
11. Hospitals and Asylums.. ..	3,108	3,415
12. Poor Relief	701	685
13. Education	2,178	2,306
14. Post Office	1,818	1,954
15. Telephone Department.. ..	528	598
16. Miscellaneous	2,310	2,030
17. Crown Lands and Survey Department	531	505
18. Public Works Department ..	669	720
19. „ „ Recurrent ..	2,774	3,286
20. „ „ Extraordinary	2,416	5,113
21. Agricultural Department ..	1,252	1,612
22. Southern Grenadines District ..	369	369
23. Government Cotton Ginnery ..	73	240
Total Local Expenditure ..	33,580	38,127
21. (*a*) Agricultural Department (from Imperial Funds) ..	413	46
Total General Expenditure	£33,993	£38,173

(TABLE 3.)

Total Revenue and Expenditure for Five Years, 1909–10 to 1913–14.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	—		Total.	—		Total.
		£	£		£	£
1909–10	Local	27,855		Local	30,732	
	Imperial Grant	585	28,440	Imperial Grant	598	31,330
1910–11	Local	29,540		Local	29,759	
	Imperial Grant	585	30,125	Imperial Grant	584	30,343
1911–12	Local	34,267		Local	33,116	
	Imperial Grant	585	34,852	Imperial Grant	619	33,735
1912–13	Local	37,674		Local	33,579	
	Imperial Grant	414	38,088	Imperial Grant	414	33,993
1913–14	Local	34,373		Local	38,127	
	Imperial Grant	—	34,373	Imperial Grant	46	38,173

As will be observed, the financial operations of the year under review have not been so successful as in 1912–13. Apart from the point mentioned above as to the abolition of the one-tenth additional duty, this may in the main be attributed to an unseasonable summer of heavy rains that seriously affected the cotton crop, so reacting upon the purchasing power of the people and causing merchants to be more cautious in their importations. It is of interest here to note that, whilst the difference between the local revenue collected in 1912–13 and that collected in 1913–14 is £3,401, the differences under the two heads, Customs and Post Office, for the same period is £3,400, proving that the deficit, as compared with last year's revenue, is chiefly to be found under those two heads, other sources of revenue being more or less stationary. It is important, moreover, to observe that £5,113, or £2,697 more than in 1912–13, was spent out of current revenue on Public Works Extraordinary. Consequently, though a deficit is shewn as a result on the year's operations, it has been utilized in a profitable manner and will afford permanent value.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The excess of assets on the 31st March, 1913, was £11,869. On the 31st March, 1914, the account showed an excess of £8,115.

In addition to the surplus of £8,115, the sum of £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruption of the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is in-

vested in trust securities and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any possible future disaster which may result from the violence of the elements.

There are also other funds of lesser importance showing assets to the Colony, some of which are extinguishable by time, while others, like the Graham Bequest Fund, the Alexander Fund, and the Thompson Home Fund, are used only in respect of the interest they bear.

Public Debt.

During the year under review the last Debenture of £50 was redeemed, thus closing the outstanding municipal loan for the town of Georgetown, for the redemption of which the Colony's revenue was liable in case of default. The balance due by planters to the Imperial Treasury for the Hurricane Loan amounted to £8,038 10*s*. 0*d*. The Colony is responsible for this sum in case of default; towards its redemption a sum of £3,120 0*s*. 7*d*. was in hand, of which £2,847 10*s*. 7*d*. was invested at short call.

Under the authority of "The Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1913," a sum of £1,000 was raised locally by the issue of twenty Debentures of £50 each, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum. This loan is redeemable at the rate of £100 per annum, commencing after the expiration of ten years from the date of its issue.

Currency.

Gold, British, and American notes of the Colonial Bank and British silver and copper constitute the currency of the Island.

The Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances and Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Kingstown is vested in a Board, one-half of the members of which are elected by the ratepayers, and the other half nominated by the Government.

The Chairman of the Board is annually elected by the members forming that body, but cannot in any circumstances be elected for more than two years in succession.

The small towns of the Colony, of which there are six, are controlled by wardens appointed annually by the Government.

The following comparative statements give the total revenue and expenditure of these towns during the last five years :—

Revenue.

Town.	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,736	1,711	1,756	1,790	2,196
Georgetown	143	142	158	159	167
Chateaubelair	33	35	33	34	40
Calliaqua	32	35	39	47	48
Barrouallie	37	41	251	47	56
Layou	26	21	23	22	329
Bequia	9	10	11	12	12

Expenditure.

Town.	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
	£	£	£	£	£
Kingstown	1,778	1,813	1,697	1,907	2,061
Georgetown	126	151	153	193	163
Chateaubelair	21	31	40	20	28
Calliaqua	27	25	30	64	42
Barrouallie	20	27	257	49	49
Layou	17	13	25	39	309
Bequia	17	1	7	6	9

Debts of Towns.

The debts of the towns at the 31st December, 1913, were as follows :

	£	£
Kingstown Water Supply	300	
Loan for repair of Rose Place Drain, Kingstown	151	451
Georgetown Water Supply		50
Barrouallie Water Supply		176
Layou Water Works		200
		£877

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates levied annually on the townspeople, and the debts are secured on the general revenue of the Colony.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.*

CHIEF ARTICLES.	Value.	
	1912	1913
Class I.—	£	£
Beef and Pork, salted	2,647	2,565
Biscuits	5,042	4,192
Butter	2,151	2,132
Coffee	517	694
Fish, salted, &c.	6,006	5,354
Fish, pickled	1,376	1,086
Flour, wheaten	15,932	15,344
Flour, other kinds	1,294	—
Cornmeal	—	845
Hams and Bacon Hams	485	458
Medicinal extracts and preparations	1,497	—
Oats	699	738
Oil, olive	694	594
Rice	4,696	4,049
Spirits	1,266	1,949
Sugar, refined and unrefined	2,329	2,887
Wine	875	633
Tobacco, Cigars, &c.	1,521	1,395
Vegetables, fresh	—	551
Class II.—		
Oil, cotton seed	494	675
Oil, kerosene	1,946	2,258
Timber and Shingles	7,594	—
Shooks, Staves, &c.	1,341	—
Wood and Timber, unmanufactured	—	10,393
Class III.—		
Textile manufactures, other than rope, cordage, and canvas	25,000	—
Apparel	—	2,224
Cotton manufactures	—	15,767
Rope, cordage and canvas	788	—
Cordage and twine	—	1,086
Earthen and glassware	1,015	—
Chinaware	—	537
Glass and glassware	—	906
Hardware	2,191	3,592
Machinery	1,195	1,699
Musical Instruments	307	568
Paints	470	537
Boots and Shoes	2,052	2,377
Cement	1,693	2,217
Soap	1,904	1,829
Cattle and other animal foods	—	729
Haberdashery	—	1,548
Hats and bonnets	—	1,049
Medicines and drugs	—	1,028
Iron and steel, manufactures of	—	3,506
Paper, manufactures of	—	1,127
Wood and Timber, manufactured	—	1,274
Wool manufactures	—	931

*NOTE.—Owing to changes in classification and nomenclature in the 1913 returns it is not possible to show comparisons in the case of every item.

In the course of his Annual Report the Collector of Customs reports as follows :—

"IMPORTS."

"The total value of the imports for the calendar year amounted to £122,886, as compared with £129,142 for the previous year. The countries from which they were imported are given below with figures for the previous year for comparison :—

	1912. £	1913. £
United Kingdom	54,895	49,447
Canada	23,726	21,759
British West Indies	10,795	11,319
India	4,237	3,469
Newfoundland	3,301	5,862
Ceylon	119	243
Other British Colonies..	3	170
United States of America	25,459	22,903
France	2,298	2,585
Denmark	1,810	2,173
Germany	878	875
Holland	507	552
Foreign West Indies	362	435
Other Countries	752	1,094
	£129,142	£122,886

"The decrease in imports from the United Kingdom is largely due to the fact that hitherto the face value of Colonial Bank notes was shown under Class 5, Bullion and Specie, and this year it has been excluded as not properly coming under this or any other class. With reference to the apparent drop in imports from Canada and the increase from Newfoundland, it has been ascertained from the certificates of origin produced (as required by the existing regulations) that the greater part of the salted fish was hitherto reported as having come from the former instead of the latter place.

"The imports are summarised as follows :—

	1912. £	1913. £
Class 1. Food, Drink, and Tobacco ..	56,668	50,205
,, 2. Raw Materials and Articles mainly manufactured ..	13,824	14,746
,, 3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	55,694	53,361
,, 4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	724	4,554
,, 5. Bullion and Specie	2,232	20
	£129,142	£122,886

EXPORTS.

"The value of exports amounted to £115,200, being in excess of the previous year's by a sum of £3,516 and less than the imports by £7,686. The following is a summary :—

Exported to :—	Island Produce.	Exports other than Island produce.
	£	£
United Kingdom	83,897	302
Canada	1,118	4
British West Indies ..	20,704	6,544
United States of America ..	2,179	—
France	322	—
Other Countries	130	—
	£108,350	£6,850

"The exports of island produce, with declared values, are given below with figures for 1912 for comparison :—

	1912.		1913.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£.
Arrowroot	3,948,681 lbs.	48,854	4,327,036 lbs.	53,607
Cassava Starch ..	177,820 ,,	1,287	227,206 ,,	1,597
Cotton—Sea Island	405,128 ,,	32,073	426,238 ,,	33,744
Marie Galante	46,822 ,,	1,951	58,737 ,,	2,447
Cocoa	224,535 ,,	4,366	313,687 ,,	4,265
Sugar—Crystallised	87,411 ,,	615	—	—
Muscovado ..	311,008 ,,	2,032	250 ,,	2
Syrup	6,929 galls.	349	3,252 galls.	171
Molasses	11,844 ,,	503	—	—
Cotton Seed ..	1,285,200 lbs.	3,363	1,173,682 lbs.	3,055
Pea Nuts	3,638 bush.	955	6,181 bush.	1,624
Pease, Dried ..	1,702 ,,	581	2,894 ,,	808
Firewood	855 cords	419	833 cords	405
Whale Oil	5,394 galls.	340	4,316 galls.	217
Hides	—	416	—	404
Logwood	45 tons	135	82 tons	215
Wool, Raw ..	1,080 lbs.	54	923 lbs.	46
Spices—Nutmegs ..	3,942 ,,	74	6,474 ,,	95
Other ..	1,140 ,,	21	4,822 ,,	86
Corn	240 bush.	48	745 bush.	123
Honey	106 galls.	15	312 galls.	42
Animals	—	3,586	—	3,294
Lime Juice ..	691 ,,	35	365 ,,	18
Coffee	298 lbs.	5	—	—
Fruit, Fresh ..	—	49	—	52
Turtle Shell ..	106 ,,	85	404 lbs.	380
Rum	—	—	1,081½ galls.	130
Various, unspecified	—	1,416	—	1,523
		£103,627		£108,350

"The value of the exports to Canada was £1,118, as compared with a value of £3,005 for the previous year. The decrease is due to the fact that no sugar nor molasses was shipped during 1913, as a result of the abandonment of the sugar industry for that of cotton and minor products. It is pleasing to report that the arrowroot exported during the year to Canada amounted to 83,968 lbs., as against 44,133 lbs. for the previous year. The establishment of a permanent market for this product there is looked for and would mean a great deal to the Colony."

The total trade, therefore, of the Colony for the year was £238,087, as compared with £240,826 for 1912.

The total imports and exports for five years 1909 to 1913 were :—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £
1909	87,810	88,698
1910	97,737	101,180
1911	110,926	118,625
1912	129,142	111,684
1913	122,886	115,201

The volume and direction of the Colony's trade in the five years 1909 to 1913 are given below :—

Imports.

——	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	30,232	43,254	50,834	54,895	49,548
British Colonies . ..	43,027	31,688	33,530	42,180	42,822
Foreign Countries ..	14,551	22,794	26,562	32,067	30,516
Total	87,810	97,736	110,926	129,142	122,886

Exports.

——	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	46,328	63,981	73,378	76,874	84,199
British Colonies ..	40,386	35,306	42,166	31,469	28,371
Foreign Countries ..	1,984	1,893	3,081	3,341	2,631
Total	88,698	101,180	118,625	111,684	115,201

MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

The Central Cotton Ginnery was established by the Government in the year 1903–4. This ginnery has been of great assistance in the development of the cotton industry. It is extremely improbable that the industry would, without it, have reached its present successful state. The charge is 1*d.* per lb. for ginning and baling.

There are three private ginneries in the Colony, the largest of which is situated in Kingstown, and is fitted up with five gins.

The co-operative cotton-buying scheme for peasants at the Government factory, described in the 1910–11 Report, continues to prosper. During the cotton season just closed, 1913–14, £4,667 16*s.* 4*d.* worth of cotton was bought at the Government ginnery from small growers.

About 45 tons of cotton seed of the 1913–14 crop were crushed by the disintegrator at the Government ginnery for manurial purposes.

The price of lint during the year was for some special bales as high as 40*d.* per lb. The average sale price was, however, from 17*d.* to 20*d.* for Sea Island cotton, while Marie Galante sold from 6*d.* to 10*d.* per lb.

The export of whale oil was £340 in 1912–13 and £217 during the year under review. This, as was remarked in last year's report, is a dying industry, owing to the reduction in the number of whales visiting these waters. Numerous species of sponges are to be found in the Grenadines, some of which are said to be of commercial value, but unfortunately it has not yet been found feasible to investigate the possibility of the establishment of a sponging industry.

The turtling industry showed an export value of £380, as against £85 in 1912–13, £302 in 1911–12, and £176 in 1910–11.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Very heavy rains right up to the end of the year interfered with the effectual ripening of the Sea Island cotton crop and seriously affected the reapings. The Marie Galante cotton crop was, however, better than usual. This class of cotton is grown only in the southern Grenadines Islands and is of inconsiderable value.

The following comparative table indicating the quantity and value of cotton grown during the past three seasons will be of interest :—

Product.	1911–12.		1912–13.		1913–14.	
	Quantity.	Value	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Sea Island cotton ..	487,116 lb.	38,563	428,032 lb.	33,886	399,187 lb.	31,626
Marie Galante cotton ..	46,822 lb.	1,951	58,737 lb.	2,080	58,737 lb.	2,447
Cotton seed	700 tons	3,500	640 tons	3,200	524 tons	3,054
	—	44,014	—	39,166	—	37,127

The average price of St. Vincent Sea Island cotton in 1911–12, 1912–13, and 1913–14 crops was taken at 19*d*. per lb. The Marie Galante was estimated at 10*d*. per lb. in 1911–12, 8½*d*. in 1912–13, and 10*d*. in 1913–14. Cotton seed was placed at an all round value of £5 10*s*. 0*d*. per ton.

The acreage returned as under cultivation was 3,768 acres of Sea Island cotton and 1,238 acres Marie Galante. The total acreage was smaller by 438 acres than that of the previous season. This was due to a smaller planting of Sea Island cotton, 576 acres, as a result of the poor yield of the previous season. The Marie Galante area was, however, increased by 138 acres.

The table given below shows the acreage planted in Sea Island cotton in each of the past eight seasons; the yield of lint and the yield per acre.

Crop.	Acreage planted.	Weight of lint in pounds.	Yield of lint per acre in pounds.
1906–7 ..	1,533	268,275	175
1907–8 ..	3,200	432,000	135
1908–9 ..	3,000	372,000	124
1909–10 ..	2,528	356,139	141
1910–11 ..	3,587	561,526	156
1911–12 ..	5,068	487,116	96
1912–13 ..	4,344	428,032	98
1913–14 ..	3,768	399,187	106
		Average for eight years,	134

The returns for Marie Galante cotton showed that 1,238 acres were under cultivation last crop.

The following are the Marie Galante crop totals for the 1912–13 and 1913–14 crop seasons. This cotton is grown only in the Grenadine Islands south of St. Vincent.

Crop.	Area planted.	Total Yield.	Yield per acre.	Estimated value.
	Acres.	Lbs.	Lbs.	£
1912–13 ..	1,100	58,737	53	2,080
1913–14 ..	1,238	58,737	47	2,447

The following figures are also interesting and instructive :—

Table showing the Quantity and Value of Cotton exported during the period from 1903–4 *to* 1913.

Year.	Sea Island Cotton.		All Cotton.	
	Weight.	Estimated value.	Weight.	Estimated value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
1903–4 ..	Not known	—	43,392	794
1904–5 ..	77,814	3,890	126,178	4,494
1905–6 ..	121,174	6,059	138,150	7,674
1906–7 ..	225,632	16,922	263,036	18,169
1907–8 ..	388,833	29,162	427,819	30,787
1908	387,178	28,426	420,830	30,048
1909	330,936	20,684	350,186	21,325
1910	493,494	37,238	521,956	38,409
1911	511,947	40,529	538,114	41,619
1912	405,128	46,822	451,950	34,024
1913	426,238	33,744	484,975	36,191

Owing to its suitability as a crop in St. Vincent, arrowroot still remains a favourite staple of both planters and peasants. Prices remained substantially firm during the year under review. The St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association, with headquarters in St. Vincent, continued its active operations to the benefit of the industry.

The following table shows the exports and values of arrowroot and cassava starch in each of the last five years.

Year.	Arrowroot in pounds.	Value.	Cassava Starch in pounds.	Value.
		£		£
1909	5,594,498	31,792	195,166	1,009
1910	5,302,725	30,089	138,112	781
1911	4,254,130	40,430	221,562	1,269
1912	3,948,681	48,854	177,820	1,287
1913	4,327,036	53,607	227,206	1,597

St. Vincent arrowroot is unrivalled as a raw material in the manufacture of chocolate and for general starch purposes. The soil, climate, and water conditions of the Colony are apparently more suited to this cultivation than that of any of the other islands except, perhaps, Bermuda. That Colony's production, however, does not exceed 30 to 40 tons per annum, as against some 2,000 tons purchased in St. Vincent. Apart from that point of view, it is evident that the market

for arrowroot is of such a limited nature that St. Vincent can, by herself, for many years to come, satisfy fully, indeed more than fully, all the requirements of it.

The exports of cured cacao for the past five years are given below :—

Year.	*Weight in pounds.*
1909	241,294
1910	235,236
1911	285,869
1912	223,373
1913	213,684

Amongst other crops grown in the Colony in small quantities may be mentioned sugar (from which the usual by products, rum, molasses, and syrup, are manufactured) ground nuts, pigeon peas, Bengal beans, maize, and ground provisions of various kinds.

The Agricultural Department has done useful work during the year in its advisory capacity, whilst many interesting and instructive cotton and other crop experiments have been carried out at the Experiment Station.

In a Colony like St. Vincent, where the community is absolutely and wholly dependent for its sustenance on agriculture, it is essential, subject, of course, to reasonable limits, to maintain a strong and efficient Agricultural Department in order to keep abreast with the rapid advance of agricultural science and knowledge and also in order to be able to cope with the competition of other places that recognize that expenditure on such an object is not only necessary but profitable. It is on that principle that the Agricultural Department in St. Vincent is organized and its present basis could not be reduced, as has been suggested from time to time, without seriously affecting its efficiency and utility to agriculture in the community.

Land Settlement and Crown Lands.

The sales during the year under the land settlement scheme were 132 in all—rural lots 82, and house lots 50. In addition, 202 acres of Crown land were sold out in small lots. Available Crown land consists of mountain lands, which are only suitable for small holdings for growing provisions and native produce.

The revenue from sales and rental of Crown lands was £628, as against £724 in the previous year.

Belair Estate, which was acquired last year under the Land Settlement Scheme at a total cost, including survey, of £3,181 0*s*. 9*d*., has been divided into 81 rural allotments and 75 township lots. The

rural allotments vary in size from 2 acres to 6 acres each. The total area of the estate, including a detached mountain block known as Herbert's, aggregates 399 acres, 3 roods, 34 poles. All arrangements were made so that allotting could begin on the 2nd March, 1914, and by the 31st March 60 rural allotments and 30 township lots had been disposed of. The township, situate at the south-west corner of the estate adjacent to Cane Hall, will, it is hoped, become in a few years' time a prosperous settlement. The work of laying out new roads on this estate and of repairing existing ones is in progress. This work includes the construction of bridges.

Some of the Land Settlement reserves in the Cumberland and Linley Valleys have been surveyed into allotments and sold. These aggregate 27 acres, 3 roods, 22 poles, and represent a value of £56 approximately.

The allotments in the Cumberland Valley remaining on hand at 31st March, 1913, were, during the year, re-valued, as it was found that too high a value had been placed on them. As a result a large number have since been sold.

In the course of his Annual Report on the St. Vincent Southern Grenadines the Commissioner, referring especially to Union Island, which has an area of 2,100 acres and was in 1910 purchased by the Government as a Land Settlement Estate, remarks as follows :—

"It is again my pleasing duty to make mention of the satisfactory progress of the Land Scheme at Union Island and its markedly beneficial effect on all classes of the community. The people are making strenuous efforts to erect neat and, in some cases, pretentious cottages on their holdings, and before many years have passed away, the squalid and insanitary villages of Ashton and Clifton will have disappeared."

A Revenue Officer is stationed in Union Island, who, in addition to being Overseer of the Land Settlement Scheme, is in charge of a branch Money Order Post Office and Government Savings Bank established for the convenience of the islanders.

SHIPPING.

A table of entries and clearances of steamers and sailing vessels during the years 1912 and 1913 is appended, as also a comparative statement of the total shipping during the last two years. These figures do not include ships of war, of which five, four British and one Russian, visited the Colony during 1913

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality	1912				1913			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ..	382	9,438	347	8,445	346	8,299	345	8,222
American .	1	125	1	125	3	445	3	445
Dutch ..	6	369	3	272	2	99	2	99
Venezuelan	2	52	2	52	1	35	1	35
Totals ..	391	9,984	353	8,894	352	8,878	351	8,801

Steamers.

Nationality.	1912				1913			
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British.	101	140,588	100	138,922	89	125,180	88	123,672
Danish	7	11,216	7	11,216	3	4,837	3	4,837
Swedish	–	–	–	–	1	1,292	1	1,292
Totals .	108	151,804	107	150,138	93	131,309	92	129,801

Total Shipping for the past five years.

——	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards ..	161,505	145,523	149,562	161,788	140,187
Outwards ..	161,489	145,394	149,414	159,032	138,602
Totals ..	322,994	290,917	298,976	320,820	278,789

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances, twenty in number, were added to the Statute Book during the year 1913 :—

The Customs Duties 1895, Amendment 1913.
Customs Preferential Duties.
Customs Duties 1895, Amendment (ii).
Summary Conviction Offences.
Anthrax Ordinance 1911, Amendment.
Customs Duties.
Collector of Customs.
Appropriation.
Agricultural Credit Societies.
Police (Liability to Military Service).
Telegraph Companies.
Capital Punishment Amending Act 1868, Amendment.
Public Works Loan.
Medical Registration 1886, Amendment.
Wireless Telegraphy.
Customs Duties (ii).
Supplementary Appropriation.
Kingstown Board 1897, Amendment.
Pensions 1902, Amendment.
General Loan and Inscribed Stock.

The most important of these Ordinances is perhaps the Agricultural Credit Societies Ordinance, providing for the formation under organized supervision of Agricultural Credit Societies under the Raiffeisen System. This Ordinance in addition gives the Governor in Council power to grant to societies formed and registered under its provisions loans up to an aggregate amount of £500. This limit was placed in the hope that private concerns would also be prepared to lend to registered societies. It is pleasing to record that up to the date of writing nine societies have been formed, with an aggregate membership of over 200 and that the Colonial Bank and other private concerns have made loans to them in supplementation of the Government advances.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The results of primary education in 1912–13 and 1913–14 are as follows :—

	1912–13.	1913–14.
Number of schools	26	26
Number on roll at 31st March ..	4,537	4,181
Average attendance	2,251	2,308
	£	£
Government Grant-in-aid ..	1,710	1,686

There is a boys' secondary school in Kingstown, with an attendance of 40 to 50 pupils. The fees charged are £2 per term for each scholar, except those under ten years of age in the lowest form, for whom the fees are £1 6*s.* 8*d.* per term, but when two or more brothers in forms above the lowest attend, there is a reduction made of 6*s.* 8*d.* for the second and 13*s.* 4*d.* for the third. An exhibition to this school is awarded every year.

Agricultural science is taught in this school by the Assistant Agricultural Superintendent. The school itself is situated in the middle of the Agricultural Experiment Station. thus affording every opportunity to the boys to keep in touch with the practical as well as the scientific side of agriculture.

There is a girls' secondary school in Kingstown maintained as a private institution but subject to Government supervision. The attendance at the time of writing is 30. The fees are the same as at the boys' secondary school.

Whilst the number on the roll of the primary schools has somewhat dreceased, the average attendance has slightly advanced. Six pupils, drawn from the peasant and mechanic classes, are instructed by the Assistant Agricultural Superintendent in practical agriculture at the Experiment and Botanical Stations. These pupils are apprenticed for two years and receive graded allowances in proportion to the length of their apprenticeship, coming every day to their work, and living with their parents or guardians.

The fifteen acres of land attached to the Experiment Station are all fully worked up in various products, such as cotton, arrowroot, sugar, cassava, etc., by the boys themselves.

A small stock farm affords a valuable practical illustration of how stock should be kept and fed.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

During the year there were 787 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 842 cases treated, as against a total of 816 in 1912–13.

The daily average was 57, as against 55, 60·3, and 57 in the previous three years.

The death rate was 3·92 per cent. of the total cases.

Operations numbered 112, as against 104 in 1912–13.

The medical officer is greatly assisted in his work by the presence of an efficient European nurse-matron, selected by the Colonial Nursing Association.

A portion of the old military citadel at Fort Charlotte is set aside for the detention of male lunatics who are violent, or manifest destructive tendencies. Other males, as to whom it is judged that they may be so treated with safety, are kept under supervision in the pauper asylum, and female lunatics are also detained there. A portion of the wards is partitioned off into cells to provide further and more suitable accommodation for these female cases, some of which are occasionally acute.

As soon as practicable, any violent or difficult case is sent to Grenada by arrangement with the Government of that Colony.

There were 31 cases under treatment during the year (19 being new admissions), of whom 8 were discharged cured and 1 died.

The total number of St. Vincent lunatics under care in the Grenada asylum was 23, at a cost of £493 10*s*. 6*d*. to the Colony.

The number of inmates of the leper asylum on the 31st March, 1913, was 8; during the year there was 1 admission, leaving 9 inmates in the asylum at the end of the year.

Under "The Public Health Ordinance, 1910," provision is made for the compulsory segregation of pauper lepers.

The Colony's paupers are housed in the old military buildings at Fort Charlotte, at a considerable elevation, overlooking the town of Kingstown.

At the commencement of the year under review there were 90 inmates of the asylum, and the admissions and discharges during the year were:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admissions	22	15	37
Discharged	12	13	25
Died	6	17	23
Total	18	30	48

leaving 79 on the 31st March, 1914.

The total expenditure in 1913–14 was £1,084 on the pauper and leper asylums, including the cost of lunatics kept locally, against £1,008 last year.

Chronic tertiary syphilis accounts for the vast majority of cases to whom this institution offers asylum for the closing stages of their lives.

Early in the year 1911–12 the old military hospital was renovated and opened as a yaws hospital capable of holding 50 patients. The disease of yaws has long been ravaging the homes of the labouring population in the Colony, and the institution of this hospital is much appreciated by them.

A casualty hospital with four beds was opened at Georgetown in the Windward district in August, 1912. This is meant for emergency cases and is a great boon to the people of a district situated 24 miles by road from the Colonial Hospital at the capital town of Kingstown.

Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Savings Bank during the past five years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December (including interest capitalized).
		£	£	£
1909 ..	1,063	6,624	7,371	13,869
1910 ..	1,095	8,686	6,877	15,994
1911 ..	1,163	9,526	7,923	17,971
1912 ..	1,194	8,657	8,083	18,935
1913 ..	1,182	9,790	9,968	19,168

The amount due to depositors was distributed thus :—

	At 31st December, 1912.	At 31st December, 1913.
	£	£
Kingstown	16,655	16,497
Georgetown	1,445	1,758
Barrouallie	799	865
Union Island	36	48
Total	£18,935	£19,168

The Government made a profit on the working of the bank of £153 6*s*. 5*d*.

There was invested of savings bank funds at 31st December, 1913, the sum of £18,143.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The St. Vincent police force consists of a chief, a sergeant-major of European birth, and 51 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates.

In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties in connection with district post office work, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the management of district telephone exchanges. The prison is worked entirely by the police, save for the assistance of one warder in charge of gangs outside.

In Kingstown a select number of the force form a fire brigade for the town, receiving supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

Two hundred and seventy-nine persons were committed to prison in the year, of whom 158 were men and 121 women. The daily average was 28·84, as against 26·86 in 1912–13.

The number of cases reported to the police in 1913–14 was 1,086; of these 319 were for offences against the person, 42 for prædial larceny, 102 for other offences against property, and 623 for other offences. Only 997 of the above cases were brought before a magisterial court.

The total number of persons brought before the magisterial courts was 1,753; of these 425 were for offences against the person, 96 for prædial larceny, 209 for other offences against property, 5 for offences against the Masters and Servants Act, 295 for offences against revenue laws, municipal, road, and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, and 723 for other offences. These figures are inclusive of the cases reported by the police.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 1,309, as against 859 in 1912–13.

These convictions are classed as follows:—

For offences against the person..	270
,, malicious injury to property	5
,, prædial larceny	84
,, other offences against property	139
,, offences against Revenue Acts, etc.	245
,, offences against Masters and Servants Act ..	5
,, other offences	561
Total	1,309

The increase in crime during the year is to be found entirely in the class of summary offences, and is no doubt due to the enlarged scope of the Summary Conviction Offences Ordinance, 1911, and also to greater activity on the part of the police. It is to be observed, however, that there was no increase in the more serious forms of crime. There was no indictment for either murder or manslaughter and only one serious case of wounding.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were 5 for offences against property, 2 for offences against the person, and 1 for other offences.

The acquittals were as follows :—

In the Inferior Courts	211
In the Supreme Court	4

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population at the 1891 census was 41,054. No census was taken in 1901, on account of the expense involved, which the Colony was not in a position to afford. The population by the official census of April, 1911, was 41,877, which had increased at 31st March, 1914, to 45,605.

The births registered in 1913–14 were 1,766 (896 males and 870 females), as against 1,678 in 1912–13; of these 1,083, or 61·32 per cent., were illegitimate.

Still-births were 111, 39 legitimate and 72 illegitimate, the figures for the previous year being 32 and 72 respectively.

Marriages were 121—a decrease of 16 on last year's figures. The figures are given in the following comparative table of marriages :—

Denomination.	1911–12	1912–13	1913–14
Church of England	67	62	70
Church of Scotland	5	7	7
Wesleyan	65	49	33
Roman Catholic	13	17	9
Plymouth Brethren	3	2	2

The total registered deaths were 801, as against 878 in 1912–13, being 17·56 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The infant mortality

(infants under one year, exclusive of still-births) was 171, being 21·34 per cent. of the total number of deaths. The similar figure in 1912–13 was 185, or 21·07 per cent.

Appended is a table of the causes of death :—

General diseases (includes syphilis, 96 ; tubercle, 51 ; tetanus, 10 ; malarial fevers, 1 ; dysentery, 11) ..	211
Diseases of nervous system	32
,, ,, circulatory system	24
,, ,, respiratory system	51
,, ,, digestive system	156
Parasites	20
Age	88
Still-born	111
Other diseases	108
Total	801

In the towns the authorities are realizing more and more the importance of stricter sanitation, and are taking steps accordingly. In the villages, however, sanitary matters are still on a primitive basis, although the Government, through their District Sanitary and Medical Officers, spare no pains to impress upon the population generally the necessity for care in this direction. The scheme for the establishment of an organized Sanitary Department was completed during the year and will be brought into force in 1914–15. In the meantime the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1910, are being more rigidly enforced than has hitherto been the case.

A Trained Nurses' Association has the sympathy and financial support of the Government, and it is hoped will be a means of achieving something in the direction of diminution of infantile mortality. Nurses are trained in midwifery at the Colonial Hospital.

The rainfall for the year 1913–14 was 88·83 inches, as against 94·89 inches in 1912–13.

Rain fell on 247 days during the year.

The maximum fall in twenty-four hours was 3·40 inches on the 24th October.

October was the wettest month, with 18·80 inches. A good deal of damage was done to the roads during that month owing to the heavy rain, while the effect on the cotton crop was disastrous.

May was the driest month, with 2·49 inches.

The mean monthly temperature was 78·5° F. Maximum for the year was 80·5° F. (in September) and the minimum 73·3° F., which was experienced in January.

Except in August and September, when the atmosphere is uncomfortably hot, although not even in those months insalubrious, the climate may be regarded as most healthy for both Europeans and coloured persons. Malaria is hardly known, while yellow fever has proved itself to be a disease of the past.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly mail service from and to England continued to be performed by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. At Trinidad the mails are transferred into the intercolonial ships, which call weekly at St. Vincent on regular days—one week with outward mails on the way round the islands, and the following week on the way to Trinidad with homeward mails. The service was carried on in a satisfactory manner.

Royal Mail Steamers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, under contract with the Canadian Government, call at all the islands. Occasional calls are made by the steamers of Scrutton's Direct Line and the Quebec Steamship Line. The East Asiatic Line of steamers from Copenhagen via London and the Danish West Indies also make occasional calls.

There is an inland postal system by which the Windward District of the Colony is served five times a week, the Leeward District daily, and the Grenadines once a week..

The postal order system continues to grow in popularity, and its extension to the district towns has been accomplished.

The volume of work in the Post Office is maintained.

The revenue of the Telephone Department was £671, including £329 transferred to that head on account of the Government installations. The expenditure was £599. The main installation is in Kingstown with branch lines all over the island. The service is a most useful one.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

His Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., visited the Colony from the 16th to the 30th March, 1914.

On the 25th March, 1914, the Administrator, the Honourable Gideon Murray, left for England on six months leave of absence, His Honour R. B. Roden, Chief Justice, assuming the administration of the Colony.

On the 2nd June, 1913, the Canadian-West Indian Reciprocity Agreement became operative. It is at present too early to gauge the economic effect on this Colony of this very important agreement. As a start, however, the West Indies are indebted to Canada for having arranged independently at her own cost a contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for a new line of steamers to replace the Pickford and Black line. The new steamers are larger in tonnage and in many ways more suited to the traffic and should be of much assistance in encouraging trade between the Dominion and the British West Indian Colonies. Another advantage to be attributed to this agreement, which at the time of writing has materialized, is a new agreement with the West Indian and Panama Telegraph Company whereby the cable rates have in some instances been reduced by more than half.

An arrangement of local importance has been the transfer of the amalgamated offices of the Treasury and Customs Department to the sea front. This took place on the 5th November, 1913. This change is much appreciated by the public, as it affords much greater facility and convenience for the transaction of business.

Preparations were made and plans completed for the inauguration on the 1st April, 1914, of a Government motor car mail and passenger service five times a week to Georgetown and back. This fast and frequent service will greatly facilitate intercourse between the capital town and the Carib country and is much appreciated.

Amongst the important public works undertaken during the year under review may be noted the building and completion of the "Princess Marie Louise" Nurses Wing in the grounds of the Colonial Hospital, this wing being named after Her Highness by special permission. A residence for the Chief Justice is in course of erection on lands originally part of the Experiment Station, but was not completed at the close of the financial year.

The construction of the new road out of Kingstown, commenced in 1912, has been continued. A quantity of blasting, heavy cutting, and considerable grading has been necessary, and several retaining walls and culverts have been built, necessitating much greater expenditure than was originally contemplated. The work was well advanced at the close of the financial year. Ornamental trees have been planted on either side of the first section of this road (about half a mile in length) and this will in due time form a pleasant shady avenue exit from Kingstown.

The following bridges and causeways were built during the year in the Windward District :—

(1) Bridge over the Biabou river.
(2) Bridge over the Bellevue river.
(3) Bridge over the New Adelphi river.
(4) Causeway over the Grand Sable river.
(5) Causeway over the Union river.

Many other useful minor structures have been built during the year and have added to the administrative and industrial facilities of the Colony and supplied long standing needs.

The scheme mentioned in the General Observations of last year's Report for turning the cotton seed produced every year in the Colony into manure by purchasing machinery for the separation of the oil from the seed, the residue being applied as manure, has now been approved, and during the financial year 1914–15 steps will be taken to erect the requisite machinery at the Government Cotton Ginnery.

As already indicated in different portions of this Report, the year has not been so favourable as 1912–13, owing chiefly to the inclement weather conditions, but, whilst the revenue returns have not shown the same prosperity, progress nevertheless has, as will have been observed, been made in many directions, both materially and economically. In agriculture, sanitation, education, public works, and other departments much has been accomplished which will in course of time impress its worth upon the development history of the Colony.

St. Vincent is one of the beauty spots of these West Indian Islands. With its exquisite scenery, its lovely drives, rides, and walks, its healthy climate, it cannot fail, at the conclusion of the great and fearful war which at present envelopes Europe, to attract to its shores some of the numerous tourists who in winter seek warmth and sunshine and an escape from the colder northern climes.

GIDEON MURRAY,

Administrator.

Government House,
17th November, 1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
799	St. Helena	1913
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
801	Seychelles	"
802	Ceylon	"
803	Bermuda	"
804	Weihaiwei	"
805	Gambia	"
806	Gold Coast	"
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
808	Sierra Leone	"
809	Bahamas	1913–1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1912–1913
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	"
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913–1914
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	"
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Entomological Research Committee	1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1915.

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

8

225
906
Part 9

No. 836.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1913-14.

(For Report for 1912-13 see No. 794.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1915.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-27] Price 2*d*.

JV33
.G7A4

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. Financial..	5
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	9
III. Legislation	16
IV. Education	16
V. Government Institutions	17
VI. Judicial Statistics	19
VII. Vital Statistics	19
VIII. Postal and Telephone Services	20
IX. General Remarks	21
Sketch Map.	

D. of D.
MAR 16 1918

No. 836.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1912–13 see 794).

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Grenada,

9th December, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a despatch from Mr. Anthony De Freitas, Acting Administrator, St. Lucia, forwarding copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1913-14, together with his report thereon.

2. The Revenue of St. Lucia for the year 1913-14 amounted to £67,490, and, when compared with the annual average of £66,954 for the previous five years, may be viewed as satisfactory.

3. The Expenditure for the year 1913-14 amounted to £68,352, a sum slightly in excess of the annual average, £66,785, for the previous five years—and left a deficit of £862 on the year's transactions, which has been met out of the surplus funds of the Colony.

4. The surplus balances of St. Lucia on the 31st March, 1914, amounted to £30,863, including a sum of £5,295, invested on account of the Public Buildings Insurance Fund of the Island.

5. The establishment during the year of the small Government lime factory in Castries has proved a boon to the small proprietor, and has already stimulated the extensionof the lime industry in the Colony. The immediate effect of the working of the factory has been

(C129). Wt. 36076/850. 1125 & 90. 3.15. B. & F., Ltd. Gp/11/2.

G.E.H. 3/11/18 S.L.

to increase the local market price of limes. Limes were being sold locally at 2*s.* a barrel, but on the factory being opened the price jumped up to as much as 5*s.* 8*d.* a barrel. The market price of lime-juice ruled high throughout the year both in England and elsewhere.

6. Although not within the year of report, I may mention that a recent shipment of lime-juice from the Government factory fetched the unprecedented price of £52 10*s.* 0*d.* a pipe in the London market.

7. After patient working, the prospects of a definite advancement may be reasonably looked for in the further development of the agricultural resources of the Island, while the facilities afforded by St. Lucia as a coaling and shipping centre of no mean importance in these waters add greatly to the prosperity of the Island and the welfare of its people.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

DOUGLAS YOUNG,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Government Office,

Saint Lucia,

28th November, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1913–14, together with my Report thereon.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

ANTHONY DE FREITAS.

Acting Administrator.

His Excellency
Douglas Young, Esq., C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Grenada.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1913–14.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year was estimated at £66,731. The amount actually received was £67,490, or £1,119 over the Estimates. The following figures show the receipts under the heads of the estimate, with the corresponding figures for the previous year :—

Heads of Revenue.	Actual Revenue to 31st March, 1914.	Revenue for preceding year.
	£	£
1. Customs	33,077	32,607
2. Port, Harbour, &c., Dues	7,026	7,198
3. Licences, Excise, &c.—		
(*a*) Licences—Retail Spirit, &c. ..	1,494	1,532
Distillery	100	100
Animals, Vehicles, & Guns ..	568	580
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boat, &c. ..	507	519
(*b*) Excise—Duty on Rum ..	10,465	9,930
(*c*) Stamp Duty—Various Revenue Services	709	722
(*d*) Fines & forfeitures of Courts ..	461	429
(*e*) Revenue seizures & penalties ..	10	2
(*f*) Income Tax	1,686	1,530
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	4,722	4,446
5. Post Office	1,939	2,557
6. Telephone	899	834
7. Rent of Government Property ..	892	801
8. Interest..	1,440	1,520
9. Repayment of Loans	176	176
10. Miscellaneous	596	65
	£66,767	£65,548
11. Land Sales	723	594
Total Local Revenue	£67,490	£66,142
12. Imperial Dept. of Agriculture .. Grant-in-aid	—	150
Total Revenue	£67,490	£66,292

The receipts from Customs were within a close margin on the right side of the estimate, notwithstanding the loss on goods admitted at the preferential rates under the Customs Preferential Tariff Ordinance, which came into operation on the 2nd June, 1913.

There was a slight loss under Port and Harbour dues owing to less shipping during the year.

Under Head 3, the receipts from retail spirit licences did not reach the estimate, nor did the receipts from licences for animals, vehicles, guns, &c., but the yield from stamp duty and from fines and forfeitures of courts was over the estimate, and there was a slight increase in income tax.

Under Head 4, the receipts from fees of office produced more than was anticipated, while the receipts from Post Office, Head 5, were in advance of expectations, as was the case in the previous year.

The reduction in the receipts on account of Interest, Head 8, was due to £1,183 of the Colony's surplus funds, having been realized by the Crown Agents to meet current requirements.

The revenue for the previous five years was as under :—

	£
1908–9	65,694
1909–10	65,739
1910–11	65,066
1911–12	71,978
1912–13	66,292
Average	66,954
1913–14	67,490

The revenue derived from licences for the sale of liquor, and the number of such licences issued during the year, is shown in the following table :—

Description of Licence.	No. issued during quarter ended on				Revenue.
	30th June. 1913.	30th Sept., 1913.	31st Dec., 1913.	31st March, 1914.	
					£
Wholesale	2	2	2	3	45
Retail	39	39	40	41	1,317
Bottle	2	2	2	1	70
Refreshment House ..	2	2	2	2	60
Hotel	—	—	—	—	—
Occasional	—	—	5	2	2
					£1,494

The expenditure of the year, classified under the heads of the estimate, with the corresponding figures for 1912–13, was as under :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1914. £	Actual Expenditure for preceding year. £
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	8,968	9,395
2. Pensions and Gratuities	2,307	2,448
3. The Governor	2,330	2,328
4. Government Office	1,116	1,072
5. Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue	3,049	3,092
6. Post Office	2,263	2,227
7. Port and Marine Department ..	1,406	1,341
8. Audit Department	568	579
9. Legal Departments	3,920	3,984
10. Local Forces	617	719
11. Police	4,517	4,468
12. Prisons	1,144	1,174
13. Medical Department..	2,658	3,087
14. Sanitation and Hygiene	534	600
15. Hospitals and Asylums	5,131	4,740
16. Charitable	491	532
17. Education	5,086	5,075
18. Ecclesiastical	1,600	1,600
19. Agriculture	1,389	1,150
20. Miscellaneous Services	5,263	5,306
21. Colonial Engineer's Department ..	3,024	2,966
22. Public Works Recurrent	7,736	7,294
23. Public Works Extraordinary ..	3,235	2,448
Total Local Expenditure ..	£68,352	£67,625
19a. Agriculture (from Imperial Funds)	—	199
Total Expenditure	£68,352	£67,824

The actual expenditure was £4,085 less than the estimate, which totalled £72,438, savings having been effected under every head except that of Sanitation and Hygiene, which includes a charge of £153 on account of Dr. Brooks's sanitary mission in the Windward Islands, for which no provision had been made.

There was a saving under the head Legal owing to the vote of £225 for the Circuit Court of Appeal not having been spent, as is generally the case.

Under Head 10, only £20 of the £40 provided was expended for uniforms for the Cadet Corps.

Head 13 includes a new and unforseen item of £104 for Horse Allowance for Medical Officers, but this was more than covered by savings under the same head.

As regards the expenditure on the medical institutions, Head 15, there were slight excesses over the estimate for the General Dispensary in Castries, the Yaws Hospital, and the Dennery Casualty Hospital; there were slight savings in respect of the other Institutions.

But for the non-payment of the Canadian Steamship subsidy of £500, which ceased with the making of a contract between the Canadian Government and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Head 20, Miscellaneous Services, would have shown an excess on Drawbacks and Refunds, which amounted to £2,153, against an estimate of £1,600. This expenditure is principally for refund of duty on goods exported as ships' stores.

There was a large saving of £1,834 under Public Works Extraordinary, due to the fact that various works included in the Estimates were not proceeded with during the year.

The expenditure in each list of the last five years was as follows :—

	£
1909–10	64,446
1910–11	67,288
1911–12	69,328
1912–13	67,824
1913–14	68,352

Nothwithstanding the increase of the revenue and the decrease in the estimated expenditure, the accounts of the year closed with a deficit of £862, resulting in the reduction of the Colony's surplus funds at 31st March, 1914, to £25,568, as compared with £26,430 with which the year opened.

Of the surplus funds, £23,316 was invested as at the 31st March, 1914, as was also £5,296 on account of the Public Buildings Insurance Fund.

Public Debt.

At the 31st March, 1914, the public debt stood at £140,130, having been reduced during the year by £2,100, and at the same date the total of the sinking funds for the redemption of the debt amounted to £22,220. The Immigration 6 per cent. Loan of 1878 was finally paid off during the year.

Currency.

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper coins. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents. by the bank and most of the mercantile firms, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.*

FINANCES AND MUNICIPALITIES.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery, "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates, and dues, market dues, and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last three years of the towns and villages, the amount of their indebtedness at the 31st March, 1914, and the balance standing to the credit of each place at the same date.

Town or Village.	1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.		Indebtedness at 31st March, 1914.	Credit Balance at 31st March, 1914.
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Castries	6,440	5,396	5,571	8,396	5,765	5,888	20,614	38
Soufrière ..	544	577	523	523	527	588	1,500	56
Vieux Fort ..	174	211	163	193	167	141	—	86
Laborie	80	67	82	105	83	43	—	139
Canaries	78	86	51	55	53	57	—	339
Dennery	338	176	159	125	144	137	—	472
Gros Islet ..	102	134	104	107	111	96	—	225
Anse la Raye ..	81	184	88	96	74	60	—	47
Choiseul	42	25	45	62	45	21	—	59
Micoud	73	66	67	49	69	62	—	73

The scheme for the construction of waterworks for the village of Dennery was finally settled during the year, and pipes and fittings were ordered from the United Kingdom.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total value of the imports in the calendar year 1913 amounted to £228,405, and was £27,956 less than the previous year. Of the decrease coal accounted for £15,132, food supplies for £3,461, and manufactured goods for £8,930.

The following figures show from what countries the imports came :—

	1912.	1913.
	£	£
United Kingdom	71,495	65,269
Canada	12,294	12,150
Other British Possessions	13,726	15,294
Denmark	1,205	920
France	6,848	5,864
Germany	2,765	2,668
Holland	619	1,195
United States	196,059	174,216
Other Foreign Countries	5,531	7,155
Parcel Post	3,077	3,673

The coal imported was 114,350 tons, valued at £126,469, as compared with 129,466 tons, valued at £141,601, in 1912. The bulk of this coal is imported from the United States.

The imports of the last two years, under the main heads of the classification, were as under :—

	1912.	1913.
	£	£
I. Food, drink and tobacco ..	72,811	69,349
II. Raw materials	150,451	135,078
III. Articles, manufactured ..	88,778	79,848
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified, including imports by parcel post	3,321	4,129

As the outcome of the Conference which took place between representatives of the Government of Canada and the Governments of certain of the West Indian Colonies, St. Lucia became a party to the Preferential Trade Agreement arrived at, and to give effect to that Agreement the Customs Preferential Tariff Ordinance was passed. The Ordinance came into operation on the 2nd June, 1913. It was anticipated that the preference granted to imports from Canada, Newfoundland, and the United Kingdom would result in a loss of revenue, and a loss of £267 occurred in the period from the 2nd June to the 31st December. The loss was distributed among the three countries as follows :—

	£
On goods from Canada	158
,, ,, Newfoundland	32
,, ,, the United Kingdom	77

This amount should not be taken as representing the full proportion of the annual loss of revenue from customs duty that may occur under the preferential arrangement.

Exports.

The declared value of the exports was £274,460, of which £117,732 was the value of produce of the Colony, and £154,144 of produce of other places, including £141,038 the value of bunker coal, and £2,615 the value of goods exported as ships' stores.

The exports of island produce in the past ten years show a gradual increase from £88,600 in 1904 to £117,700 in 1913, the exports in the latter year being the highest recorded except those of 1909, when they were valued at £124,901, which was due to the abnormally high price obtained for cocoa in that year. It may also be noted that, whilst the export of island produce has thus increased, the percentage of sugar and cocoa exports has gradually fallen from 93·3 to 87·1, indicating an extension in agriculture in other directions than those of the two principal products.

The following statement gives the direction of the exports for 1913 :—

British Countries.

Countries.	Produce of the Colony.	Total Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom	80,377	86,026
Barbados	2,696	3,075
Canada	7,307	7,312
Dominica	78	1,943
Grenada	519	2,214
St. Vincent	280	1,155
Other British Possessions	165	1,992
	£91,392	£103,717

Foreign Countries.

France	18,292	18,292
Germany	72	175
Holland	2,818	2,818
Italy	500	500
Martinique	2,368	2,446
United States	2,207	2,297
Other Foreign Possessions	51	561
	£26,308	£27,089
Bunker Coal	—	£141,038
Ships' Stores	£31	2,615

Coaling Trade.

As will be seen from the subjoined figures, the coaling trade did not do as well in 1913 as in the previous two years, and this was due to a slight falling off in the number of steamers that called for coal :—

	Tons.	£
1909	96,462	110,754
1910	97,384	116,861
1911	139,056	152,962
1912	134,783	166,312
1913	117,532	141,038

Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

The sugar factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery were all working during the year.

The following figures show the quantity of rum distilled, consumed, and exported during the last five years :—

Year.	Distilled. Galls.	Consumed. Galls.	Exported. Galls.
1909	72,633	46,949	27,883
1910	49,256	42,456	4,692
1911	63,961	44,516	12,787
1912	59,739	31,865	26,577
1913	53,084	30,655	20,120

The erection of the Government lime-juice factory, to which reference was made in the last Report, was commenced early in the year under review, but, owing to the delay in the supply of the plant by the makers in England, the factory was only opened to the public in November.

The following is taken from a report by the Agricultural Superintendent :—

"The business of the factory is conducted on a co-operative basis. In determining the profits there is deducted from the amounts realized for the sale of produce the amounts paid for the purchase of limes and lime-juice together with all expenses of working the factory and disposing of the produce, and, in addition, a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the amount paid for the purchase of limes and lime-juice, the remainder being regarded as gross profits to be divided, one-third being paid to the Government and two-thirds to the vendors of fruit and juice, this latter to be distributed to the vendors by way of bonus, in proportion to the amounts paid to them for limes or lime-juice.

"The sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the value of the limes and lime-juice purchased, together with the sum representing one-third of the profits referred to in the foregoing paragraph, to be paid to the Government by way of interest and sinking fund in respect to the sum expended in erecting the factory.

"The price paid for limes and lime-juice is based on a scale of prices having a relation to the value of concentrated juice, and insuring a safety margin of profit to the factory. The seller of fruit realizes his full value when he gets his bonus derived from the share of profits.

"Owing to the unusually high prices for concentrated juice ruling at the time of opening the factory, fruit and juice were purchased on the basis of £24 per standard pipe of concentrated juice, arrangements being made to make a deferred payment to vendors in the event of the produce selling above this figure. During the short trial run of the factory, the produce dealt with was 233 barrels of fruit and 736 gallons of raw juice.

"The produce shipped was 255·75 gallons of concentrated juice, which realized £114 4*s.* 1*d.* net. The amounts to be paid to vendors as deferred payments on produce purchased, and as bonus, are respectively £20 16*s.* 8*d.* and £10 1*s.* 2*d.* The bonus is equal to nearly 12½ per cent. on the total amount paid for the purchase of produce. Taking the bonus into calculation, the total payments to vendors will be equivalent to 5*s.* 8½*d.* per barrel of limes and 8½*d.* per gallon of standard raw juice."

The object the Government had in view in establishing the factory was to obtain for the small proprietors as good a price as possible for the produce of their lime cultivation, and to encourage them in extending the cultivation. The advantage of the factory's price of 5*s.* 8½*d.* per barrel of ripe limes over the prevailing local price of 2*s.* immediately prior to the factory coming into operation is believed to have already induced peasant proprietors to plant more lime trees.

During the year two private factories for the concentration of lime-juice in steam-heated evaporators were established and two others are in source of erection. There will then be seven such factories in the Island, and similar works are likely to be established in the near future, as the lime plantations approach maturity.

Agricultural Industries.

Sugar and cocoa head the list of the Colony's important products. Lime cultivation is making rapid strides and seems likely to assume an important place in the economic life of the Island. The following figures of the export of lime-juice and lime products during the last three years are of interest :—

	1911.		1912.		1913.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Galls.	£	Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Lime-juice	—	148	5,695	1,025	7,968	2,490
Essential Oil of limes and Otto of limes ..	—	13	5	21	158	336
Green limes	—	129	—	39	—	281

The quantity and value of the export (the only available indication of the production) of sugar and cocoa during the last five years were as follows :—

	Cocoa.		Sugar : Usine.		Other sugar, muscovado, and products thereof.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	Bags of 200 lb.	£	Tons.	£	£
1909 ..	10,850	54,275	5,360	59,623	2,265
1910 ..	8,187	40,935	5,199	64,988	2,674
1911 ..	10,368	46,656	4,288	52,535	1,955
1912 ..	9,573	43,099	4,246	48,830	2,117
1913 ..	8,169	36,888	4,577	65,221	446

A small quantity of cotton was again produced in the Choiseul district. The export figures were 4,000 pounds of lint, valued at £200, and 102 cwt. of seed, valued at £50.

The planting of coconuts is increasing and preparations are in progress on several estates for the extension of the area under this crop. With careful selection it is possible to get local nuts of excellent quality for planting, and the demand has been so considerable that the export for the year shows but a slight increase. The quantity shipped was 80,097 nuts, valued at £234; and 69 cwt. of copra, valued at £69, also figures among the exports.

The year was a bad one for honey, the exportation being valued at only £496, which is £208 less than in the previous year.

The Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture paid several visits to the Colony, during which he inspected cultivations in the Marquis and Babonneau districts and passed through considerable areas of uncultivated land, belonging to numerous small proprietors in that part of the Island, which appeared to possess considerable possibilities for the extension of lime growing.

The Mycologist attached to the Imperial Department also visited the Island for the purpose of making a survey of local conditions in regard to plant diseases generally.

Land Grants.

Fifty-eight Crown grants were issued during the year, the acreage disposed of being 435 acres. The price of Crown land is at the rate of £1 per acre up to 50 acres, and 10*s*. per acre for each acre above that number, and is payable one-fifth on application and the balance in four annual instalments.

The applications for the purchase of land numbered 68, in respect of 628 acres.

SHIPPING.

Shipping forms a large item in the welfare of the Colony, due to Port Castries being a coaling station, the facilities afforded for bunkering and quick despatch being unequalled by any other port in the West Indies.

The following table summarizes the tonnage entered and cleared during the last five years :—

Vessels Entered.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1909 ..	518	1,027,837	201	6,003	127	220,961	45	2,731
1910 ..	557	1,143,092	228	7,437	135	241,808	40	2,712
1911 ..	817	1,782,911	182	5,086	126	208,500	41	2,535
1912 ..	684	1,488,397	216	5,591	106	155,205	30	1,733
1913 ..	685	1,549,751	243	6,717	150	214,821	37	2,366

Vessels Cleared.

Year.	British.				Foreign.			
	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1909 ..	517	1,025,251	197	5,574	129	224,895	44	2,662
1910 ..	559	1,146,983	228	7,928	134	239,687	40	2,712
1911 ..	815	1,778,865	182	5,110	127	210,621	41	2,535
1912 ..	686	1,492,443	216	5,572	165	248,136	30	1,733
1913 ..	685	1,549,751	245	6,702	150	214,216	37	2,366

These figures, compared with the tonnage for 1912, the latest figures available for the twenty-five principal ports in the Self-Governing Dominions, Crown Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates enumerated in the Board of Trade's Statistical Abstract, place Port Castries fourteenth in the list.

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of 1913 had 14 vessels on the register, with a tonnage of 614. All these are small sailing vessels locally owned, with one exception, a barquantine of 417 tons, the register of which is under question.

Public Works.

The usual work on the ordinary upkeep and maintenance of public roads and buildings was carried on during the year, but no extraordinary work of any magnitude was undertaken. The construction of a bridge over the Choiseul River was begun and was well advanced by the end of the year, the expenditure incurred being £292. A fourth order Chance port light was established on Tapion Rock at the southern entrance to Castries Harbour. The light is a white occulting one, with a period of 11 seconds light and a dark one of four seconds. The nominal radius of visibility is 12 miles. The light was brought into operation on the 19th July, 1913; and its cost, including the erection of the shelter, amounted to £166.

The old leading lights on the Western Wharf and near the Chaussée were replaced by modern port lights. Both lights are fixed and show red. They were not quite completed at the close of the year, but were nevertheless brought into operation between February and March. The amount expended on the work was £261. The masonry tower for the new lighthouse at Vigie, on the northern entrance to the harbour, was completed in readiness for the new light, its cost being £120.

During the year the Government Offices, which had occupied a rented private building since 1901, were transferred to the building in Bridge Street in Castries which had been occupied by the Colonial Engineer and his staff, the latter Department being transferred to the former Army Service Corps buildings on the harbour front. All the Government Offices, with the exception of the Education Office, are housed in buildings owned by the Government.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The legislation of 1913 comprised twenty-seven Ordinances, the principal of which were the Opium Ordinance, which gives effect on behalf of St. Lucia to the International Opium Convention of 1912; the Customs Preferential Tariff Ordinance, which gives effect on behalf of the Colony to the Canadian—West Indian Preferential Tariff Agreement of the 9th April, 1912; the Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance, which authorises the preparation and publication of a new and revised edition of the Ordinances of the Colony; the Stamp Duty Ordinance; and the Interpretation Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The following figures are furnished by the Inspector of Schools in his annual report for 1913:—

	1912.	1913.
Number of Schools	52	52
Number on Rolls	7,307	7,434
Average Attendance	4,814	5,121
Number examined	6,572	6,930
Government Grant-in-Aid	£3,982	£3,979

Of the 52 schools 45 are Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 East Indian Mission.

The grant in aid of primary education was, in 1913, the same as in previous years, £4,000. Of this sum the amount expended was (*a*) on teachers' salaries, £3,904; (*b*) on the salary of the Education Officer, £54; (*c*) on school gardens, £6; (*d*) special building grant, £15; making a total of £3,979.

A new Education Ordinance, the Primary Education Ordinance, 1913, was passed on the 15th July, 1913. It repeals the Education Ordinance of 1889 and the Elementary Instruction Ordinance of 1902, and reproduces most of the provisions of the former Ordinance. It is hoped that it will be more easy, under the provisions of the new law, to diminish truancy and the loitering in the streets of children of school age during school hours. Although no prosecutions were undertaken in 1913, it is believed that the knowledge of the probable coming into force of the new Ordinance was one of the causes of the increase in the attendance during the year.

Of the two schools of secondary education, St. Mary's College, for boys, receiving a Government grant of £400 per annum, had an average attendance of 55; St. Joseph's Convent School, for girls, receiving a Government grant of £150, had an average attendance of 102.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals, &c.

The Victoria Hospital at Castries is the one general hospital for the Colony. It is a fine stone building and well situated, and has been considerably improved of recent years. A trained Nurse-Matron from England assumed her duties in January, 1914. Besides her general duties, she systematically trains the nurses and is endeavouring to give them a sound practical knowledge of their duties. The daily average number of patients was 63; the expenditure on the institution amounted to £1,790.

The Lunatic Asylum, situated at La Toc, near the entrance to the harbour, is a good stone building capable of accommodating 80 to 100 patients. It is managed by the House Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, who has under him a European Steward. The daily average number of patients was 68·9. The expenditure amounted to £1,235.

Small buildings are provided in the out-districts at Soufrière, Dennery, and Vieux Fort, which are used as casualty hospitals for accident and emergency cases.

The General Poor Asylum is at Malgrétoute, on the sea beach within a mile of the town of Soufrière, and the daily average number of inmates during the year was 63. This provision for paupers is supplemented by an out-door relief system under the supervision of the Police Department.

The Yaws Hospital is in the vicinity of the Poor Asylum. There was a daily average number of patients of 22, and the expenditure for upkeep amounted to £627. The voluntary influx of patients for treatment with the drug "Salvarsan" continued unabated during the year, and 147 cases were treated. The number would have been much greater but for a shortage in the supply of the drug. The Medical Officer in charge, Dr. A. F. Hughes, reports that up to the time of his report he had treated 413 cases, and that out of this number there had only been 21 cases of recurrence of the disease. In this latter connection, the Medical Officer refers to the difficulty of distinguishing between *bona fide* recurrences and cases of re-infection.

There are visiting stations at various points where Medical Officers attend regularly on fixed days for the treatment of out-door cases of sickness.

There is at present no reformatory or industrial school in the Colony.

There is a public library in Castries towards which the Government gives a grant of £125 per annum, and which receives from the municipality a contribution of £25 per annum. In Soufrière there is also a small library to which the Government grants £20 a year, and a modest institution of the same kind in Dennery also receives Government aid to the extent of £5 a year.

Savings Bank.

If the amount of money placed in the Savings Bank can be taken as an index to the condition of the people of the Colony, then they must be regarded as fairly prosperous, for the amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year continues to mount higher and higher, as the following figures show :—

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Aggregate Deposits.	Aggregate Withdrawals.	Remaining on deposit at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1909	1,685	13,412	14,902	17,734
1910	1,693	12,743	11,539	18,788
1911	1,626	13,530	12,539	19,778
1912	1,649	12,627	12,256	20,150
1913	1,692	13,606	12,820	20,936

The investments in England on account of the bank stood at the 31st March, 1914, at £19,967.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.—In addition to ordinary police work, the Police Force carries out a considerable number of duties in connection with the details of administration, such as the enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths, and, in certain districts, is in charge of the post offices and the telephone exchanges. The total expenditure on the department was £4,517.

Prisons.—The number of persons committed to the Royal Gaol in 1913 was 325. The daily average number in confinement was 43·04, as compared with 42·39 in 1912.

The health of the institution was highly satisfactory, the average number on the sick list being only ·82, the lowest on record.

The expenditure on the establishment was £1,144, just £30 less than in the preceding year. The total estimated value of prison labour is stated to be £443.

Criminal Statistics.—The statistics for the year present no prominent feature calling for special comment, except for a case of murder by an East Indian who, when brought before the Royal Court for trial, was found by the jury to be insane and ordered to be confined in the Lunatic Asylum.

The figures for the last two years are as follows :—

	1912.	1913.
Offences reported	1,635	1,766
Summary convictions :—		
Offences against property ..	156	122
Offences against the person ..	228	280
Other offences	1,249	1,238
Convictions in Superior Court :—		
Homicide	—	—
Offences against property ..	14	13
Offences against the person ..	8	3

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar of Civil Status estimates the population at the 31st March, 1914, to have been 50,809,—23,367 males, and 27,442 females ; the population at the same date in 1913 was estimated at 49,963. The figures, however, do not take account of either emigration or immigration, and are based solely on the natural increase, the census figure of 1911 being taken as the starting point.

The birth-rate of the Colony (excluding still-births) was 34·5 per thousand of the population, being identical with the rate of 1912–13. The births numbered 1,838. The death-rate was 17·4 per thousand, while in the previous year it stood at 19·3 per thousand. The number of deaths was 192. There was one death from snake-bite.

Marriages numbered 277, an increase of 53 as compared with 1912–13.

Public Health and Sanitation.—All the Medical Officers report the health conditions of the year to have been favourable, and there is nothing in the reports calling for special mention.

The campaign against rats was systematically carried out during the year, except during the month of January, 4,040 rodents being captured. A staff of labourers, under a special Sanitary Officer, was employed on this work, and their services were also utilized for cleaning streams and drains and on other sanitary measures around Port Castries; some useful anti-mosquito work was also accomplished. The use of "millions" fish was continued in practicable places, but, as a good part of the year was unusually dry, their usefulness was somewhat diminished. In the out-districts, yards and premises were frequently inspected by the police, and the Chief of Police states that there were 77 convictions for offences against the sanitary regulations.

Climate.—The average annual rainfall for the Island, recorded at 25 stations, was 83·75 inches; it was 72·98 inches in 1912. The highest recorded rainfall was at Warwick Estate, in the Choiseul District, with 106·65 inches, and the lowest was at Beausejour Estate, in the Vieux Fort District, with 48·50 inches. Abnormally dry weather was experienced throughout the Island in the month of December.

The mean monthly temperature recorded in the shade at the Botanic Station in Castries was 78·2 F. The maximum shade temperature of 89·5 F. was recorded on May 19th and September 4th, and the minimum of 62 F. on February 19th.

The mean monthly corrected readings of the barometer ranged between 29·932 inches, in November, and 30·098, in March. The mean annual pressure was 30·015 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers was regularly carried out during the year, and the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (which touch at Castries going and coming *en route* between French Guiana and the northern French Colonies), also paid their usual visits, as did the vessels of the Quebec Line (which call on their passage to and from New York), and of the Danish East Asiatic Company. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's service, under contract with the Canadian Government, between Canada and the West Indies commenced in November, 1913, and was regularly carried out from that date. This service provides for a monthly call at St. Lucia of the steamers going to and coming from Canada.

The total revenue of the Post Office was £1,939, and the total expenditure £2,263.

The principal postal statistics for the last two years are as follows :—

	1912-13.	1913-14.
Letters and Postcards :—		
Sent	105,753	109,986
Received	105,422	100,627
Inland : Sent and Received ..	94,148	92,690
Parcels despatched	544	609
,, received	3,278	3,975
British Postal Orders issued ..	4,729	5,813
,, ,, ,, value ..	£2,643	£3,013
,, ,, ,, paid ..	1,097	1,181
,, ,, ,, value ..	£536	£584
Money Orders issued	£4,536	£4,393
,, ,, paid	£3,868	£4,020

There is regular and daily postal communication under local contract between Castries and the leeward coast towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the Island communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

All towns and villages in the Island are connected by telephone with Castries. There were 212 miles of line in operation during the year, and the subscribers numbered 144 at the end of the year. The number of messages delivered was 137, and 814 threepenny tickets were sold to non-subscribers using public telephones. The revenue amounted to £899, and the expenditure to £421.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., Governor of the Windward Islands, visited the Colony from the 15th to the 19th January and again from the 26th February to the 15th March, 1914.

Mr. E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., who had been Administrator of the Colony since April, 1909, was appointed to be Governor of the Gambia, and left St. Lucia for England on the 15th February, 1914.

Mr. W. Douglas Young, C.M.G., the Administrator of Dominica, succeeded Mr. Cameron as Administrator of St. Lucia and arrived in the Colony on the 26th March, 1914.

From the date of Mr. Cameron's departure until Mr. Young's arrival I acted as Administrator, except during the period of the Governor's visit in February-March, when I acted as Colonial Secretary.

The usual sketch map of the Island is appended.

ANTHONY DE FREITAS,

Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,

28th November, 1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

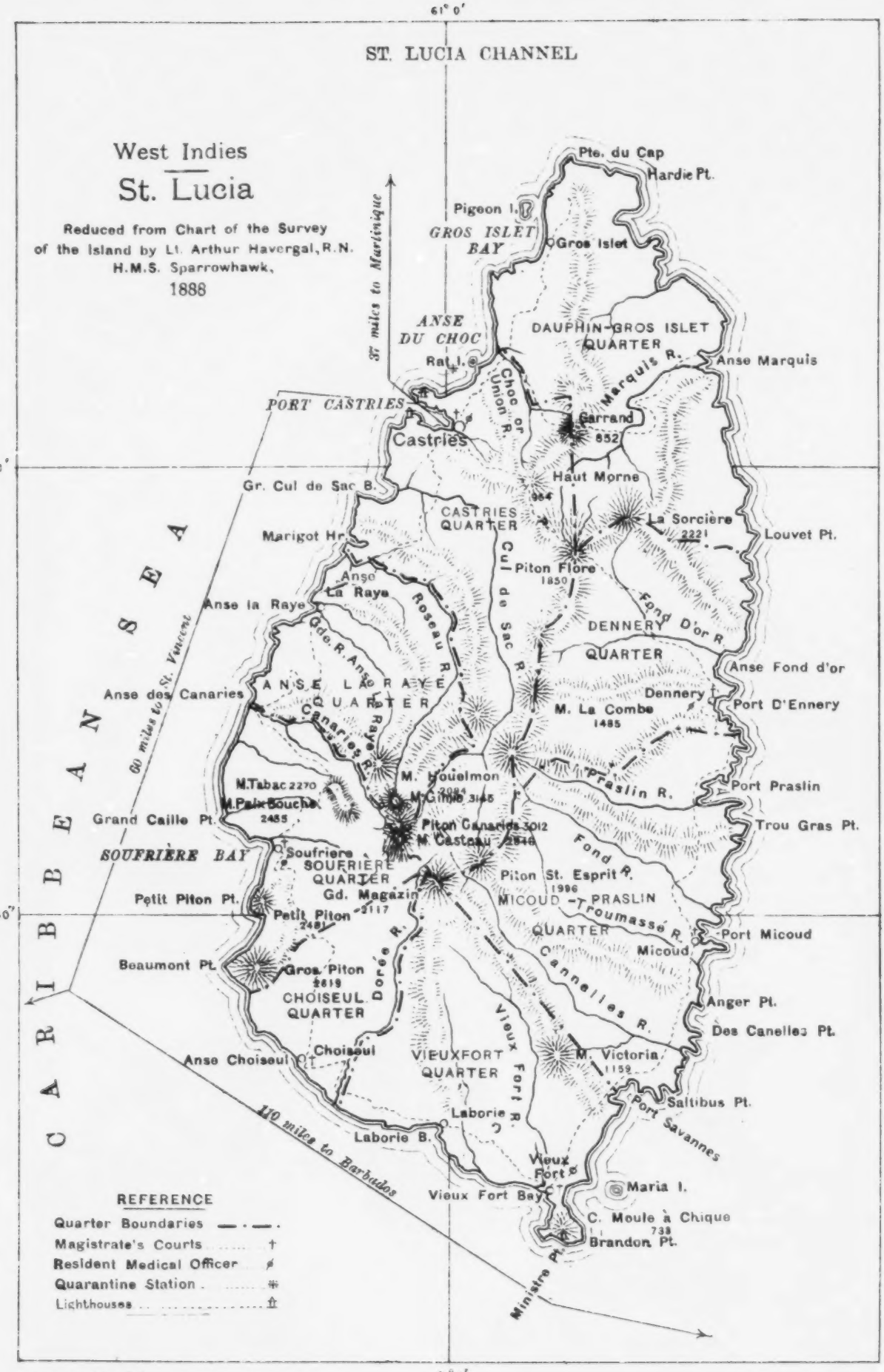
The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
805	Gambia	1913
806	Gold Coast	"
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
808	Sierra Leone	"
809	Bahamas	1913–1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1912–1913
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	"
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913–1914
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	"
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Entomological Research Committee	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.



C. O. № 21

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1915.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 852.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 822.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1915.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-43] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

		PAGE.
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	10
III.	Legislation	17
IV.	Education	17
V.	Government Institutions	19
VI.	Judicial Statistics	22
VII.	Vital Statistics	22
VIII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	24
IX.	General Remarks	24
	Map.	

No. 852.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 822.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Grenada,
Windward Islands,
9th July, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report by Mr. Herbert Ferguson, Colonial Secretary, on the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1914–15.

I have, etc.,

G. B. HADDON-SMITH,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

(C187) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 9.15. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1914–15.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue of the year ended 31st March, 1915, amounted to £92,347. This is the second highest revenue recorded. Regard being had to the dislocation of business by the war the revenue must be regarded as satisfactory.

2. The details of revenue were as follows :—

	1913–14.	1914–15.
	£	£
Customs	53,900	45,061
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue	26,250	26,488
Estate Duties	246	8,936
Fees of Office, etc.	2,341	3,124
Post Office	2,518	2,658
Telephones	2,243	2,286
Water Supplies	226	216
Revenue from Government Property	1,922	1,877
Interest from Sinking Fund ..	1,153	1,291
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	235	363
Land Sales	224	47
	£91,258	£92,347

3. It will be observed that there was no substantial fall in Customs revenue, as might have been expected to result from the interruption of ordinary trade and the financial stringency created by the outbreak

of hostilities in Europe. There was reduced trade, but the leeway in Customs receipts was made up towards the end of the financial year by the increased rates of duty imposed. A fortunate increase occurred in Estate Duties, through the falling in of a large estate on which duties amounting to £8,705 were paid. There is no variation in any other head of revenue that calls for special remark.

In order to meet an expected falling off in revenue during the ensuing year, legislative action was taken on 26th February, 1915, giving effect to the following increases in taxation :—

Increases in duty on Intoxicating Liquors and Tobacco.

	Old Rate.		*New Rate.*	
	s. d.		*s. d.*	
Brandy	10 6		12 6	per gallon.
Whisky	10 6		12 6	,,
Liqueurs, &c.	10 0		12 0	,,
Gin	8 0		10 0	,,
Rum (imported) ..	6 0		8 0	,,
,, (local)	4 0		4 6	,,
Trade Duty on Spirits..	1 0		1 6	,,
Wine (non-sparkling) ..	from 30 % *ad valorem*	to	2 0	,,
,, (sparkling) ..	,,		16 0	,,
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	0 9		1 0	per lb.
,, (manufactured)	3 0		4 0	,,
Cigarettes	7 0		9 0	,,

In addition, the export duty on cocoa was increased from 7½d. to 1s. 3d. per cwt., to be operative only when the London market price of cocoa exceeds 50s. per cwt., and the duty on American flour was raised by 1s. per barrel.

4. The following statement shows the actual revenue during the last five years, with a comparison of the figures with those of a decade ago :—

	£			£
1910–11 ..	81,413 ..	1900	..	70,363
1911–12 ..	98,645 ..	1901–2	..	70,075
1912–13 ..	86,393 ..	1902–3	..	70 802
1913–14 ..	91,258 ..	1903-4	..	70,265
1914–15 ..	92,347 ..	1904-5	..	68,993

EXPENDITURE.

5. The expenditure of the year amounted to £94,457, a figure which easily surpasses any previously recorded. High as it is, it does not represent the total liability incurred in the year, as of a vote of £10,000 to the War Funds only £4,000 was actually taken over during the year by the Imperial authorities. Inclusive of the whole sum, the expenditure of the year would have amounted to £100,457. This is the amount, needless to remark, that should be taken into account in estimating the actual financial position in regard to surplus.

6. Detailed under the usual heads, the expenditure of the year was :—

	1913–14.	1914–15.
	£	£
Charges on account of Debt	6,196	6,197
Pensions	2,993	2,985
The Governor	2,224	2,250
Colonial Secretary	1,826	1,750
Treasury Department	5,729	5,654
Post Office	3,039	3,056
Do. Special Expenditure ..	—	439
Audit Department	726	734
Port and Marine	571	618
Legal Departments	4,594	4,371
Police	5,440	5,335
Military Expenditure	839	409
Prisons	1,299	1,270
Sanitation	921	917
Medical Department	4,626	5,028
Hospitals and Asylums	7,422	7,886
Education	8,103	8,718
Do. Special Expenditure	293	350
Ecclesiastical	314	61
Charitable	747	792
Telephone Department	1,842	1,833
Carriacou District..	927	832
Do. Purchase of Cruiser	—	704
St. Paul's, etc., Water Supply	235	247
Miscellaneous	5,083	9,039
Agricultural Department	1,394	1,321
Do. Land Settlement	—	1,687
Public Works Department	1,568	1,462
Do. Roads and Bridges	10,288	10,318
Do. Other Recurrent Works	1,474	1,816
Do. Extraordinary	5,111	6,378
	£80,714	£94,457

7. The expenditure may be summarised as consisting of :—

Ordinary Expenditure amounting to ..	£87,501
Expenditure for Special Purposes	6,956

the details of the latter being :—

Part Donation to War Funds..	£4,000
Amount written off as Expenditure on Land Settlement..	1,456
Queen's Park Drainage Scheme	1,500
	£6,956

Reference to the war contribution has already been made. Strictly speaking, the donation of £10,000 (of which £6,000 was to be used in purchasing cocoa for the forces, and £4,000 as a contribution to the Prince of Wales's Fund) is a charge against surplus funds.

The amount under Land Settlement is another unusual item of expenditure. It represents expenditure which was advanced from surplus funds as part of the Land Settlement Advance Account, but which, on account of not having been included in the allotment prices, will not be recouped by the repayments from settlers. It has consequently been written off by a direct vote of expenditure. It may be remarked that the expenditure was of a special nature, such as for construction of a small sugar mill for grinding the settlers' canes and for expenses of supervision, and it is doubtful whether the inclusion of the expenditure in the allotment prices would not have made the lands unremunerative to the settlers. The expenditure was essential to establish the Land Settlement Scheme on a successful footing, and is consequently regarded as a proper charge against the Colony's funds.

The drainage and improvement of the Queen's Park—a scheme under continuous consideration for many years past—was proceeded with by the present Governor as being necessary to the health and convenience of the inhabitants of St. George's.

8. A statement of the expenditure of the last five years as compared with the expenditure ten years previously is as follows :—

Year.	£	Year.	£
1910–11	75,561	1900	62,718
1911–12	81,012	1901–2	68,669
1912–13	84,059	1902–3	70,113
1913–14	85,827	1903–4	69,509
1914–15	94,457	1904–5	71,968

FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

9. Assets as at 1st April, 1914		£64,154
Expenditure 1914–15	£94,457	—
Revenue 1914–15	92,347	—
Excess of Expenditure over Revenue		2,110
Surplus Assets at 31st March, 1915		£62,044

In this amount of £62,044 is included, however, the immediate liability of £6,000, representing the balance of the donation of £10,000 to the War Funds, to which reference has already been made.

10. The surplus assets are made up as follows :—

	£
Reserve Fund	25,000
Loans to District Boards	13,790
Land Settlement Funds	8,696
Stores on Hand	3,097
Current Cash, including cash with Crown Agents	11,461
	£62,044

11. By an addition of £4,000 during the year the Reserve Fund has now approximately reached the sum of £25,000, which is the amount recommended by the Secretary of State to be set aside as a reserve fund invested outside the Colony. The fund is now invested in the following securities :—

Stock	per cent.	£	s.	d.
Gold Coast	3	3,106	4	11
Zanzibar	3	1,563	16	0
Transvaal	3	1,112	2	10
Straits Settlements	3½	3,477	0	3
Southern Nigeria	3½	4,167	1	1
Sierra Leone	3½	2,978	17	0
Do.	4	365	5	2
Queensland	3¾	4,269	10	6
South Australia	4	3,960	0	0
		£24,999	17	9

12. The Public Debt remains unchanged and amounts to £123,670 in Inscribed stock. Against this the Sinking Fund amounts to £37,587 0s. 7d. The stock is redeemable between 1917 and 1947.

FINANCES OF DISTRICT BOARDS.

13. The revenue and expenditure of the District Boards of Grenada in the financial year under review were as follows: —

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,244	4,282
St. Andrew's	3,044	2,996
St. Patrick's	2,205	2,558
St. John's	1,671	1,717
St. Mark's	706	684
St. David's	1,097	1,097
	£12,967	£13,334

The town of Hillsborough in Carriacou, which is administered by Town Wardens, had a revenue of £95 and an expenditure of £94.

14. The loan debts and relative sinking funds of the District Boards at 31st March, 1915, were as follows: —

	Loan Debts	Sinking Funds
	£	£
St. George's	13,154	1,879
St. Andrew's	2,000	209
St. Patrick's	4,236	264
St. John's	3,391	678
St. Mark's	1,200	—
St. David's	—	—
	£23,981	£3,030

CURRENCY.

15. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and those of the banks in dollars and cents.

There are two local banks, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, the latter having become established in Grenada by local Ordinance in 1913.

Money in circulation consists principally of notes of five dollars denomination, and silver. The estimated note circulation of each bank is fifty thousand dollars, and about £20,000 is in circulation in silver. There is no limit to the legal tender of the latter.

Gold coins have never been plentiful, and before the war the amount of gold in the Colony was estimated at only £2,000. It has since been much reduced owing to its export by private persons and reduction in the quantity coming to the Colony through visits of tourists. The cessation of the tourist traffic since the war has also affected the number of Bank of England notes, very few of which are now in evidence.

The groat or fourpenny piece is still legal tender in Grenada, but is not in public favour, and scarcely a coin of that denomination is now to be seen.

A supply of farthings was obtained from the Mint during the year, for the accommodation of the poorer people.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(*a*) Imports and Exports.

16. The trade of the Colony according to the returns of the Customs Department was in the last five years as follows :—

Year	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1910	279,236	291,760
1911	309,227	264,640
1912	278,875	285,590
1913	282,927	367,149
1914	272,126	333,374

Imports.

17. The following statement gives the value of the principal articles imported, as compared with the previous year :—

	1913	1914
	£	£
Apparel	4,652	3,662
Biscuits, Bread, and Cakes.. ..	5,289	4,247
Boots and Shoes	5,509	5,301
Butter	2,696	2,274
Cattle Foods	2,429	2,338
Cement	1,567	2,683
Cordage and Twine	1,362	2,009
Cotton Goods	28,984	26,921
Fish of all kinds	15,676	13,441
Glass and Glassware..	1,439	970
Grain :—Oats	4,910	4,901
Rice	8,286	7,488
Wheaten Flour	42,917	40,643
Haberdashery and Millinery ..	5,640	4,773
Hardware	2,360	2,242
Hats and Bonnets	2,575	1,756
Lard	2,163	1,784
Leather, dressed and undressed ..	1,374	1,482
Machinery	1,904	8,774
Manures, Chemical and other ..	8,958	9,667
Meats, Canned, Salted, &c... ..	7,669	7,005
Medicines and Drugs	3,388	2,775
Metals and Manufactures of ..	9,140	6,602
Oils :—Cotton Seed	2,381	2,172
Olive and Refined Food	2,593	2,271
Kerosine	4,103	5,152
Oleomargarine	4,374	4,120
Soaps	4,250	4,209
Spirits (potable)	6,556	4,826
Sugar, unrefined	10,875	10,641
,, refined	2,817	3,095
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1,347	1,470
,, manufactured	934	964
,, Cigars	95	53
,, Cigarettes..	1,113	1,030
Wine	2,529	1,660
Wood and Timber	7,716	11,066
Shingles	621	747
Furniture	2,637	1,494
Wool, manufactures of	2,347	2,131

18. The origin of imports was as follows :—

	1913		1914	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Total	282,927	—	272,126	—
United Kingdom ..	113,076	40	109,162	40
British Colonies . ..	69,135	24	69,440	25
Foreign Countries ..	100,716	36	93,524	35
United States (alone) ..	88,343	31	81,573	30
Canada (alone)	9,215	3	23,604	9

19. From 1st January, 1914, Grenada became a party to the Reciprocity Agreement with Canada. The effect on imports from Canada is shown in the following :—

Preferential Article.	1913	1914
	£	£
Bread, Biscuits, and Cakes	20	99
Cordage	321	425
Carriages	137	205
Motor Cars	—	529
Motor Car Parts	—	8
Cattle and other Animal Foods	9	20
Fish, Dried, Salted, and Smoked	1,607	2,639
Canned	3	27
Pickled	195	291
Flour	778	7,504
Rolled Oats and Oatmeal	—	82
Oats	1,242	3,147
Beans and Peas	16	75
Hay	—	11
Iron and Steel	—	20
Wire, Barbed and Woven	—	150
Painters' Colours and Materials	15	161
Paper	50	40
Soap, Common Washing	—	9
Wood : Furniture	—	34
Spruce and White Pine	4,158	4,918
Shingles	59	205
Butter	229	80
Boots and Shoes	—	8
Brooms and Brushes	108	69

It will be observed that there has been a large increase in imports of Canadian flour and oats; a corresponding reduction in imports of American flour has taken place. Altogether, imports from Canada including non-preferential articles increased by £14,389. On the other hand, as will be seen from the export figures, the value of all exports to the Dominion increased by only £1,305.

Exports.

20. The principal articles exported were as follows :—

	1913		1914	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Cocoa	11,791,851	303,074	11,501,319	280,308
Spices :	cwt. lbs.		cwt. lbs.	
Nutmegs.. ..	14,556 103	25,205	12,655 104	21,165
Other kinds, principally Mace ..	2,478 100	19,062	2,157 62	15,727
	lbs.		lbs.	
Cotton	400,813	10,500	358,087	8,805
Seeds, Cotton ..	1,134,436	2,779	1,024,665	3,079

21. The destination and percentage of the exports are shown in the following statement :—

	1913		1914	
	Value.	Percentage	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Total	367,149	—	333,374	—
United Kingdom.. ..	228,232	62	223,454	67
British Colonies	6,496	2	5,503	2
Foreign Countries ..	132,421	36	104,417	31
United States (alone) ..	89,666	24	85,167	26
Canada (alone)	402	—	1,707	½

22. Subsidiary exports of Colony's produce included :—

		£
Lime Juice..	2,375 gallons	753
Ice	—	748
Hides	6,138 lbs.	338
Copra	37,021 lbs.	336
Fruits	—	335
Coconuts	116,780	414
Shells, Turtle	266	264

SHIPPING.

23. The total tonnage entered and cleared during the past five years was :—

Year.	
1910	590,451
1911	535,161
1912	565,788
1913	656,191
1914	689,120

AGRICULTURE.

24. The principal agricultural products of the Colony are cocoa, spices, and cotton.

Cocoa.

The 1914 season was not a good one for the cocoa crop, high winds and dry weather in the early part of the year considerably curtailing the output. The large planters have been able to keep their crop up to the average principally by the very large quantities of manures they have used during the past two years, and also by improved methods of cultivation. On the other hand the crop of the peasant proprietors is reported by the Agricultural Department to have fallen off considerably, thereby affecting the output of the island. On the whole the crop for the season ended 30th September, 1914, fell short by 2,865 bags of the average of the past five years.

Spices.

25. The cultivation of spices is confined almost entirely to nutmegs, with its derivative mace. The area devoted to the cultivation of nutmegs is not increasing, and has remained stationary for years, owing to the decline in prices. Mace has of late years commanded a relatively favourable price, and has had the effect of making nutmegs a profitable crop. It is worthy of remark that, although the area devoted to the cultivation has not been extended, the output of the island has steadily increased during the past ten years, and has just doubled during the decade. This is due to the fact that the crop of a nutmeg tree tends to increase steadily with the age of a tree. The produce last season was 1,372,940 lbs., while four years ago it was 909,280 lbs.

Cotton.

26. The island of Carriacou is the only district of the Colony in which cotton is grown. Several attempts have in recent years been made to re-establish the industry in the southern part of Grenada, where the soil is not suited for cocoa, but the efforts have invariably resulted in failure. The type grown in Carriacou is Marie Galante, a short-staple cotton. The quality of the cotton shipped during the year has not shown any appreciable improvement on the poor quality which has been produced during the past few years. The deterioration is presumably largely due to the system of ratooning, which is in many cases continued up to ten years.

Subsidiary Crops.

27. The want of a substantial additional industry to cocoa and spices is greatly felt, especially on lands where these crops cannot favourably grow.

In this respect it has to be borne in mind that any additional cultivation in Grenada is faced with the initial handicap that the most

fertile and accessible land is already taken up in the cultivation of a permanent and remunerative crop, viz., cocoa. However unwise it may be for the Colony to depend so greatly on one cultivation, to have "all its eggs in one basket," it is not to be expected that planters will uproot plantations that have taken many years to establish from fear of a calamitous drop in cocoa prices. The restricted area of fertile and accessible land and the tendency to experiment with new crops on soil of inferior productive value have been the obstacles in the way of success with all recent new ventures. Dr. Francis Watts, C.M.G., Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, makes pointed reference to this in a recent report on limes and coconuts in Grenada, in which he remarks: "It is essential in pushing new industries that the crops should be planted in favourable situations: this will have to be kept well in mind in Grenada, where the best lands are given up to cocoa; it is not likely that success with new crops will be obtained if they are relegated to land of little value and not particularly suitable for them."

28. *Sugar.*—An increase in cane cultivation has taken place owing to the acquisition by a new proprietor of an estate in the south of the island which was formerly a noted sugar plantation, and the establishment of a mill capable of producing a sugar equal to the better kinds of muscovado sugar imported. The development of the sugar industry is restricted to the supply of the local market, as the lack of a sufficient area of cane lands alone makes it impossible for Grenada to compete in the open market with sugar-producing Colonies; but, inasmuch as 1,963,330 lb. of muscovado sugar to the value of £10,641 were imported last year, it will be seen that there is scope for a notable development of the industry for local purposes. A protective duty of ½d. per lb. which is in force further enhances the prospects of success in this direction.

29. *Limes.*—In Carriacou the cultivation of limes has already been successfully established, and about 500 acres are approaching the full bearing stage. The concentrated juice has shown a high test, and commands a good price. While the trees are young and vigorous no set-back to the industry need be feared, and it is to be hoped that the climatic conditions of Carriacou will prove favourable to the permanent cultivation. At present the principal scale insect on limes in Carriacou is the Orange Snow Scale (*Chionaspis citri*), and this is being controlled by the use of insecticides. 2,375 gallons of concentrated lime juice, valued at £753, were exported in 1914, and for the first quarter of 1915 the exports have been 3,700 gallons, of the value of £1,265. Efforts are being made to introduce the cultivation into Grenada, and the Agricultural Department, under Mr. Moore, who has had considerable experience of the industry in St. Lucia, is establishing sufficient lime nurseries to meet the considerable demand for lime plants that is expected in 1915. The estimated area under limes in Grenada is 150 acres, and small areas are beginning to produce their first crop.

30. *Coconuts.*—Although no large tracts of land are available for establishing large coconut estates, there are in all the parishes small areas which, while unfavourable for the growing of cocoa, spices, etc.,

are suited for, and are being planted in, coconuts. On the whole these plantations have made satisfactory progress during the year, and the cultivation is being extended.

INDUSTRIES.

31. The industrial concerns of the island are confined to the manufacture of sugar, rum, ice, and soap.

Sugar Mills.

32. There are numerous small sugar mills, driven by petroleum engines, and turning out a class of "wet" sugar that is greatly in demand by the labouring class. Only two mills are fitted with machinery capable of producing muscovado sugar of the grade called grocery sugar. Reference to the newest of these mills and to the extent and prospects of manufacture in the island is made in paragraph 23 under "Agriculture."

Distilleries.

33. Fourteen distilleries were at work during the year, an increase of two over the previous year; 50,700 proof gallons of rum were made in the calendar year, of the estimated value of £9,050. The local price of rum is comparatively high, 4s. per gallon being obtained for rum straight from the still. No rum is exported as the cost of manufacture is high, and it pays the distillers better to regulate the quantity manufactured than to have surplus stocks for export at less than cost price.

Ice Factory.

34. The local ice factory receives a subsidy from the Government of £265 for the supply of ice to the various parishes. 1,200 tons were made in 1914, and about 500 tons were exported to St. Lucia, which up to the present depends on the Grenada factory for its supply.

Soap Factory.

35. This is a very small concern which has been in existence for four or five years, and which supplies a limited portion of the local market demand. It is helped by Government to the extent of a refund of duty in respect of materials imported and used in the manufacture.

III.—LEGISLATION.

36. The full list of the sixteen Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1914 is as follows :—

No. 1 The District Boards Amendment.
2 ,, Bank Notes.
3 ,, Towns Administration.
4 ,, Pensions.
5 ,, Copyright (Importation of Copies and Penalties).
6 ,, Appropriation.
7 ,, Police Ordinance Amendment.
8 ,, Motor Car.
9 ,, Criminal Procedure Code (Liability of Guardians).
10 ,, Trading with Enemy.
11 ,, Quarantine.
12 ,, Supplementary Appropriation.
13 ,, Aerial Navigation.
14 ,, Public Lands Acquisition.
15 ,, Midwives.
16 ,, Medical Officers Amendment.

37. Of the above-mentioned the most important were No. 2, the Bank Notes Ordinance, which provides for and controls the issue of bank notes in the Colony ; No. 8, the Motor Car Ordinance, regulating the use of motor cars ; and No. 15, the Midwives Ordinance, which aims at improving the status of midwives by registration, and the granting of subsidies in the form of fees for attendance on paupers and labourers. The latter Ordinance, owing to a change in the financial position of the Colony, has not yet been brought into operation.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary.

38. The number of Government and aided primary schools in the Colony is fifty-seven. Of these, eleven are Government Schools, twenty-six Roman Catholic, thirteen Anglican, five Wesleyan, and two of the Church of Scotland. The total number of pupils on the roll during the year under review was 11,985, and the average attendance was 5,910. The percentage of attendance was 49·4.

39. The total expenditure of the schools was £6,647, of which £6,181 was provided by the grant from Government. Calculated on the average attendance, and excluding school fees and caretakers' wages, the cost per head under the grant-in-aid in 1914 was:—

	£	s.	d.
Government Schools		19	8
Anglican		18	0
Wesleyan	1	3	8
Roman Catholic		14	7
Church of Scotland		15	11

40. The Primary Education Ordinance provides for four classes of schools—(*a*) industrial, (*b*) combined, (*c*) lower division, and (*d*) infant schools.

Arranged under these classes the schools numbered:—

Industrial	Nil.
Combined Schools	38
Lower Division	7
Infant	11
Ragged	1

41. The Ragged School was started in December, 1912, to provide for the education of the poorest class. It has proved a success, and a second one has been recommended by the head of the Education Department. The founding of an industrial school has been under consideration for some years, but various difficulties have prevented its establishment.

Secondary.

42. The Boys' Secondary School continues to maintain its success, and the number of pupils necessitated the appointment of an additional master. Mr. D. Evans Davies, B.Sc., who was appointed to the post, arrived in the Colony on 17th June, 1914, but resigned the appointment towards the end of the year, in order to enlist for the war. The expenditure of the school during the year was £1,299, and the receipts from school fees amounted to £453. The pupils numbered 77.

43. The number of pupils at the Girls' Secondary School is 28. This small number is due greatly to the educational facilities provided by private schools for girls, and particularly by the Convent School. £113 was received as school fees, and the expenditure amounted to £433. The school is well conducted, and tuition additional to the ordinary subjects is given in music, painting, carving, and drawing.

44. The St. Joseph's Convent School receives an annual grant from the Government of £150, and an additional grant was made last year of £200 in aid of extension of the buildings rendered necessary by the increased number of pupils.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) Colony Hospital.

45. The number of patients treated in the hospital was 2,382, as compared with 1,530 in the previous year, and of these 1,956 were discharged as cured, 370 as relieved, and 63 died. The average stay of patients in hospital was 39·56 days, as compared with 49·50 in 1913. The revenue received amounted to £170, and the expenditure to £3,166. The total cost per patient was £21 8s. 0d. (£20 1s. 3d. in 1913). The operations performed numbered 147, as against 122 in 1913. The number of attendances in the out-patient department was 5,393, and the same number applies to the prescriptions issued, 1,076 of which were free.

(*b*) Yaws Hospital.

46. Patients treated during the year numbered 460, and 402 were discharged as cured. One death occurred; 55 patients were treated with salvarsan, with most gratifying results. The expenditure was £671, and the cost per patient £10 6s. 6d., as compared with £413 and £8 5s. 2½d. in 1913.

(*c*) St. Andrew's Hospital.

47. 232 patients were treated, as compared with 175 in the previous year; 198 were discharged as cured, and 12 as relieved; 9 deaths occurred. The expenditure amounted to £441, averaging £33 16s. 9¼d. per patient (cost per patient in previous year £38 8s. 0d.). 13,907 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, which supplies also the whole parish. Free prescriptions numbered 8,425, and the receipts from the remainder amounted to £192.

(*d*) Carriacou Hospital.

48. The number of patients treated was 232, and of these 175 were discharged as cured, 27 as relieved, and 3 as not improved. There were 8 deaths. The cost per patient was £33 16s. 0d. The total expenditure was £705, and the revenue was £76.

(*e*) Hospital for Consumptives.

49. The number of patients treated was 50, there having been 30 admissions during the year; 18 were discharged and 17 died, 15 remaining in hospital at the end of 1914. The total expenditure was £427, the annual cost per patient being £29 0s. 11d. The longest stay in hospital of the males was 111 days, of the females one year and three days.

(*f*) Lunatic Asylum.

50. 32 patients were admitted during the year, bringing the number under treatment up to 142; 23 were discharged and 9 died. The total remaining at the end of the year was 110, 17 belonging to St. Vincent and the rest to Grenada. The cost per patient was £21 14s. 7d.,

the expenditure in all being £2,735. Several improvements were made in the buildings, which, together with the grounds, are kept conspicuously clean.

(*g*) Poor Asylum.

51. The number of patients remaining at the end of 1913 was 55. 38 were admitted and 17 discharged during the year; 21 deaths occurred, the number of patients remaining at the end of the year being unchanged. The total expenditure was £622, and the annual cost per patient £11 14s. 1d.

(*h*) Ankylostomiasis Campaign.

52. The work of the International Health Commission in its campaign against ankylostomiasis was started in the Colony shortly after the arrival, on August 27th, of Dr. Angus Macdonald, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M., who was selected by the Secretary of State to be the medical officer in charge. As a preliminary measure interest in the scheme was stimulated by lectures given at each school in the island, and in Carriacou, and this was followed by regular periodical visits for treatment of sufferers at centres in each part of the island. Dr. Macdonald's efforts in this direction have resulted in the hearty co-operation of the people, and their voluntary acquiescence has made it possible to get into touch with every individual in the areas under operation.

53. Dissemination of information in connection with the prevention of hookworm infection is being continued by means of printed leaflets, by lantern lectures and addresses illustrating the causes, treatment, and prevention of the disease, and by courses of instruction in general sanitation. By these means the interest and enthusiasm so necessary to the effective eradication of the disease are being kept sustained. From the fact that patients come to the head office from every parish in the island it is clear that a distinct dread of the disease has arisen amongst the people. Signs of enlightened views on sanitation are evident in the general efforts on the part of the people throughout the districts operated and in other districts to construct satisfactory closets. The following up of the work of the International Health Commission by maintaining the areas dealt with in a satisfactory sanitary state has been engaging the attention of the local advisory committee, and a report on "Sanitary Necessities" is at present under consideration by the Government.

54. On the advice of Dr. Howard, Medical Director for the West Indies, the intensive system of working is now being adopted, and the progress of the work up to 31st March, 1915, may be seen from the following figures:—

At 31st March, 1915.

Persons examined	8,770
,, infected with hookworm	4,254
,, treated	6,014
,, cured..	1,085
,, under treatment	4,929

Infection found.

Ankylostoma (hookworm)	60%
Ascaris (Round Worm)	80%
Trichurus (Whip Worm)	75%
All intestinal parasites	95%

55. The evidence obtained up to the present goes to show that all ages are infected, but that infection is uncommon under ten years and rare under five; that infection varies widely between different districts, due chiefly to differences of soil, cultivation, and perhaps of water supply; and that from casual blood examination it is discovered that malaria is widely prevalent in the island and is responsible for much morbidity. A special report on the comparative debilitating influence of the ankylostome and the malaria parasite is being prepared by the Medical Officer in Charge. As there is an entire absence of accurate statistics in regard to actual malaria infection, the report should prove of great use to the Government in their measures for improving the health conditions of the island.

(*i*) Savings Bank.

56. The business done in the Government Savings Bank was greatly reduced during the year. After the outbreak of the war the monthly totals of deposits decreased by fifty per cent., and by the end of the year the amount at credit of depositors, which in the beginning was £27,936, was reduced to £23,333, a drop of £4,603. The number of depositors fell from 2,356 to 1,714, a reduction of 642. The cause of the decline in volume of business is also partly due to the existence of a Savings Department in connection with the Royal Bank of Canada, which gives more freedom to its clients in depositing and withdrawing money than the Government Savings Bank.

57. A reduction of the investments by £4,000 was necessitated, but actual sale of the investments in a depressed market was fortunately avoided by transferring the stock to the credit of the Colony's Reserve Fund, which the Government was desirous of increasing by this amount. The investments remaining to the credit of the bank at 31st December, 1914, amounted to £23,540, a sum slightly in excess of the amount of deposits.

58. The average amount standing to the credit of depositors was £13 12s. 3d.

59. The bank has a branch in each parish of the Colony and in Carriacou.

60. The working profit during the year was £257.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(*a*) Police.

61. The regular police force consists of one officer in command, a sergeant-major, and 79 N.C.Os. and men. In addition there are also 161 rural constables not on the fixed establishment. Three sergeants seconded for duty as sanitary inspectors are now placed under the charge of the Colonial Surgeon. The standard of efficiency in musketry continues to be good, and great attention has been paid to the drill and physical development of the force. The heliograph service between Grenada and Carriacou continues to be worked satisfactorily by the police.

(*b*) Prisons.

62. Committals during the year numbered 311, being 5 more than in 1913. A regrettable feature is the increase in juvenile offenders, who numbered 15, as against 8 in the previous year. The daily average in prison was 46·90, and the cost per prisoner was £38 15s. 1d. This amount is high, but is caused by the small numbers, as it is not possible to reduce the staff to any great extent. Discipline is well maintained, and the prison administration continues to be very satisfactory.

(*c*) Criminal Statistics.

63. The Attorney-General reports:—"The number of persons brought before the magistrates was 2,555, which is rather less than the numbers in the two preceding years, but slightly in excess of the average for the three preceding years. There were 1,762 summary convictions, as against an average of 1,712 for the three preceding years. There were 190 convictions for prædial larceny, which is 70 less than the number of convictions for this offence in 1913, 5 more than in 1912, and 85 more than in 1911. Thirty-three persons were indicted in the Supreme Court; 26 were convicted, 5 acquitted, and a *nolle prosequi* entered in respect of 3. Cases of the more serious forms of crime continue to be rare. There was one case of manslaughter, none of murder, rape, or offences against property with violence to the person. The figures for the year under review indicate a slight diminution of crime as compared with the previous year."

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

64. The population at the end of 1914 was estimated as 71,082. The natural increase in population (excess of births over deaths) was 1,273, to which must be added 502, representing the excess of immigrants over emigrants, making a total increase in population during the year of 1,775.

65. The births during the calendar year numbered 2,787, being an increase of 360 over those of the previous year. The birth-rate was 39·20, as against 34·80 in 1913. This birth-rate has been exceeded only twice in the last ten years. The marriages numbered 311.

66. The year is recorded as an unhealthy one, an epidemic of dysentery being prevalent towards the end of the year. 297 deaths were recorded from this disease, a great increase over the normal. The total deaths numbered 1,514, as against 1,344 in 1913—an increase of 170. The death-rate was 21·29, as against 19·27 in 1913.

The chief causes of death were :—

Malaria..	107
Dysentery	297
Tetanus	14
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	64
Tuberculosis of Other Organs	7
Syphilis	28
Cancer and other Malignant Tumours	20
Local Diseases of—	
Nervous System..	69
Circulatory System	74
Digestive System—	
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	298
Premature Birth and Diseases of Early Infancy ..	68
Senility	87
Heart Failure and other Ill-defined Diseases ..	137

Meteorological Observations.

67. The rainfall for the year was below the average. At Richmond Hill Station, in the south of the island, 61·87 inches were recorded, this being 12·98 less than in 1913, and 14·40 less than the average for the past twenty-four years.

At other stations the rainfall was as follows :—

	Inches.
North of Grenada (Sauteurs)	50·82
Centre of Grenada (Grand Etang)	118·03
Extreme South (Point Saline)	24·77
Carriacou	49·95

The maximum temperature in the shade was 90·0, on 27th October, while the minimum in the shade, recorded on 30th December, was 68·0.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(a) Postal Service.

68. The Post Office business transacted during the year, as compared with 1913, is shown in the following statement :—

	1913.	1914.
Letters and Post Cards	623,515	645,214
Newspapers, Books, &c.	291,598	286,899
Parcels	12,652	11,238
Registered and Insured Letters ..	17,188	15,953
Money and Postal Orders issued and paid	£35,447	£33,092
Revenue	£2,518	£2,658
Expenditure	£3,039	£3,254

69. A contribution of £1,350 is paid towards the Imperial subsidy to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for the conveyance of mails by the Company's steamers. For the conveyance of inland mails a motor car service was inaugurated by the Government on 1st October, 1913. As passengers are also carried, the service is proving remunerative in addition to filling a long felt want in transportation facilities.

(b) Telegraphs.

70. The island is linked up with the lines of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, to which a subsidy of £600 per year is paid by the Colony. There is no inland telegraph service.

(c) Telephones.

71. The telephone system continues to grow steadily, and the island may be said to be very well supplied by the service. For a rental of 12s. per month, subscribers have unlimited service throughout all the six Exchanges in the island. The number of subscribers is 369. The revenue for the year was £2,286, and the expenditure, including £226 for loan charges, amounted to £1,883. There are 159 miles of trunk lines, and in addition about 445 miles of line connecting subscribers with the Exchange.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

72. Governor Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., left the Colony on May 23rd, 1914, on leave prior to retirement, the government of the Windward Islands being assumed by His Honour

Douglas Young, C.M.G., and the local administration by the nourable H. Ferguson, acting Colonial Secretary. The new vernor, Sir George Basil Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G., arrived in the ony on December 29th, 1914, and assumed the government of the ndward Islands the following day.

73. The Honourable Edward R. Drayton, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, the Colony on 26th March, 1914, to take up his appointment as ministrator of Dominica, and from that date until the arrival of new Colonial Secretary, the Honourable F. H. Watkins, I.S.O., 12th August, 1914, the post was filled by the Colonial Treasurer, Honourable Herbert Ferguson, in conjunction with the duties his own office.

74. The post of Colonial Surgeon was revived after an interval hirteen years, and the Honourable E. F. Hatton, M.D., the senior dical officer, was appointed to the office as from 1st April, 1914.

75. Shortly after the outbreak of war the importation of food pplies for the island was interrupted by the temporary cessation of regular steamer service from New York, and by the difficulty in anging for remittances to other places. Through the readily-given operation of the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia supplies of nadian flour and fish were received until normal trade was resumed d confidence in the continuance of importations was restored. The vernment importation of foodstuffs had the further effect of enabling prices of the principal commodities to be kept at a low figure in schedule of prices which was enforced throughout the Colony, d by this means a great boon was conferred on the poorer people, who this island are dependent to a surprising extent on imported odstuffs.

76. It cannot be denied that the lot of the labourer becomes more duous the more the land is taken up by the cultivation of the island's rmanent crops. As the production of ground provisions diminishes, poorer people become more and more dependent on imported food-uffs. The ordinary peasant labourer has a natural inclination to ow local food crops only on soil that is easily worked, and only the creasing force of necessity drives him to cultivate ground provisions less fertile soil. On the advice of the Imperial Commissioner of griculture for the West Indies, the people were last year encouraged plant quick-growing food crops, and Government and planters ike helped by letting out garden lots free, or at nominal rents. With e additional impetus of the scare of a shortage in imported food pplies, lands long lying fallow were brought into cultivation, and the pply of ground provisions increased to a satisfactory extent, thereby eping money in circulation within the Colony that would otherwise ve gone in remittances for imported foodstuffs.

77. Another welcome feature as far as the Colony is concerned s been the great rise in the price of cocoa. This has relieved the ancial stringency which existed in the Colony, for owing to the ct that there are several thousand small peasant proprietors all

interested in and affected by the price of cocoa, the effect of good prices is soon distributed throughout the entire island. The outlook at the close of the financial year was more favourable than anticipated, and there is promise that Grenada, with reasonable economy and prudent undertakings, will experience no great set-back to her steady prosperity.

HERBERT FERGUSON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
8th July, 1915.

61° 40'

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1914

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	"
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 880.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 836.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
April, 1916.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C., and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH), 23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, and other Foreign Countries of T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd.8172-6.] *Price* 1*d*.

GTE Ap 23 '17

CONTENTS.

		PAGE
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	5
III.	Legislation	7
IV.	Education	7
V.	Government Institutions	8
VI.	Judicial Statistics	9
VII.	Vital Statistics	10
VIII.	Postal and Telephone Services	11
IX.	General Remarks	12

A Sketch Map will be found in the previous Report, No. 836. [Cd. 7622–27].

No. 880.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 836.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,

Saint Lucia,

3rd February, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1914–15, together with my Report thereon.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GIDEON MURRAY,

Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir G. B. Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c., &c.,
Grenada.

(C255) Wt. 45316/1003. 1000 & 90. 4.16. B. & F., Ltd. Gp.11/2.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year was estimated at £66,320. The amount actually received was £57,795, £8,525 below the Estimates. The average revenue for the previous five years was £67,313.

There was a considerable loss under Customs and Port and Harbour dues owing to less trade and shipping during the year consequent upon the war.

Under Head 4, the receipts from Post Office, Head 5, showed very appreciably the effects of the war, chiefly due to fall in sales to stamp dealers.

The revenue derived from licences for the sale of liquor was £1,581 10*s.* 0*d.*, and the number of such licences issued during the year was 202.

The actual expenditure for the year was £3,001 less than the estimate, which totalled £71,353, savings having been effected under nearly every head.

The accounts for the year closed with a deficit of £11,688, resulting in the reduction of the Colony's surplus funds at 31st March, 1915, to £13,880, as compared with £25,568 with which the year opened.

Public Debt.

At the 31st March, 1915, the public debt stood at £138,030, having been reduced during the year by £2,100, and at the same date the total of the sinking funds for the redemption of the debt amounted to £23,681.

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper coins. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents by the bank and most of the mercantile firms, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.*

Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery, "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates, and dues, market dues, and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the imports in the calendar year 1914 amounted to £306,152, and was £77,747 more than in the previous year. Of the increase coal accounted for £20,391.

The coal imported was 120,288 tons, valued at £146,860, as compared with 114,350 tons, valued at £126,469, in 1913.

Exports.

The declared value of the exports was £241,422, of which £99,658 was the value of produce of the Colony, and £141,764 of other places, including £128,639 the value of bunker coal, and £3,380 the value of goods exported as ships' stores.

The exports of island produce in the past ten years show a gradual increase from £88,600 in 1904 to £117,700 in 1913, the exports in the latter year being the highest recorded except those of 1909, when they were valued at £124,901, which was due to the abnormally high price obtained for cocoa in that year. It may also be noted that, whilst the export of island produce has thus increased, the percentage of sugar and cocoa exports has gradually fallen from 93·3 to 87·1, indicating an extension in agriculture in other directions than those of the two principal products.

Coaling Trade.

As will be seen from the subjoined figures, the coaling trade did not do as well in 1914 as in the previous two years, and this was due to a falling off, caused by the war, in the number of steamers that called for coal:—

	Tons.	£
1912	134,783	166,312
1913	117,532	141,038
1914	95,893	128,639

Manufactures.

The sugar factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery were all working during the year.

The erection of the Government lime-juice factory, to which reference was made in the last report, was completed and opened in the year under review.

The business of the factory is conducted on a co-operative basis. In determining the profits there is deducted from the amounts realized for the sale of produce the amounts paid for the purchase of limes and lime-juice together with all expenses of working the factory and disposing of the produce, and, in addition, a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the amount paid for the purchase of limes and lime-juice, the remainder being regarded as gross profits to be divided, one-third being paid to the Government and two-thirds to the vendors of fruit and juice, this latter to be distributed to the vendors by way of bonus, in proportion to the amounts paid to them for limes or lime-juice.

The sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the value of the limes and lime-juice purchased, together with the sum representing one-third of the profits referred to in the foregoing paragraph, to be paid to the Government by way of interest and sinking fund in respect to the sum expended in erecting the factory.

The price paid for limes and lime-juice is based on a scale of prices having a relation to the value of concentrated juice, and insuring a safety margin of profit to the factory. The seller of fruit realises his full value when he gets his bonus derived from the share of profits.

Agricultural Industries.

Lime cultivation is making rapid progress and the value of the lime-juice exported during the year 1914 (£6,572) exceeded that for the preceding year by £3,082.

The value of the export (the only available indication of the production) of cocoa in 1914 was £38,846, as compared with £36,888, although the amount exported (7,971 bags) was less by 198 bags than the export in the preceding year. The value of the sugar exported in 1914 was £44,483, as compared with £65,651 in 1913.

A small quantity of cotton was again produced in the Chaisel district. The export figures were 5,100 pounds of lint, valued at £255, and 128 cwt. of seed, valued at £37.

The planting of coconuts is increasing. With careful selection it is possible to get local nuts of excellent quality for planting, and the demand has been so considerable that the export for the year shows but a slight increase. The quantity shipped was 53,638 nuts, valued at £294; and 142 cwt. of copra, valued at £176, also figures among the exports.

The year was a bad one for honey, the exportation being valued at only £370, which is £226 less than in the previous year.

The Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture visited the Colony in September, and spent from September 5th to 8th at the new Experiment Station, Reunion. During this period he visited the Land Settlement and the outlying portions of the estate. Official visits were also made to the Botanic Gardens, Castries, and the Government Lime Factory.

Land Grants.

Thirty-six Crown grants were issued during the year, the
disposed of being 290 acres. The price of Crown land is at
of £1 per acre up to 50 acres, and 10s. per acre for each acre ab
number, and is payable one-fifth on application and the ba
four annual instalments.

The applications for the purchase of land numbered 51, in
of 394 acres.

Shipping.

Shipping forms a large item in the welfare of the Colony
Port Castries being a coaling station, the facilities aff
bunkering and quick despatch being unequalled by any o
in the West Indies, or, for the matter of that, in many other
the British Empire.

During the year 1914 the tonnage of British steamers en
1,339,539, and of foreign steamers 197,725. The correspondi
for the preceding year are 1,549,751 and 214,821 respectively

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of 191
vessels on the register, with a tonnage of 268. All these
sailing vessels locally owned.

Public Works.

The usual work on the ordinary upkeep and maintenance
roads and buildings was carried on during the year, but
ordinary work of any magnitude was undertaken. The co
of a bridge over the Choiseul River was completed; also th
of a new powerful light at Vigie.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The legislation of 1914 comprised six Ordinances, none
importance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The following figures are furnished by the Inspector of
his annual report for 1914:—

	1913.	1
Number of Schools	52	
Number on Rolls	7,434	
Average Attendance	5,121	
Number examined	6,930	
Government Grant-in-Aid	£3,979	£

Of the 52 schools 45 are Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 East Indian Mission.

The grant-in-aid of primary education was, in 1914, the same as in previous years, £4,000. Of this sum the amount expended was (*a*) on teachers' salaries, £3,917; (*b*) on the salary of the Education Officer, £54; (*c*) special building grant, £15; making a total of £3,986.

A new Education Ordinance, the Primary Education Ordinance, 1913, was passed on the 15th July, 1913. It repeals the Education Ordinance of 1889 and the Elementary Instruction Ordinance of 1902, and reproduces most of the provisions of the former Ordinance. It is hoped that it will be more easy, under the provisions of the new law, to diminish truancy and the loitering in the streets of children of school age during school hours. During 1914, 140 cases were brought before the magistrates of the 1st and 2nd Districts. Three parents were fined, and the rest warned.

Of the two schools of secondary education, St. Mary's College, for boys, receiving a Government grant of £400 per annum, had an average attendance of 55; St. Joseph's Convent School, for girls, receiving a Government grant of £150, had an average attendance of 102.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals, &c.

The Victoria Hospital at Castries is the one general hospital for the Colony. It is a fine stone building and well situated, and has been considerably improved of recent years. A trained nurse-matron from England assumed her duties in January, 1914. Besides her general duties, she systematically trains the nurses and is endeavouring to give them a sound practical knowledge of their duties. The daily average number of patients was 76; the expenditure on the institution amounted to £2,017.

The Lunatic Asylum, situated at La Toc, near the entrance to the harbour, is a good stone building capable of accommodating 80 to 100 patients. It is managed by the House Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, who has under him a European steward. The daily average number of patients was 70·8. The expenditure amounted to £1,164.

Small buildings are provided in the out-districts at Soufrière, Dennery, and Vieux Fort, which are used as casualty hospitals for accident and emergency cases.

The General Poor Asylum is at Malgretoute, on the sea beach within a mile of the town of Soufrière, and the daily average number of inmates during the year was 68·55. The expenditure amounted to £887. This provision for paupers is supplemented by an out-door relief system under the supervision of the Police Department.

The Yaws Hospital is in the vicinity of the Poor Asylum. There was a daily average number of patients of 47·03, and the expenditure for upkeep amounted to £554. The voluntary influx of patients for treatment with the drug "Salvarsan" continued unabated during the year, and 337 cases were treated. The number would have been much greater but for a shortage in the supply of the drug. The Medical Officer in charge, Dr. A. F. Hughes, reports that up to the time of his report he had treated 745 cases, and that out of this number there had only been 32 cases of recurrence of the disease. In this latter connexion, the medical officer refers to the difficulty of his distinguishing between *bona fide* recurrences and cases of re-infection.

There are visiting stations at various points where medical officers attend regularly on fixed days for the treatment of out-door cases of sickness.

There is a public library in Castries towards which the Government gives a grant of £125 per annum, and which receives from the municipality a contribution of £25 per annum. In Soufrière there is also a small library to which the Government grants £20 a year, and a modest institution of the same kind in Dennery also receives Government aid to the extent of £5 a year. At the date of writing a small library has been opened in Vieux Fort, supplemented by a grant of £5 from town funds.

Savings Bank.

The amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year continues to grow; the amount remaining on deposit on 31st December being £22,461 as compared with £20,936 in 1913.

The investments in England on account of the bank stood at the 31st March, 1915, at £19,867.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.—In addition to the ordinary police work, the police force carries out a considerable number of duties in connection with the details of administration, such as the enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths, and in certain districts is in charge of the post offices and telephone exchanges. The total expenditure on the department was £4,464.

Prisons.—The number of persons committed to the Royal gaol in 1914 was 416. The daily average number in confinement was 34·43 as compared with 43·04 in 1913.

The health of the institution was highly satisfactory, the average number on the sick list being only ·5, the lowest on record.

ng company, inc.

The expenditure on the establishment was £1,063, £81 less than in the preceding year. The total estimated value of prison labour is stated to be £332.

Criminal Statistics.—The statistics for the year present no prominent feature calling for special comment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar of Civil Status estimates the population at the 31st March, 1915, to have been 51,590—23,768 males, and 27,822 females; the population at the same date in 1914 was estimated at 50,809. The figures, however, do not take account of either emigration or immigration, and are based solely on the natural increase, the census figure of 1911 being taken as the starting point.

The birth-rate of the Colony (excluding still-births) was 33·9 per thousand of the population, being 34·5 in 1913–14. The births numbered 1,833. The death-rate was 18·7 per thousand, while in the previous year it stood at 17·4 per thousand. The number of deaths was 1,052. There was no death from snake-bite.

Marriages numbered 225, a decrease of 52 as compared with 1913–14.

Public Health and Sanitation.—All the medical officers report the health conditions of the year to have been favourable, and there is, generally, nothing in the reports calling for special mention.

The campaign against rats was systematically carried out during nine months of the year, 2,351 rodents being captured. A staff of labourers, under a special sanitary officer, was employed on this work, and their services were also utilized for cleaning streams and drains and on other sanitary measures around Port Castries; some useful anti-mosquito work was also accomplished. The use of "millions" fish was continued in practicable places, but, as a good part of the year was unusually dry, their usefulness was somewhat diminished. In the out-districts, yards and premises were frequently inspected by the police, and the Chief of Police states that there were 29 convictions for offences against the sanitary regulations.

During the year the hookworm campaign, inaugurated at the expense of the International Health Commission, commenced its work under the direction of Dr. Stanley Branch, a local District Medical Officer seconded for this purpose. The Colony is much indebted to the Commission for providing the necessary means to combat this devastating disease so deleterious to the health and efficiency of the labouring classes. Side by side with this campaign, the Government is considering measures for the improvement of the sanitary conditions in the Colony generally.

Climate.—The average annual rainfall for the Island, recorded at 24 stations, was 64·88 inches; it was 83·75 inches in 1913. The highest recorded rainfall was at Uplyme, with 120·15 inches, and the

lowest was at Beauséjour estate, in the Vieux Fort district, with 27·78 inches. Abnormally dry weather was experienced throughout the Island in the month of December.

The mean monthly temperature recorded in the shade at the Botanic Station in Castries was 79·2 F. The maximum shade temperature of 91·0 F. was recorded on May 3rd, and the minimum of 63 F. on March 1st.

The mean monthly corrected readings of the barometer ranged between 29·378 inches in December and 30·087 in April. The mean annual pressure was 30·026 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers was regularly carried out during the year, and the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (which touch at Castries going and coming en route between French Guiana and the northern French Colonies), also paid their usual visits, as did the vessels of the Quebec line (which call on their passage to and from New York), and of the Danish East Asiatic Company. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's service, under contract with the Canadian Government, between Canada and the West Indies commenced in November, 1912, and was regularly carried out from that date. This service provides for a monthly call at St. Lucia of the steamers going to and coming from Canada.

The total revenue of the Post Office was £1,136, and the total expenditure £2,088.

The principal postal statistics for the last two years are as follows:—

	1913–14.	1914–15.
Letters and Postcards:—		
Sent	109,986	91,062
Received	100,627	93,954
Inland: Sent and Received ..	86,392	82,766
Parcels despatched	609	430
„ received	3,975	2,637

There is regular and daily postal communication under local contract between Castries and the leeward coast towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the Island communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

All towns and villages in the Island are connected by telephone with Castries.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Sir G. B. Haddon Smith, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Bahamas, succeeded Sir J. Hayes Sadler as Governor of the Windward Islands and arrived in Grenada on the 30th December, 1914.

The Honourable Gideon Murray, Administrator of St. Vincent, was appointed Administrator of St. Lucia on the 10th December, 1914, but did not assume the administration of the Colony until the 20th May, 1915.

Owing to the war there was a general decrease of business in the shops and stores, which caused a falling off in the revenue from Customs duty. Owing to fewer merchant steamers calling here, there has likewise been a decrease in the coaling trade and in the revenue of the port. The price of peasants' cocoa was extremely low in October and November 1914, but it has since risen to a normal rate. It is hoped that the high price of sugar and the fair price of cocoa and lime-juice will have some effect in staying the drop in Customs duties.

Like other parts of the British Empire, St. Lucia has evinced her loyalty to the cause for which we are fighting by considerable money grants, both Government and private, to the objects of the war. In addition 40 of her male population engaged themselves as stokers on H.M.S. "Good Hope," as she passed through St. Lucia on her way to South America, and they, together with the many other gallant fellows, surrendered their lives for their country in the brave encounter with the German squadron, in which the "Good Hope" met her unfortunate fate.

GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
31st December, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
848	Fiji	1914
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914–1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914–1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914–1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914–1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914–1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914–1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1916.

INCHES 1 2 3 4 5 6
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
10 FIRST STREET SE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540
METRIC 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Gt. Brit. Colonial office

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 906.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1915-16.

(For Report for 1914-15 see No. 852.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1916.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-32.] *Price* 1½*d.*

JV33
.G7A4

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Financial	4
Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
Legislation	10
Education	10
Government Institutions	11
Judicial Statistics	15
Vital Statistics	16
Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	17
General Remarks	18

A Map will be found in the previous Report No. 852: [Cd. 7622-43].

D. of D.
MAR 16 1918

No. 906.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 852.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Grenada,
Windward Islands,
20th August, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the annual report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1915–16.

I have, &c.,
G. B. HADDON-SMITH,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(C306) Wt.45316/1003. 1,000 & 90. 11.16. B.& F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1915-16.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. The financial year ending 31st March, 1916, is likely to be recorded as one of the most fortunate in the annals of Grenada. Climatic conditions were favourable to the island's staple products and produced a record crop of cocoa and spices. An abundant crop appears to recur in cycles of five years. The fortunate circumstance in this instance is that it has coincided with a period of exceptionally high market prices for both commodities.

2. As the result of these fortunate conditions, the exports from the Colony in the calendar year were valued at £466,318—a high water mark. Of this total cocoa alone contributed £402,394, representing an increase of £122,086 over the previous year.

The imports for the year being normal, amounting only to £260,495, a handsome surplus of £205,823 to the credit of the Colony is indicated.

3. That the imports, despite the additional cost due to increased prices and freights, have not exceeded the average is evidence both of economy on the part of the community and of greater attention to the production of foodstuffs within the Colony. The tendency to rely on importations of foreign in place of local food crops appears to have been somewhat checked. The increased production of home food supplies is a factor of great economic importance to the Colony, especially to the labouring classes and the numerous small peasant proprietors, who, as producers as well as consumers, derive the main benefit by the retention in the Colony of this money that would otherwise have gone abroad.

4. The local revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1916, amounting to £96,420, was very satisfactory, being £6,700 more than estimated. It is true that a war tax on cocoa, brought into force in November, 1915, helped to swell the receipts, but only £2,499 was realised from this source, and consequently it appears that the general revenue from other sources improved by £4,200.

The foregoing figures are exclusive of a grant of £2,607 from the International Health Commission.

5. The Expenditure (exclusive of payments from the International Health Commission Grant) for the year amounted to £103,992, and was by far the largest total ever reached in this colony, being approximately £20,000 over the average of the past five years. Exceptional items of expenditure fell to be paid in the year under review, the principal being :—

Gift of Cocoa for Imperial Forces	£6,000
Expenses of Grenada War Contingent ..	5,534
Storm damages	3,402

Excluding these items, totalling £14,936, the expenditure which may be classed as ordinary was £89,056.

6. The total revenue and expenditure in the last two financial years were as follows :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1914–15	92,347	94,457
1915–16	96,420	103,992

FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31ST MARCH, 1916.

7. Assets as at 1st April, 1915		£62,044
Expenditure 1915–16	£103,992	—
Revenue 1915–16	96,420	—
Excess of Expenditure on Revenue	———	7,572
Surplus Assets at 31st March, 1916		£54,472

8. The public debt was £123,670, as before, and the accumulated sinking fund for its redemption amounted to £40,230.

FINANCES OF DISTRICT BOARDS.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the six District Boards of Grenada in the financial year ended 31st March, 1916, were as follows :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,129	4,282
St. Andrew's	3,182	2,956
St. Patrick's	2,512	2,326
St. John's	1,652	1,541
St. Mark's	816	650
St. David's	888	888
	£13,179	£12,643

10. The town of Hillsborough in Carriacou, is administered by Town Wardens. Its revenue was £97 and expenditure the same.

11. The loan debts of the Boards at the same date were £24,664.

CURRENCY.

12. Money in circulation consists principally of notes of five dollars denomination, and of silver. It is estimated that about one hundred thousand notes are in circulation, and that silver is in circulation to the extent of about £20,000.

13. The island is at present almost entirely depleted of gold, and Bank of England notes are seldom seen.

14. There are two banks established in the Colony, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada. Their accounts are kept in dollars and cents.; those of the Government and a number of business houses are still kept in sterling.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

15. The Customs statistics are compiled for the calendar year 1915.

16. The entire trade for the year amounted to £726,813. This is an increase of £121,313 over the trade of the previous year, and by far the largest in value recorded for the Colony. The imports were valued at £260,495, and the exports at £466,318.

The statistics of the last two years have been :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1914	£272,126	£333,374	£605,500
1915	260,495	466,318	726,813

17. The total imports being almost equal in value to those of the previous year, there is little variation apparent in the principal articles. There was a diminution in the quantities of foodstuffs imported, with the exception of the item classified as biscuits, bread, and cakes, which showed an increase, accounted for by large importations from Trinidad of cheap biscuits known as pilot bread.

18. The following statement shows the importation of the principal foreign foodstuffs and of muscovado sugar during the past two years :—

Year.	Flour.	Fish, Salted and Cured.	Rice.	Muscovado Sugar.
	in million lbs.			
1914	6·89	·94	1·10	1·96
1915	5·62	·85	1·08	1·81

19. The great quantity of muscovado sugar imported is a somewhat extraordinary feature in the trade returns. In value this item amounted last year to £14,342, and, placed according to value,

ranks third in the list of principal imports. The tendency to convert every available acre of fertile land into cocoa or other permanent cultivation accounts to a great extent for this peculiarity in a sugar-producing colony.

20. A decrease took place in articles of luxury, and in the quantity of wines and spirits, although, thanks to an increase in the duty, the revenue from the latter was greater than in 1914.

21. The origin of imports and percentage of total during the last two years are shown in the following table :—

	1914		1915	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Total	272,126	—	260,495	—
United Kingdom ..	109,162	40	90,436	35
British Colonies . ..	69,440	25	71,161	27
Foreign Countries ..	93,524	35	98,897	38
United States (alone) ..	81,573	30	86,632	33
Canada (alone)	23,604	9	26,987	10

Exports.

22. The principal products exported from the Colony were :—

	1914.	1915.
Cocoa	£280,308	£402,394
Spices :—		
Nutmegs	25,205	25,319
Other kinds (principally mace)	19,062	17,122
Cotton	10,500	8,490
Cotton Seed	2,779	1,979

23. The destination of the exports and the percentage to total exports were as under :—

	1914		1915	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Total	333,374	—	466,318	—
United Kingdom.. ..	223,454	67	300,923	64
British Colonies	5,503	2	11,995	3
Foreign Countries ..	104,417	31	153,400	33
United States (alone) ..	85,167	26	153,835	33
Canada (alone)	1,707	½	3,681	·7

24. A slight decrease, three per cent., is shown in the percentage of exports to the United Kingdom. Exports to the United States of America increased from £85,167 to £153,235, representing a percentage increase on the total exports of seven per cent.

25. *Reciprocity Agreement.*—Despite disturbed conditions, the trade with Canada increased during the year, the imports being £26,987, as against £23,604, and exports £3,681, as against £1,707 in the previous year. These increases, though small, are evidence of vitality in the business relations that are springing up between the two countries.

SHIPPING.

26. A decrease in tonnage, as was to be expected, occurred during the year. The total tonnage entered and cleared during the past two years was:—

1914	689,120
1915	425,188

AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.

27. The crop year in Grenada runs from October 1st to September 30th. While reapings in the year ending September 30th, 1915, were below the average, the crop in the half year ended 31st March, 1916, has been the heaviest on record. Prices have ruled high for more than a year, and during the latter half of the year were over 80*s.* per cwt. The exports of cocoa in 1915 amounted in value to £402,394.

Reports from the Agricultural Department indicate that there has been little additional planting, the small increase in area under cocoa occurring mainly in peasant tenant gardens which have been taken over by estate proprietors.

Spices.

28. The past year has been a favourable one for the products of the nutmeg tree. The production of nutmegs and mace has steadily increased during the last few years, and prices during the same period have shown an upward tendency. Spices rank second among the exports of Grenada. The value of the crop exported in the calendar year 1915 was £42,441.

The following figures of export, supplied by the Agricultural Department, show the progress during the past two years:—

Nutmegs and mace exported:—

Year ending	lbs.
30th Sept. 1914	1,372,940
1915	1,674,286

Minor Agricultural Industries.

29. *Cotton.*—Cotton ranks next in importance to the two main industries of cocoa and spices. Its cultivation is confined entirely to the Island of Carriacou, and only the Marie Galante variety is grown. Efforts are being made to improve the cultivation. Exports of cotton and cotton seed in 1915 amounted in value to £10,469.

30. *Limes.*—The cultivation of limes is forging ahead, Carriacou setting a lead to the rest of the Colony, both in area under cultivation and in exports. The cultivation in Grenada is being taken up principally in the parishes of St. George, St. David, and St. Patrick. In all, it is estimated that about 850 acres are planted in limes. Over 200 acres were planted during last year, and the Agricultural Department is taking steps to meet a demand for a large increase in the coming year. The value of lime exports in 1915 was £6,401.

31. *Coconuts.*—An extension is being made also in the cultivation of coconuts, and the number of plants issued by the Agricultural Department in the year was sufficient for the planting up of 240 acres. The value of exports of copra and nuts in the year was £243.

32. *Sugar.*—Sugar is grown only for local consumption, and reliable statistics of the area under cultivation and produce reaped are not available. The good prices now being obtained should stimulate production. Attention is drawn in paragraph 19 to the quantity of muscovada sugar imported.

Land Settlement.

33. An estate, known as St. Cyr Mountain Estate, situated about ten miles from St. George's, was acquired by Government, at a cost of £2,814, the final expenditure after survey and making of roads being £3,597. The estate roads provided give access from every lot to the byeways of the district. The purchase of this estate marks a new departure in the land settlement scheme. The main object of the system is to establish peasants on unworked lands for the purpose of increasing the production of local foodstuffs, of which there is an insufficient supply in the island. A portion of the St. Cyr Estate is under cocoa, and 36 lots bearing cocoa or mixed cocoa and nutmeg trees have been allotted to peasants at prices ranging from £14 to £35 an acre. The remaining 84 lots were under bush or forest, valued at £10 to £12 per acre.

34. The whole of the estate except a small corner is fertile, and is well watered. The climate is humid, the rainfall being about 100 inches per annum.

35. The planting of cocoa by the settlers is limited to supplying vacancies in existing areas, and the main objective of encouragement in the planting of annual crops, especially beans, corn, and ground provisions, is being kept in view by the Agricultural Department.

36. As showing the demand for land, it may be stated that 291 applications for the 120 lots were received. The allottees of the higher priced lots were required to pay not less than one-third of the

value, and the balance in five annual instalments. Uncultivated lots were given on payment of one-twelfth the value, with eleven years to pay the balance. Interest at 5 per cent. is charged on unpaid instalments.

37. It may be mentioned that the land settlement scheme is of interest only to local peasants, the extent of land available for purchase and settlement being too limited to institute a scheme of settlement for others than natives or residents of the Colony.

Manufactures.

38. The only manufacture of any importance in the Colony is that of rum. Twelve distilleries were at work during the year, the production amounting to 60,639 proof gallons. 49,035 gallons were duty paid for consumption in the year.

39. A small soap factory continues to flourish in a small way, its existence being fostered by free imports.

40. An ice factory exists, and receives an annual subsidy from the Government.

III.—LEGISLATION.

41. The Ordinances passed in 1915 numbered 31, the most important being No. 3, an Ordinance vesting the Queen's Park in trustees for certain public purposes; No. 5, to restrict alienation of small allotments under the Land Settlement Scheme; No. 7, a Money Lending Ordinance fixing the maximum rate of interest at 12½ per cent.; No. 17, a Dogs' Licence Ordinance to effect better control of registration and licensing; No. 24, an amendment of the Public Health Ordinance, providing for better sanitary arrangements, and two Ordinances imposing respectively additional taxation on rum, and a war tax on cocoa.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary.

42. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from Colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from Colony's funds. The Government schools number 11, and Grant-in-Aid schools 46. The latter are divided among the religious denominations as follows:—

Roman Catholic	26
Anglican	13
Wesleyan	5
Church of Scotland	2

43. The grant-in-aid of primary education from Colonial revenue was £7,229, as compared with £6,333 in 1914–15.

44. The number on the rolls and average attendance at the schools were as under:—

	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.
1915–16	12,281	5,988
1914–15	11,895	5,910

Secondary Schools.

45. The Grenada boys' school had 68 pupils on its roll at 31st March, 1916, a decrease of nine as compared with the previous year. Twenty-four of this number were exhibitioners from primary schools.

The expenditure amounted to £1,328, and the receipts from school fees to £296.

46. The pupils of the girls' school numbered 28, including five exhibitioners. £108 was received in fees, and the total expenditure was £440. The school suffers from the competition of several excellent private schools, which have been in existence for many years.

47. The St. Joseph's Convent School receives an annual Government grant of £150, and easily maintains its leading position in regard to number of pupils.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) Colony Hospital.

48. There are 140 beds at this hospital, and the number of patients admitted during the calendar year was 1,887, as compared with 2,382 in the previous year; 931 were discharged cured, and 857 relieved, while 99 died and 123 remained in hospital at the close of the year. The number of paying patients was 65, the revenue received from these being £95. The expenditure amounted to £3,343, the annual cost per patient being £9 2*s*. 6*d*. The daily dietary cost, including medical comforts, per patient was 6*d*.

49. The major surgical operations performed numbered 108.

50. Out-patients formerly treated at the hospital are now attended to at the Government dispensary at Melville Street, which was opened during the year.

51. There is a maternity ward attached to the hospital, to which 63 women were admitted during the year. The number of confinements was 50. Four premature births occurred, and two were still-born. There were no deaths among the mothers.

(*b*) Yaws Hospital.

52. A large increase in the number of patients took place, due to greater activity of the Sanitary Inspectors in discovering sufferers from the disease. 663 were treated as compared with 460 in 1914. Only 20 were treated with salvarsan, sufficient supplies of the drug being unobtainable. The number of beds is 70, and the total expenditure amounted to £753, as compared with £671 in the previous year. The annual cost per patient was £8 2*s*. 0½*d*., the daily cost for dietary per patient being 3¾*d*.

(*c*) St. Andrew's Hospital.

53. This hospital has 12 beds. 220 patients were treated during the year, being 12 fewer than in the preceding year. 208 were discharged cured, and 5 as improved, while 7 deaths occurred. The average number of inmates was 12. The total expenditure was £470, and the cost per patient was £34 4*s*. 4*d*. The daily cost per patient for dietary was 9½*d*.

54. A dispensary, which supplies the parish of St. Andrew, is attached to this hospital, and its cost is included in the amount given above. 1,364 prescriptions were for hospital patients, and 12,766, making a total of 14,130, were compounded for inhabitants of the parish. Free prescriptions numbered 8,674, and payment prescriptions 5,456, the receipts from the latter amounting to £168.

(*d*) Carriacou Hospital.

55. 24 beds are provided at the Carriacou Hospital. The total number of patients treated was 252, of whom 200 were cured and 21 were discharged relieved. Eight deaths occurred. The expenditure amounted to £734, and the cost per patient was £33 4*s*. The daily cost per patient for dietary alone was 6·86*d*.

56. A Government dispensary is attached to the hospital, and supplies Carriacou and the Southern Grenadine Islands. The total number of prescriptions issued was 4,179, of which 1,257 were for hospital patients. The free prescriptions numbered 1,354.

(*e*) Hospital for Consumptives.

57. This hospital provides 20 beds, and 54 patients were treated during the year, 25 being males and 29 females. There were 27 deaths, most of the cases admitted being in an advanced stage of the disease

and offering little hope of cure. 18 patients were discharged during the year. The total expenditure of £415 gives an annual cost per patient of £31 4*s*. 6*d*., the daily cost per patient for dietary alone being 10½*d*.

58. The hospital, which was erected in 1914, is situated outside the town of St. George, on a hill about 600 feet above sea level. The hospital and grounds are kept in excellent condition.

(*f*) Lunatic Asylum.

59. The lunatic asylum has 120 beds. 132 persons were treated during the year, the admissions being 22, and the number discharged 19. Six deaths occurred. The total expenditure was £2,455, and the annual cost per patient £22 9*s*. 5½*d*. The daily dietary cost per patient was 6¼*d*.

£362 was contributed by St. Vincent in refund of cost of patients from that Colony.

(*g*) Poor Asylum.

60. 58 beds are provided at this institution, 38 for males and 20 for females. The accommodation was fully occupied throughout the year. On a total expenditure of £588 the annual cost per inmate works out at £10 12*s*. 8*d*. The daily cost per patient for dietary alone was 5½*d*., and inclusive of medical comforts 6*d*.

61. The lunatic and poor asylums, situated on Richmond Hill, are under the direct charge of the Colonial Surgeon, who deserves credit for the satisfactory condition in which these institutions are invariably maintained.

(*h*) Government Dispensaries.

62. Government dispensaries are established in St. George's, St. Andrew's, St. Patrick's, St. Mark's, and in Carriacou. Medicines are supplied free of cost to paupers, labourers' children under 10 years, labourers over 60 years, police constables, and prisoners. Free medicines are also supplied to all labourers suffering from the following diseases:—Yaws, syphilis, malaria, and ankylostomiasis.

(*i*) Ankylostomiasis Campaign.

63. The operations undertaken by the local branch of the International Health Commission, under the charge of Dr. Macdonald, for the eradication of hookworm disease were vigorously carried on throughout the year.

64. On a population of 19,000 examined, it has been ascertained that hookworm infection exists to an extent of seventy-five per cent., and from the variety of this population examined it is reasonable to

assume that infection to the same extent exists throughout the Colony. Infection by intestinal parasites of one kind or another existed in ninety-nine per cent. of about 19,000 examined.

65. Thirty per cent. of the people treated during the year have been cured.

66. The educative purpose of the Commission, in addition to the investigation and treatment of cases, has been kept well in the foreground, and Dr. Macdonald reports that the sympathetic co-operation of the leading members of the agricultural community, the clergy, the press, and the medical profession, has been given readily towards that end.

67. Realising that no improvement in the health of the people as the result of treatment for hookworm can be expected to be permanent unless the sources of infection are removed, the Government have amended the Public Health Ordinance and Regulations to provide for more effective disposal of human excreta. Pit closets have also been erected at Government schools, and arrangements are being made for public latrines in villages where the conditions are unsuitable for pit closets at individual houses.

68. The details given below indicate the progress that has been made in the work of the campaign :—

Summary of operations to March 31, 1916 :—		
Population dealt with	19,456	——
Number examined	18,592	96% of population
Number infected :—		
With hookworm	13,964	75% of examined
With trichuris	14,486	78% ,, ,,
With ascaris	14,897	80% ,, ,,
With all parasites	18,316	99% ,, ,,
Number treated for hookworm infection	13,850	99% of infected
For all reasons	14,187	——
Number cured	4,183	30% of infected

(j) Savings Bank.

69. This institution has been greatly affected by the competition of savings departments started in connection with the Royal Bank of Canada and the Colonial Bank. A further decline in the number of depositors was shown in the year's returns, 1,517 being on the bank's list at 31st December, 1915, as compared with 1,714 twelve months previous.

70. Withdrawals exceeded deposits by £3,515, and the amount standing to the credit of depositors was reduced to £20,423.

The average amount per depositor is £13 9*s.* 3*d.*

71. The unfortunate position has arisen of the invested funds in the name of the Bank now standing at £2,877 in excess of the Bank's funds, the latter figure being in fact money belonging to the Colony. The difficulty of realizing the investments in the present state of the market places the colony at some disadvantage, as the Treasury is short of actual cash, and an overdraft from the Crown Agents of approximately the same amount as the overinvestment of Savings Bank moneys was necessitated at the close of the financial year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(*a*) Police.

72. The Police Force consists of one Chief of Police, one Sergeant Major (now absent on duties connected with the War), and 81 non-commissioned officers and men. In addition there are: 1 armourer sergeant (for the Windward Islands), 1 bugler, and 2 civilian clerks. About 150 rural constables are also appointed.

73. In addition to usual police duties, the administration of poor relief is carried out by the Police Department. A heliograph service between Grenada and the Island of Carriacou is also worked by selected members of the force.

(*b*) Prisons.

74. The prison at Richmond Hill is capably managed by the Superintendent, Mr. Charles Riggs, who maintains excellent disciplinary control.

75. An unusual number of admissions took place during the year, the total increase being 54 per cent. over the previous year. The factors contributing to this increase are given by the Superintendent as increased activity on the part of the police, the imposition of short sentences, and increased number of committals to prison in default of payment of fines. Juvenile offenders increased from 15 to 19, and females from 80 to 154.

76. The daily average in prison was 59, and the annual cost per head £32 3*s.* 5*d.*

(*c*) Criminal Statistics.

77. The Attorney General reports:—"The number of persons broguht before the magistrates was 3,086, an increase on the three preceding years 1912-14 of 494,522, and 531 respectively. The summary convictions numbered 2,221, as against 1,762 in 1914.

There were 283 convictions for prædial larceny. Comparing these figures with previous years, it is regrettably obvious that this form of crime is again on the increase. In 1912 the convictions numbered 185, in 1913, 260, and in 1914, 190. Thirty-one persons were indicted in the Supreme Court; 24 were convicted and 7 acquitted. There was one case of rape, none of murder or manslaughter, during the year. To sum up, on perusal of the returns, classified under heads, it appears that there have been increases under all heads in the number of convictions in respect of every form of crime. There were 246 convictions for 'offences against property' as against 208 in 1914, and 373 for 'offences against the person' as against 322 in 1914."

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

78. The estimated population on 31st December, 1915, was 71,567. The natural increase in population was 671, but was reduced by an excess of emigration over immigration amounting to 186, the net increase being thus 485.

79. The births during the year numbered 2,415.

80. The deaths numbered 1,744, and the death rate for the whole Colony was 24·36 per thousand. The rate varied in the different districts, ranging from 31 and 30 in St. John's and St. David's, respectively, to 22 in St. Patrick's and St. Mark's, and being only 9 in Carriacou.

81. The records show that dysenteric diseases affected a great mass of the people, and that malaria was to some extent epidemic. Of the 1,744 deaths, 689, or 40 per cent. of the total, were due to dysentery and diarrhœa and enteritis. In the parish of St. John this percentage rose to 50. Deaths from malaria numbered 147, the highest mortality from this disease occurring in the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Patrick.

82. The infantile mortality is fairly satisfactory as compared with other tropical countries. The number of deaths under one year of age gives a percentage of total deaths of 24. On the other hand, deaths between the ages of one and fifteen years are excessive, the percentage of total deaths rising to 36.

83. This excessive mortality in early age is probably due to preventible causes which may disappear with the adoption of measures for improved sanitation throughout the Colony.

Meteorological Observations.

84. The rainfall at Richmond Hill Station was 72·57 inches, 10·70 more than in 1914, and 5·67 more than the average of the preceding three years. The maximum rainfall at this station in one year was in 1892, when 105·89 inches were recorded.

85. The maximum temperature in the shade was 92·0 on 8th October, and in the sun 137·0 on several dates in the same month. The minimum in the shade was 70·0, occurring on several dates.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(a) Postal Service.

86. The following statement shows the main business transacted by the Post Office during 1915 as compared with the previous year:—

	1914.	1915.
Letters and Post Cards	645,214	558,537
Newspapers, Books, &c.	286,899	210,582
Parcels	11,238	7,938
Registered and Insured Letters ..	15,953	10,858
Money and Postal Orders issued	£33,092	£18,751
do. paid		£11,566
Revenue	£2,658	£1,576
Expenditure	£3,254	£3,150

87. Receipts from passenger fares in connection with the Motor Mail Service are collected by the Post Office, and £519 was carried to general revenue from this source during the year. To this service the Post Office makes a contribution of £350 per annum for conveyance of mails. The demand for seats has been regularly in excess of the accommodation, and provision has been made for larger cars.

88. The contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for the conveyance of foreign mails was terminated on 27th December, 1915. Irregularity in arrival and despatch of European mails has been further increased by irregular sailings of the steamers plying between this Colony and New York. Regularity in the latter service—which places Grenada within seven days of New York—would lessen to a great extent the inconvenience caused by the uncertainty of the mails for Europe. Admiralty demands on the Company make this impossible at present. Since the termination of the mail contract, the Canadian steamers, at the instance of the Government at Ottawa, now call at all the British islands on both the up and down voyages, and communication between neighbouring colonies has in consequence been only slightly adversely affected. The expense of the Canadian service is borne entirely by Canada, and is evidence of the desire of the Dominion to assist, apart from the Reciprocity Agreement, in the development of the British West Indies.

(b) Telegraphs.

89. There is no inland telegraph service. A subsidy of £600 per annum is paid to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, in return for which the Colony receives a daily news bulletin and participates in reduced charges for cablegrams.

(c) Telephones.

90. The telephone system gives an extensive service at moderate rental rates. A subscription of £7 [illegible]. per annum entitles the subscriber to connection with all the districts of the Colony, including five district exchanges, there being no fees for trunk calls. The system is remunerative, the revenue last year being £2,339 and the expenditure £2,269. The trunk lines have a mileage of 159, and there were about 592 miles of lines connecting subscribers with the exchanges.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS

91. The prosperity of the Colony has not suffered by the disturbance of general trade caused by the War. On the contrary, the general wealth of the main section of the people—the planting community—has increased on account of a long continued period of high prices for cocoa and spices. A record crop of the former was produced. The Colony's good fortune extended even to adequate freight facilities, and the prolific crop of cocoa was safely brought to market, in London and New York, in time for disposal at the prevailing high quotations.

92. The past year will not only be notable for the fortuitous combination of circumstances so favourable to the Island's prosperity, but will ever be memorable to the inhabitants of the Colony from the recruiting of a native contingent for service in the War. This is an event in the Colony's history of which Grenadians have every reason to be proud. A draft for the British West Indies Regiment was raised and dispatched to England in the autumn, and a further draft was recruited early this year. In men and in financial aid to the war expenses the Colony has done well in proportion to her population, trade, and revenue. There is abundant evidence in the Colony of loyalty to the Throne and pride in the Empire.

H. Ferguson,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
15th August, 1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
871	Barbados	1914–1915
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914–1915
874	British Guiana	,,
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914–1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia	,,
881	East Africa Protectorate	,,
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	,,
902	Somaliland	,,
903	Cyprus	,,
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON.
PRINTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E

1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 918.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1915–16.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 880.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

March, 1917.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C., and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W.;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LTD., LONDON W.C.

1917.

[Cd. 8434-5.] *Price* 1*d. Net.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—Financial	4
II.—Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
III.—Education	10
IV.—Government Institutions	10
V.—Judicial Statistics	11
VI.—Vital Statistics	12
VII.—Postal and Telephone Services	13
VIII.—General Remarks	13

A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1913–14, No. 836. [Cd. 7622–27].

No. 918.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 880.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR

Government House,
Saint Lucia,
5th January, 1917.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of my Annual Report on this Colony for the year 1915–16.

I have, etc.,

GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir G. B. Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.
Grenada.

(C351) Wt.47019/1099. 1,000 & 90. 3.17. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1915–16.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The financial position of the Colony at 31st March, 1916, was as under :—

	£	s.	d.
Surplus Funds at 1st April, 1915	13,879	13	4
Total Local Revenue for the year 1915–16 ..	72,642	14	2
	£86,522	7	6
Total Local Expenditure for the year 1915–16	73,956	19	9
Surplus at 31st March, 1916	£12,565	7	9

showing a deficit on the year's administration of £1,314 5*s.* 7*d.*

The total assets of the Colony at 31st March, 1916, amounted to £72,003 7*s.* 7*d.*, and the liabilities totalled £53,445 10*s.* 7*d.*, leaving a surplus of £18,557 17*s.* 0*d.*, made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Surplus and Deficit Account (as above) ..	12,565	7	9
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	5,992	9	3
	£18,557	17	0

Revenue.

The following extract from the Auditor's Report is illuminating on this head :—

" The total local revenue amounted to £72,642 14*s.* 2*d.*, the largest on record, being £7,511 6*s.* 9*d.* in excess of anticipations and £15,815 15*s.* 6*d.* more than the collections for the previous year. This satisfactory result is largely attributable to the measures adopted by the Government to restore financial equilibrium in the Colony. Early in the year an Ordinance (No. 3 of 1915) was passed to increase import duties, as a temporary expedient, on luxuries (beer, ale, porter, whisky, cigars, cigarettes, other manufactured tobacco and snuff) and the *ad valorem* duties were augmented by one tenth of the existing duties on certain selected articles. Export duties were also introduced under Ordinance No. 5 of 1915 and imposed on sugar, cocoa, lime juice and extracts therefrom, pimento, and hardwood; these duties realising £2,857 17*s.* 3*d.* Import duties totalled £35,326 8*s.* 9*d.*, the highest figure touched since the record year 1911–12 when the sum of £35,781 13*s.* 7*d.* was realised for this item. The increased shipping business resulting from the temporary closing of the Panama Canal was reflected in the receipts for port and harbour dues (Head 2) which exceeded estimates by £2,225. Excise duty also gave better results for the year and passed anticipations by the substantial sum of £1,682 13*s.* 11*d.* Stamp duties contributed £290 1*s.* 9*d.* towards excesses over estimates. Income tax, underestimated at £1,650, gave £2,008 3*s.* 2*d.* Under head 4 there were unexpectedly large receipts for hospital fees from

members of the military garrison which mainly account for an excess of £236. Postal revenue fell short of anticipation by £314—a result due to decreased sales of stamps to stamp dealers, but there was a small excess as compared with the previous year. Land sales improved, giving a total of £887, the best result since 1909–10, and £437 more than anticipated."

Expenditure.

"The local expenditure for the year was £73,956 19*s.* 9*d.*, exceeding the estimates by £8,962 13*s.* 6*d.*, and being more than in the previous year by £5,441 15*s.* 7*d.*; this may be said to be mainly due to the effect of the War, which is indicated in the large disbursements occurring under the head Miscellaneous. Considerable savings, aggregating £2,069, were effected under the majority of expenditure heads. It will be seen by the following items occurring under head 20, Miscellaneous, that the War, was responsible for the greater portion of the excess of £9,901 as compared with estimates, although the £2,000 for the gift of cocoa covers expenditure incurred and properly belonging to the former year and not included in the original estimates for the year under report. The item of £985 16*s.* 2*d.* adjusts an error in the accounting operations also relating to the previous year.

"Miscellaneous expenditure not included in original estimates :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Gift of cocoa to His Majesty's Forces ..	2,000	0	0
Expenses of Overseas Contingent	3,719	18	11
Mobilisation, &c., Local Forces	2,028	12	3
Allowance to Military in lieu of exemption from import duties	706	9	11
Loss on Sale of Stock	985	16	2
	£9,440	17	3

Heavy rains at the end of September caused much damage to main roads and by-ways and called for additional expenditure under Public Works Recurrent."

The Auditor further reports :—

"At the 31st March, 1916, the surplus assets of the Colony stood at £12,565 7*s.* 9*d.*, a reduction of £1,314 5*s.* 7*d.* during the year, but when it is considered that larger sums of abnormal expenditure, due to the War conditions which unfortunately existed throughout the year and still continue, were incurred, the position is far from being unsatisfactory, and equilibrium between normal revenue and expenditure has been re-established with a safe margin for the future. The revenue was the largest yet recorded and the expenditure has been charged with large advances, part of which were incurred in the former year and are unlikely to recur to a similar extent in the future. Altogether the year has been one of sound financial recovery from the apparently hopeless position recorded at the close of the former financial period."

The revenue derived from licences for the sale of liquor was £1,733 12*s.* 6*d.*, and the number of such licences issued during the year was 229.

Public Debt.

The public debt at the close of the year stood at £155,879 11*s.* 0*d.*, as against £138,030 in 1914–15. This increase is due to the issue of £20,000 local debentures during the year raised under Ordinance No. 19 of 1915 for extension and improvement of roads in the Colony. Debentures amounting to £2,150 were redeemed in the year under report. The accumulated sinking funds towards the redemption of the public debt stood at £25,453 6*s.* 4*d.* at the close of the year under review.

Currency.

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper coins. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents. by the bank and most of the mercantile firms, the dollar being equal to 4*s.* 2*d.* The War has had no effect on the currency.

Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery, "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates and dues, market dues, and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The total value of the imports amounted to £265,932 18*s.* 6*d.*, and was £40,219 less than in the calendar year 1914.

Exports.

The total value of the exports amounted to £401,915 14*s.* 10*d.*, of which £153,540 12*s.* 8*d.* represented the value of the produce of the Colony, £235,992 10*s.* 0*d.* bunker coal, £2,586 5*s.* 10*d.* ships' stores, and £9,796 6*s.* 4*d.* other exports.

The exports for 1915 exceeded the previous year by £160,493. Of this sum £53,883 represents an increase in the value of the produce and manufacture of the Colony; the value of bunker coal increased from £128,638 in 1914 to £235,992 in 1915.

Reciprocity Agreement with Canada.

The following are the imports under the general and preferential tariffs from the United Kingdom, Canada, Newfoundland, and British Possessions, with the loss of revenue under the preferential tariff :—

	Under General Tariff.	Under Preferential Tariff.	Total.	Loss of revenue under Preferential Tariff.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	66,482	6,244	72,726	155
Canada	1,566	18,919	20,485	470
Newfoundland ..	243	2,846	3,089	38
British Possessions ..	2,633	1,941	4,574	29
	£70,924	£29,950	£100,874	£692

The Preferential Agreement was extended to British Possessions, parties to the Agreement, in December, 1914. The loss of Revenue for the year was £692, as against £711 in 1914.

Of the total imports of flour in 1915, amounting to £17,191, £8,585 came from Canada as against £8,097 in 1914. It will thus be seen that the importations of this article from the United States of America and Canada in 1915 were about equal, which signifies a development of trade in favour of Canada, which in 1914 supplied us with two-fifths of the total as against three-fifths by the United States.

The total value of imports from Canada for the last two years is appended :—

	£
1914	17,892
1915	20,485

There was a falling off of £7,450 in the value of the exports to Canada, due to non-shipment thereto during the year by the Cul-de-Sac Company of any portion of their sugar. The Company sold their crop in the United Kingdom, where better prices obtained, and so made no shipment to Canada.

Coaling Trade.

The coaling trade did not do as well in 1915 as in the two years previous to the War, and this was due to a falling off, owing to the War, in the number of steamers that called for coal.

	Tons.	£
1912	134,783	166,312
1913	117,532	141,038
1914	95,893	128,639
1915	90,939	96,445

Mines, Manufactures and Fisheries.

There are no mines in the Colony. Apart from the fish caught and consumed locally, fisheries are confined to spasmodic catches of turtle both shell and green, but chiefly the latter.

The sugar factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieux-Fort, and Dennery were all working during the year.

The Government Lime Juice Factory has continued its operations with increasing success. During the year under review the factory has been placed on a business basis and the management has been transferred to an Advisory Committee subject to direction by the Administrator. It was also decided to double the manufacturing capacity of the factory and for this purpose the Government loaned to the management £700 on the security of the buildings and plant. On account of the War there has been considerable delay in procuring the necessary machinery, and for this reason at the time of writing the enlargements have not been completed.

A bay oil factory capable of dealing with a large quantity of oil per annum has been established by private enterprise. It is anticipated that this will expand into a bay rum industry of appreciable dimensions. As bay trees are numerous in the Island and rum is also manufactured locally, the two main ingredients for the manufacture of bay rum will be procurable on the spot, and this should enable successful competition with any other place producing the same article from imported ingredients.

There are two rum distilleries in the Island at Cul-de-Sac on the Leeward, and Troumassee on the Windward coast.

Agricultural Industries.

Lime cultivation is making rapid progress and the value of the lime-juice exported during the year 1915 (£7,312) exceeded that for the preceding year by £1,740.

The value of the export (the only available indication of the production) of cocoa in 1915 was £51,495, as compared with £38,846; the amount exported (10,347 bags) was more by 2,377 bags than the export in the preceding year. The value of sugar exported in 1915 was £89,466, as compared with £46,279 in 1914.

A small quantity of cotton was again produced in the Choiseul district. The export figures were 3,200 pounds of lint, valued at £160, and 80 cwt. of seed, valued at £23. This is an industry which will not repay attention in this Colony.

The planting of coconuts is increasing. The quantity shipped was 67,206 nuts, valued at £204; and 137 cwt. of copra, valued at £121, also figures among the exports.

The year was a better one for honey, the exportation being valued at £401, which is £131 more than in the previous year.

Considerable activity on the part of the Agricultural Department and better prices for produce brought about by the war have proved a great incentive to local agriculture. Throughout the Colony increasing interest is being evinced and more intelligent and more modern methods are gradually but surely being introduced. Fresh lands are being opened up, especially for lime cultivation; whilst the growth of ground provisions is being stimulated, every effort is being

put forth by the Government to assist planters and peasants. A road scheme has been launched which, amongst other road improvements, will connect the capital town of Castries with Dennery on the Windward coast by a good motoring road.

Under the terms of Ordinance No. 14 of 1915, the machinery was created for inaugurating Agricultural Credit Societies in the Colony for providing members with financial assistance for agricultural purposes under the Raiffeisen system, the Registrar of the Royal Court being appointed the Registrar of the Societies under the Ordinance.

Land Grants.

Forty-eight Crown Grants were issued during the year, the acreage disposed of being 669 acres, as compared with 290 acres in 1914–15. The price of Crown land is at the rate of £1 per acre up to 50 acres and 10*s*. per acre for each acre above that number, and is payable one-fifth on application, and the balance in four annual instalments. The applications for the purchase of land numbered 62 in respect of 1,249 acres. During the year regulations were passed by the Government dealing specially with land settlement of persons possessing capital of £2,000 to £3,000, who have served with His Majesty's Oversea Forces or come from without the Colony.

Shipping.

The following figures give the number and tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared during the last four years :—

	Number.	Tons.
1912	1,699	3,475,413
1913	1,670	3,528,539
1914	1,482	3,176,747
1915	1,103	2,373,709

In 1915, 573 sailing vessels, aggregating 18,763 tons, entered and cleared.

Owing to conditions due to the War, there has been a cessation of the large trade hitherto carried on with South American ports, and the falling off in tonnage was to be expected under the circumstances. Trade revived somewhat in the latter part of the year as a result of the silting up and consequent closing of the Panama Canal, which caused the diversion to St. Lucia of many steamers that otherwise would have gone through the Canal.

Of 551 steamers that entered the port during the year, 383 bunkered and took 94,397 tons of coal. These figures do not include coal taken by warships.

Public Works.

A fairly comprehensive scheme for road construction was adopted by the Legislative Council and a loan of £20,000 was floated locally to provide for its cost.

The work on improving the roads between Castries and Dennery was begun so as to establish a main artery for traffic.

Work was begun in connection with the extension of Choiseul village.

The waterworks for Dennery Village were completed and formally opened by the Administrator on the 25th June, 1915.

III.—EDUCATION.

The following figures are furnished in the annual report of the Inspector of Schools :—

	1914.	1915.
Number of Schools	52	52
,, on rolls	7,493	7,359
Average attendance	5,319	4,970
Number examined	6,439	6,438
Government Grant in Aid ..	£3,985	£3,988

Of the 52 schools 45 are Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 East Indian Mission.

The grant-in-aid of primary education was, in 1915, the same as in previous years, £4,000. Of this sum the amount expended was (*a*) on teachers' salaries, £3,929 ; (*b*) on the salary of the Education Officer, £54 ; (*c*) special grants for purchase of garden tools, £5 ; making a total of £3,988.

Of the two schools of secondary education, St. Mary's College, for boys, receiving a Government grant of £400 per annum, had an average attendance of 63 ; St. Joseph's Convent School, for girls, receiving a Government grant of £150, had an average attendance of 107.

During 1915, 208 cases were brought before the Magistrate of the 1st and 2nd Districts under the Primary Education Ordinance, 1913, for non-attendance at school. Convictions were made in 46 instances, the remaining cases being withdrawn by order of the Court with a warning to the parents to send their children to school more regularly.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals, &c.

The Victoria Hospital at Castries is the one general hospital for the Colony. The daily average number of patients was 70 ; the expenditure on the institution amounted to £2,038. A scheme for the construction of a wing for private paying patients has now been approved and commenced.

The Lunatic Asylum, situated at La Toc, near the entrance of the harbour, is a good stone building capable of accommodating 80 to 100 patients. It is managed by the house surgeon of the Victoria Hospital. The daily average number of patients was 76. The expenditure amounted to £1,271.

Small buildings are provided in the out-districts at Soufrière, Dennery, and Vieux Fort, which are used as casualty hospitals for accident and emergency cases.

The General Poor Asylum is at Malgretoute, on the sea beach within a mile of the town of Soufrière, and the daily average number of inmates during the year was 68·7. The expenditure amounted to £930. This provision for paupers is supplemented by an out-door relief system under the supervision of the Police Department.

During the year an old military building adjacent to the Lunatic Asylum has been converted into an alms house capable of housing nine persons.

The Yaws Hospital is in the vicinity of the Poor Asylum. There was a daily average number of patients of 43·2, and the expenditure for upkeep amounted to £585. The voluntary influx of patients for treatment with the drug "Arseno-benzol" continued unabated during the year, and 443 cases were treated. The Medical Officer in Charge, Dr. A. F. Hughes, reports that up to the time of his report he had treated 1,188 cases, and that out of this number there had been 63 cases of recurrence of the disease. In this latter connexion, the medical officer refers to the difficulty of his distinguishing between *bona fide* recurrences and cases of re-infection.

There are visiting stations at various points where medical officers attend regularly on fixed days for the treatment of out-door cases of sickness.

There is a public library in Castries towards which the Government gives a grant of £150 per annum, and which receives from the municipality a contribution of £25 per annum. In Soufrière there is also a small library to which the Government grants £20 a year, and a modest institution of the same kind in Dennery also receives Government aid to the extent of £5 a year. At the date of writing a small library has been opened in Vieux Fort, supplemented by a grant of £5 from town funds.

Savings Bank.

The amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year showed a slight decrease; the amount remaining on deposit on 31st December being £21,993 as compared with £22,461 in 1914.

The investments in England on account of the bank stood at the 31st March, 1916 at £15,916.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.—In addition to the ordinary police work, the police force carries out a considerable number of duties in connection with the details of administration, such as the enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths, and in certain districts is in charge of the post offices and telephone exchanges. The total expenditure on the department was £4,052.

Prisons.—The number of persons committed to the Royal gaol in 1915 was 518. The daily average number in confinement was 39·35 as compared with 34·43 in 1914.

The health of the institution was highly satisfactory, the average number on the sick list being only 0·46, the lowest on record.

The expenditure on the establishment was £1,062, approximately the same as last year. The total estimated value of prison labour is stated to be £402.

Criminal Statistics.—The statistics for the year present no prominent feature calling for special comment.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar of Civil Status estimates the population at the 31st March, 1916, to have been 52,282—24,115 males, and 28,167 females; the population at the same date in 1915 was estimated at 51,590. The figures, however, do not take account of either emigration or immigration, and are based solely on the natural increase, the census figure of 1911 being taken as the starting point.

The birth-rate of the Colony (excluding still-births) was 33 per thousand of the population, being 33.9 in 1914–15. The births numbered 1,821. The death-rate was 19·7 per thousand, while in the previous year it stood at 18·7 per thousand. The number of deaths was 1,129. There were two deaths from snake-bite, and one from scorpion bite.

Marriages numbered 217, a decrease of 8 as compared with 1914–15.

Public Health and Sanitation.—All the medical officers report the health conditions of the year to have been favourable, and there is, generally, nothing in the reports calling for special mention.

The campaign against rats was systematically carried out during eleven months of the year, 2,022 rodents being captured. A staff of labourers, under a special sanitary officer, was employed on this work, and their services were also utilised for cleaning streams and drains and on other sanitary measures around Port Castries; some useful anti-mosquito work was also accomplished. The use of "millions" fish was continued in practicable places, but, as a good part of the year was unusually dry, their usefulness was somewhat diminished. In the out-districts, yards and premises were frequently inspected by the police, and the Chief of Police states that there were 78 convictions for offences against the sanitary regulations, as against 29 in 1914–15.

During the year the hookworm campaign, inaugurated at the expense of the International Health Commission, continued its work under the direction of Dr. Stanley Branch, a local District Medical Officer seconded for this purpose. The Colony is much indebted to the Commission for providing the necessary means to combat this devastating disease so deleterious to the health and efficiency of the labouring classes. Side by side with this campaign, the Government is adopting measures for the improvement of the sanitary conditions in the Colony generally.

Climate.—The average annual rainfall for the Island, recorded at 33 stations, was 95·16 inches; it was 64·88 inches in 1914. The highest recorded rainfall was at Uplyme, with 148.09 inches, and the lowest was at Black Bay estate, in the Vieux Fort district, with 68·67 inches. The year was the wettest recorded for the last twenty years.

VII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers was terminated at the end of 1915. The steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique (which touch at Castries going and coming *en route* between French Guiana and the northern French Colonies) paid their usual visits, as did the vessels of the Quebec line (which call on their passage to and from New York). The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's service, under contract with the Canadian Government, between Canada and the West Indies, commenced in November, 1913, and has been regularly carried out from that date. This service provides for a fortnightly call at St. Lucia of the steamers going to and from Canada.

The total revenue of the Post Office was £1,154, and the total expenditure £2,145.

The principal postal statistics for the last two years are as follows:—

	1914–15.	1915–16.
Letters and Postcards:—		
Sent	91,062	94,494
Received	93,954	95,761
Inland: Sent and received ..	82,766	85,269
Parcels despatched	430	649
,, received	2,637	3,082

There is a regular and daily postal communication under local contract between Castries and the leeward coast towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the island communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

All towns and villages in the Island are connected by telephone with Castries. There were 238 miles of line in operation during the year, and the subscribers numbered 162 at the end of the year. The number of messages delivered was 92, and 568 threepenny tickets were sold to non-subscribers using public telephones. The revenue amounted to £993, and the expenditure to £370.

VIII.—GENERAL.

St. Lucia has escaped much of the distress, sufferings, and hardships of this War period. Although food is dear and sometimes difficult to procure, work is plentiful and always obtainable by the honest labourer.

The Colony's financial position is sound and there is an appreciable balance in the Treasury. The prices of agricultural products are booming, though freight rates are high. The Colony is evincing her gratitude for these benefits by considerable private contributions to War charities. Contingents have been raised locally at the Colony's expense for overseas service. In every way open to them the people of St. Lucia are loyally and patriotically doing their best to assist the Empire in the great crisis that has arisen.

GIDEON MURRAY,

Administrator.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
8th December, 1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1914–1915
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	"
887	Fiji	"
888	Sierra Leone	"
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
890	Gambia	"
891	Trinidad and Tobago	"
892	Hong Kong	"
893	Ashanti	"
894	Gold Coast	"
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	"
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	"
902	Somaliland	"
903	Cyprus	"
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	"
906	Grenada	1915–1916
907	Falkland Islands	1915
908	Bermuda	"
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915–1916
912	Barbados	"
913	Leeward Islands	"
914	Uganda	1915–1916
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	"
	Nyasaland	1915–1916

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 942.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1916-1917.

(For Report for 1915-1916 see No. 906.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1917.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET
LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LTD., LONDON, W.C. 2.

1917.

[Cd. 8134-29.] *Price* 1*d. Net.*

CONTENTS.

		PAGE
I.	Financial	4
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	5
III.	Education	8
IV.	Government Institutions	8
V.	Judicial Statistics	9
VI.	Vital Statistics	10
VII.	Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services	10
VIII.	General	11

A Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15 No. 852: [Cd. 7622-43].

No. 942.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1915–16 see No. 906.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Grenada,
Windward Islands,
29th August, 1917.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit the annual report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1916–17.

I have, &c.,

G. B. HADDON-SMITH,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Walter H. Long, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(C412) Wt.47019/1099. 1,000 & 90. 11.17. B.& F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

REPORT ON THE GRENADA BLUE BOOK FOR 1916–1917.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1917, amounting to £112,759 is by far the highest yet recorded. It is the first time it has exceeded £100,000.

2. The increase is mainly attributable to improved returns from Customs duties, the revenue of £46,842 from imports having exceeded the estimate by £6,242. Export duties brought in £14,382, of which £5,339 was on account of the War Tax on cocoa. Excise duties and internal revenue, owing chiefly to an increase in duty of 6*d.* per proof gallon on rum, produced £33,574, the increase over the estimate being £5,129.

3. The improvement in Customs receipts and Excise is an indication of better trade and prosperous financial conditions, a result which was expected from the record cocoa crop and good markets of the preceding year. It is generally in the year subsequent to that of a good cocoa crop that any effect appears on the revenue returns, and the year just ended has been no exception to the rule. War conditions do not seem to have prejudicially affected the inclinations of the community towards a higher standard of living with its accompanying expenditure on luxuries, from which the revenue has correspondingly benefited.

4. It was expected that an overdue collection of estate duty estimated to amount to over £8,000 would have been received in the past year, but the sum has not yet been paid.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure, amounting to £106,603, exceeds the record expenditure of last year. It includes a sum of £11,641 expended on the maintenance throughout almost the whole of the financial year of the third contingent, together with the cost of separation allowances and other expenses incidental to the drafts that had already left the Colony.

6. The revenue and expenditure in the last two years have been as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
1915–16	£96,420	£103,992
1916–17	112,759	106,603

Financial Position.

7. The surplus assets at 31st March, 1917, amounted to £60,628, having been augmented during the year by £6,156.

The Public Debt at the same date was £123,670, the amount being unchanged. The accumulated sinking fund for its redemption amounted at 31st March, 1917, to £42,984, as against £40,230 at the same date in 1916, £1,237 having been contributed from general revenue and £1,517 being the interest on the invested sinking fund.

Finances of District Boards.

8. The revenue and expenditure of the six district Boards of Grenada in the financial year ended 31st March, 1917, were as follows :

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
St. George's	4,278	4,171
St. Andrew's	2,950	3,099
St. Patrick's	2,201	2,513
St. John's	1,632	1,666
St. Mark's	963	690
St. David's	921	921

The total loan debts of the Boards at the same date were £24,610. These loans are being repaid either by sinking funds or by annual instalments towards redemption.

CURRENCY.

9. Gold, silver, and bronze coins are in circulation, and are legal tender to any amount. Gold is extremely scarce; notes of five dollars denomination and silver are the mainstay of monetary exchange in the Colony.

There are two banks established in the Colony, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

10. The total value of imports during 1916 was £343,437, an increase of £82,942, or over twenty-four per cent. as compared with 1915.

11. The principal increases were in articles of apparel and imported foodstuffs. Cotton piece goods and cotton manufactures increased by £15,678, apparel by £2,036, and boots and shoes by £2,100. Imported foodstuffs increased in the case of butter by £1,016; biscuits, bread, and cakes by £831; confectionery, by £736; salted meat, by £2,370; salt fish, by £3,074; and flour, by £5,670; all these representing increased quantities as well as increased values. Imports of articles that may be classed as luxuries also increased, such as beer and ale by £1,091 (from 9,770 gallons to 15,127 gallons); wine, by £1,056 (from 5,570 gallons to 7,877 gallons); and motor cars, by £2,413, or including parts, £3,853. As previously remarked, these increases are indicative of an increase in the standard of living.

12. The origin of imports and percentage of total trade during the last two years were as follows:—

	191		1916	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage
	£		£	
Total	260,495	—	343,437	—
United Kingdom.. ..	90,436	35	120,880	35
British Colonies	71,161	27	79,034	23
Foreign Countries ..	98,897	38	143,522	42
United States (alone) ..	86,632	33	128,882	37
Canada (alone)	26,987	10	27,697	8

13. The exports amounted in value to £534,233. Compared with the previous year the main products exported were as follows:—

	1915.	1916.
	£	£
Cocoa	402,394	449,944
Spices:		
Nutmegs	25,319	31,947
Other kinds (principally mace)	17,122	17,145
Cotton	8,490	14,543
Cotton seed	1,979	1,545

14. The destination of the exports and the percentage to total exports are shown in the following statement:—

	1915		1916	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Total	466,318	—	534,233	—
United Kingdom ..	300,923	64	347,280	65
British Colonies . ..	11,995	3	19,953	4
Foreign Countries ..	153,400	33	166,999	31
United States (alone) ..	153,235	33	166,706	31
Canada (alone)	3,681	·7	11,517	2

Total Trade.

15. The total trade, represented by combined imports and exports, during 1916 amounted to £877,670, as compared with £726,813 in 1915.

Agriculture.

16. *Cocoa.* The crop exported in the last completed crop year ended 30th September, 1916, amounted to 80,034 bags of 180 lbs. each, a record which exceeds by 6,171 bags the highest previously recorded. This quantity is equivalent to 128,626 cwts. or 14,406,120 lbs.

17. Thrips disease was reported as being very prevalent towards the end of 1916, and several planters complained of serious loss of crops. Steps are being taken to prevent the spread of the disease. In view of the reported loss from thrips, the returns of the current crop are somewhat astonishing, as there is every indication that the present year's crop will be the second highest on record, and will approach very closely the record of last year. It is probable that the total crop will not fall short of 77,000 bags.

18. The value of cocoa exported in the calendar year 1916 was £449,944, equal to 84 per cent. of the total exports of the Colony.

19. *Spices.*—Nutmegs and its by-product mace are the principal spice products exported. There has been a steady upward tendency in production for the past six years. Last year's crop was very satisfactory, amounting to 1,940,965 lbs. and good prices were realised.

20. The value of spice exports in 1916 was £49,092, representing nine per cent. of the total exports.

21. Cocoa and spices together account for 93 per cent. of the total value of the Colony's exports.

22. *Limes.* A large increase in production took place during the past year. The progress made by this recently introduced industry may be seen from the following statement of crops, expressed in terms of barrels of fruit.

	Barrels of fruit.
1914	2,684
1915	8,396
1916	27,265

23. The exports in 1916 were 150,525 gallons of raw juice and 7,500 of concentrated juice, of a total value of £14,486.

24. *Cotton.*—The crop produced was less than in 1915, being 3,116 cwts., as against 3,293, but owing to high market prices the value rose to £14,543 from £8,490 in the previous year.

25. The value of the cotton-seed exported was £1,545, as compared with £1,979 in 1915.

26. *Subsidiary crops.*—Sugar-cane cultivation, despite high sugar prices, shows little sign of extension, and there is not enough grown to meet local consumption. The position may be realised by the fact that muscovado sugar amounting to 1,278,338 lbs. in weight and £11,021 in value was imported last year, principally from Barbados, Trinidad, and St. Vincent. Encouragement has been steadily given by various means to the production of foodcrops known generally as ground provisions, but although there is a large peasant and agricultural labourer class there is less produced than is required. Imports from Barbados and St. Vincent supply the deficiency. A stirring campaign that has recently been inaugurated should have the effect of greatly increasing the output in the coming year.

INDUSTRIES.

27. Rum is manufactured at fourteen distilleries. The quantity produced in 1916 was 62,992 proof gallons. No rum is exported, as the local consumption is sufficient to meet all that can be produced.

28. An ice factory is established in St. George's, and, under subsidy by the Government, maintains a constant supply of ice in each parish of the island and Carriacou, for sale at moderate prices.

SHIPPING.

29. The tonnage of vessels entered at Grenada during the last three years was as follows :—

1914	689,120
1915	425,188
1916	361,302

The steamer tonnage included in the above in 1916 amounted to 351,388. Steamers calling at Grenada seldom remain longer than a day or two, so that for all practical purposes the tonnage of vessels entered may be taken as the tonnage cleared.

III.—EDUCATION.

Primary.

30. Two new schools were placed on the list of grant-in-aid schools at the end of the financial year, and these, together with Government schools (the latter supported entirely from Colonial revenue) now number fifty-nine. Roughly speaking, there is now a school for every two square miles of the Colony.

31. The grant-in-aid of primary education was £6,573, as compared with £7,229 in 1915–1916.

32. The denominational schools are divided as follows:—Roman Catholic, 27; Anglican, 14; Wesleyan, 5; Church of Scotland, 2. The remaining 11 primary schools are under direct Government control.

33. The number on the rolls and average attendance at all schools were 11,755 and 6,488 respectively.

Secondary.

34. The Grenada boys' school, established by Government as a secondary school five years ago, was under the charge during that time of Mr. D. Hedog Jones, M.A., who resigned in July last on the expiration of his engagement. He was succeeded in January by Mr. H. W. McCowan, M.A., under whose control the school is well maintaining its position. Seventy-three pupils were on the roll at 31st March, 1917, as compared with 68 a year earlier.

35. The Girls' School was brought to a close during the year, as the small number of pupils, owing to the existence of other well managed girls' schools, rendered its continuance unjustifiable. On its cessation an Anglican Girls' High School was started under assistance of a grant of £150 from the Government.

36. The St. Joseph's Convent School receives a similar grant, and has a roll of 72.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Hospitals.

37. The Colony Hospital in St. George's has 140 beds; 1,855 patients were treated during the year, and the daily average in hospital was 120. Attached to the hospital are a private ward and a maternity ward. There were 18 admissions to the former and 118 to the latter.

38. There are district hospitals in St. Andrew's parish, and in the island of Carriacou, containing 12 and 24 beds respectively.

39. The Yaws Hospital in St. George's has accommodation for 70 patients. 318 cases were treated as against 663 during the previous year. Despite the lower number received into hospital, there is no evidence, according to the Colonial Surgeon's report, that the number of cases of yaws in the districts is decreasing. Other causes, such as difficulty of transport, have contributed to the decline in numbers at the Yaws Hospital.

40. A hospital for consumptives, opened in 1913, provides 20 beds, and occupies a favourable site on a hill about 600 feet above sea level. Thirty-nine patients were treated during the year, of whom six were discharged, and thirteen remained at the end of the year.

(b) Asylums.

41. The Lunatic Asylum, with 120 beds, accommodates patients from St. Vincent as well as Grenada. The number remaining at the end of the year was 112, of whom 15 belonged to St. Vincent.

42. The Poor Asylum provides for fifty-eight persons, thirty-eight male and twenty females. The great majority of the inmates are advanced in age.

(c) Government Dispensaries.

43. A new Government Dispensary was opened in St. David's at the end of the financial year, and with the exception of St. John's—where there is a subsidised dispensary—Government dispensaries are now established in each parish of the Colony and in Carriacou. They supply medicine free of cost to certain people, and at a reduced rate of payment to the labouring class.

(d) Ankylostomiasis Campaign.

44. The operations against hookworm disease have been conducted by the International Health Board since 1914, and about half of the Colony has been overtaken in that period. During the last year 7,218 persons were examined, of whom 5,449 or 75 per cent. were found to be infected. The cures numbered 1,661, a rate of 28·6 per cent.

45. Dr. Angus Macdonald, the former medical officer in charge, resigned in August, and was succeeded by Dr. Howard S. Colwell. Improvement in sanitation, which is necessary to prevent areas from becoming reinfected, is proceeding slowly, and there are now signs of re-awakened interest on the part of the Local Sanitary Authorities, in whose hands the effective administration of sanitary matters really rests.

(e) Savings Banks.

46. The number of Savings Bank depositors decreased during the year from 1517 to 1,483, the latter being the number on the register at 31st December, 1916.

47. The amounts deposited during the year were less than the withdrawals, and the sum standing at the credit of depositors was reduced from £20,423 to £19,613.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(a) Police.

48. There has been no change in the personnel of the Police Force.

(b) Prisons.

49. A large decrease in the number of admissions took place during last year, the admissions being 255 as against 480 in the previous year, or 46·8 per cent. decrease. There was, however, little difference in the case of juveniles, of whom 16 were admitted as compared with 19 in the year 1915.

50. The number of convictions per thousand of the population was 2·8, the lowest rate that has been recorded for several years.

51. The daily average in prison was 44; owing to the fixed establishment charges having to be distributed over a smaller number of inmates, the annual cost per prisoner rose from £32 3*s.* 5*d.* in 1915 to £40 2*s.* 7*d.* The total cost, however, was £1,765, or £132 less than in 1915.

52. The prison is healthily situated at a fair altitude above sea level. The discipline maintained was entirely satisfactory.

(*c*) Criminal Statistics.

53. There was a marked decrease in the number of summary convictions in the year under review, 1,786 as against 2,221 in the previous year. Praedial larceny convictions showed the same substantial decrease, being 153 as compared with 283.

54. In the Supreme Court 37 persons were tried, as against an average of 33 for the three previous years, and 31 in 1915. The convictions numbered 24. There was one case of murder, in which the defendant was found guilty and executed in due course.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

55. The population of the Colony, as estimated at 31st December, 1916, was 73,056.

56. Births during the year numbered 2,602 (1,298 boys, 1,304 girls), the birth rate being 35·60.

57. The deaths were 1,280, giving a death-rate of 17·50 per thousand. This is the lowest rate for the Colony on record. The rate varied in the different registration districts, ranging from 20·8 down to 9·7. The latter rate is that of the dependency of Carriacou, which in the previous year had a death-rate of only 9·0. The average death-rate in Carriacou for the past sixteen years has been 13·1.

58. Excepting enteritis-diarrhoea, which exacts a great toll on infant life, malaria was the cause of the greatest number of deaths, although there were fewer fatalities from this disease (103) than in the previous year (147). The medical reports state that the detachment of the West Indian Contingent stationed at Quarantine Station suffered considerably from this complaint during the months of the wet season.

Meteorological Observations.

59. The mean minimum shade temperature at Richmond Hill Station (St. George's) was 73·5, and the mean maximum 84·5. The highest temperature in the shade was 91·0 on August 28th, and the minimum 70·0 on several dates.

60. The rainfall during the year at this station was 66·96 inches.

VII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(*a*) Postal.

61. British and foreign mails are conveyed by the Canada-West Indies Service (fortnightly), the Trinidad Shipping Company, trading between New York, Grenada, and Trinidad (at frequent but irregular intervals), and by the Scrutton line from Great Britain (monthly).

Occasionally overseas mails are brought from Barbados by sloop or schooner.

62. Mails are conveyed to the districts by local coasting steamer and by a motor car mail service.

63. The postal business transacted is shown in the following statement:—

	1915.	1916.
Letters and postcards	558,537	505,934
Newspapers, books, etc.	210,582	206,973
Parcels	7,938	9,880
Registered and insured letters ..	10,858	12,214
Money Orders issued	..	£14,032
do. paid	..	£10,102
Revenue	£1,576	2,058
Expenditure	£3,150	1,954

(*b*) Telegraphs.

64. Cable communication is maintained by the lines of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which receives a subsidy from the Government of £600 annually. A daily bulletin of press news is issued by the Company. There are no inland telegraphs.

(*c*) Telephones.

65. The telephone service, established more than a quarter of a century ago, has an extensive system throughout all the Colony. There are five district exchanges. A moderate annual rental entitles the subscriber to free calls to any part, there being no trunk line fees. The mileage of trunk lines is 159, and there are about 664 miles of subscribers' lines.

VIII.—GENERAL.

66. In spite of the dislocation of trade by the War, Grenada has not been adversely affected to any appreciable extent, and is practically in a stronger financial and economic position than ever before. In the past calendar year the total trade of the Colony, represented by the combined imports and exports, reached a figure greatly in excess of anything previously recorded, and registered a thirty-five per cent. increase over the trade in the year immediately preceding the war. The succeeding months of the financial year saw this condition of things maintained, and the fiscal period, although the expenditure was extraordinarily and unexpectedly large, ended with a surplus of revenue.

67. The extent to which the Colony is dependent on imported foodstuffs, owing to so much of the land being under permanent cultivation—such as cocoa, nutmegs, and limes—has been drawn attention to in past reports. Any extensive development of this feature, which without exaggeration may be stated to have already reached an acute stage and which is receiving the attention of the Government, will injuriously affect the condition of the general community, by restricting the natural source of their food supply.

The problem of the future will be to preserve the balance between an increase of cultivation under permanent crops for export, and preservation of sufficient suitable land for local food crops and meat and milk supplies.

68. A further draft was despatched during the year to the British West Indies Regiment. Most of the last draft had, from unavoidable causes, been maintained in camp for nearly a year, entailing unforeseen expenditure amounting to over £10,000, a relatively heavy item in proportion to the Colony's revenue. By a resolution of the Legislative Council the Colony has accepted liability for allowances, gratuities, and pensions in respect of its recruits up to a maximum of £2,700 annually. In addition to these Government measures in aid of the mother country, the public have subscribed generously to various patriotic funds, especially that of the Red Cross Society, to which a sum of over £3,000 in private subscriptions was remitted during the year. There is no reason to doubt that Grenada will respond readily to any further demands that may be made on her patriotism and loyalty.

HERBERT FERGUSON,

Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,

28th August, 1917.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
908	Bermuda	1915
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915–1916
912	Barbados	"
913	Leeward Islands	"
914	Uganda	"
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	"
917	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
918	St. Lucia	1915–1916
919	Nyasaland	"
920	Nigeria	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	"
925	Zanzibar	"
926	Fiji	"
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	"
931	Gibraltar	"
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	"
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	"
938	Falklands	"
939	Sierra Leone	"
940	Straits Settlements	"
941	Cyprus	1916–1917

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 953.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1916-17.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 835.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1918.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1918.

[Cd. 8973-2.] *Price* 1*d*. *Net*.

No. 953.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1916–17.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The financial position of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1917, was :—

Deficit at 1st April, 1916		£184 5 3
Expenditure in 1916–17 ..	£34,844 3 7	
Revenue in 1916–17	34,669 3 7	
		175 0 0
Deficit at 31st March, 1917		£359 5 3

2. These figures are exclusive of £1,289 10*s.* 4*d.* from the funds of the Rockefeller International Health Board expended for the purposes of a campaign against the ankylostomiasis, or hookworm, disease; and also of the sum of £5 5*s.* 6*d.* spent by the Agricultural Department from Imperial funds.

3. The total revenue and expenditure from all sources in the last two financial years were :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1915–16	£34,844 ..	£35,783
1916–17	35,242 ..	36,139

4. The net local revenue and expenditure in the same two years were :—

	Local Revenue.	Expenditure against Local Revenue.
1915–16	£30,415 ..	£33,499
1916–17	32,444 ..	32,437

5. The principal items of revenue in the last two years were :—

Customs—	1915–16.	1916–17.
Import duties	£12,187 ..	£12,810
Export duties	1,133 ..	1,094
Excise duty on rum	3,933 ..	5,122
Land and House Tax.. ..	3,228 ..	3,185
Income Tax	730 ..	702

6. In respect to four of these items, exclusive of excise duty, the total amount received was less than the estimate by £1,108 18*s.* 5*d.*, and more by £512 13*s.* 5*d.*, than the amount collected in 1915-16. Revenue was obtained for the first time from the exportation of animals, in consequence of the passing of the Export Duties (Animals) Ordinance, No. 2 of 1916, which came into force on the 21st March, 1916.

(C439) Wt. 11/42. 1,000 & 90. 2.18. B.&F.Ltd.. G.11/2.

7. The amount of excise duty on rum received in 1916–17 was £122 2*s.* 5*d.* more than the estimate, and it was £1,188 16*s.* 11*d.* more than was received in 1915–16. The Excise Ordinance, No. 1 of 1916, which came into force on the 21st of March, 1916, increased to five shillings the previous duty on rum of four shillings per gallon.

8. In respect to import duties, £990 less than was estimated was received, though £623 more was received than in 1915–16; and this was the result notwithstanding that an Order-in-Council was brought into force on the 21st of March, 1916, whereby the existing duties were increased by 25 per cent. on tobacco, wine, and spirits, and by 10 per cent. on all other dutiable articles.

9. The increase of £623 on the previous year's revenue from import duties is accounted for by the receipt of about £1,000 in March, 1917, paid upon goods withdrawn from warehouse and entered for home consumption in anticipation of a general increase of 25 per cent. of all import duties which the Legislative Council in that month had publicly resolved to impose for the year 1917–18. Legislation has since been enacted with a view to preventing such abnormal transactions.

10. In Post Office revenue there was an increase of £91 on the estimate and of £603 on the receipts in 1915–16. This was the result of the War Stamp Ordinances, Nos. 13 and 20 of 1916, which required a war stamp of one penny to be affixed to every letter and postal package transmitted to British countries.

11. On the expenditure side there was a saving of £823 19*s.* 10*d.* on the total amount voted from local revenue. No provision was made for extraordinary public works and no expenditure was incurred. In 1916–17, from the balance of the Public Purposes Loan of £2,000 raised in 1915, the sum of £789 17*s.* 3*d.* was spent, leaving a balance of £224 2*s.* 9*d.* to be spent in 1917–18; and from the 1916 War Loan of £2,000 for war purposes, £1,617 16*s.* 2*d.* was spent, leaving a balance of £382 3*s.* 10*d.*

Assets and Liabilities.

12. On the 31st of March, 1916, the Colony's accounts showed an excess of liabilities of £184 5*s.* 3*d.*, and at the close of the year there was a similar excess of £359 5*s.* 3*d.*

13. The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue, under Head 8, and is applied to the relief of the poor.

14. There are also other funds of less importance forming assets of the Colony, which were not derived from taxation. Some of these are extinguishable in time, but others, such as the Graham Bequest Fund and the Thompson Home Fund, are available only to the extent of the annual interest obtained from them.

15. In 1916–17 interest from the Eruption Relief Fund amounting £750 was spent on poor relief, and interest amounting to £182 from the Graham Bequest Fund was spent for medical purposes. During the

same period £533 from the Land Settlement Fund, which is derived from an Imperial Grant-in-aid in 1898, was spent on the maintenance of roads.

Public Debt.

16. The public debt at the close of the year stood at £8,700, as against £6,700 in 1915–16. This increase is due to a War Loan of £2,000 raised under the authority of Ordinance No. 28 of 1916 by the local issue of eight debentures of £250 each, at 5 per cent. interest, to meet the cost of the St. Vincent contingent of the British West Indies Regiment. Included in the debt is a loan of £1,500 raised by the Kingstown Board in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible in case of default.

17. The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £5,626 19*s.* on the 31st of March, 1917. On that date there had been received from planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £3,994 6*s.* 1*d.*, of which £3,734 3*s.* 1*d.* was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

18. The accumulated sinking funds provided for the redemption of the public debt of £8,700 stood at £675 on the 31st of March, 1917.

Currency.

19. British and American gold, five-dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

20. The total revenue and expenditure of the towns during the last two years was :—

Town.	Revenue. 1915.	Revenue. 1916.	Expenditure. 1915.	Expenditure. 1916.
Kingstown	£1,982	£1,809	£1,860	£1,776
Georgetown	160	158	364	146
Calliaqua	67	64	101	72
Layou	55	66	61	35
Barrouallie	82	75	116	77
Chateaubelair	40	40	42	47
Bequia	17	20	35	4

Debts of Towns.

21. At the 31st of March, 1917, the towns were indebted to the Government for the following balances of loans made to them :—

			£	s.	d.
Kingstown Board—					
For repairs to Rose Place drain	£90 15 1				
Improvement Loan	222 0 0				
			312	15	1
Georgetown, Improvement Loan			276	0	0
Calliaqua, Water Supply Loan			332	10	0
Layou " " "			176	0	0
Barrouallie " " "			152	0	0
			£1,249	5	1

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates. As mentioned under "Public Debt" earlier in this report, Kingstown is also indebted in a further sum of £1,500 in respect of a loan in 1914 for which debentures were issued to the public, and for which the Colony is responsible in case of default.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

22. The total values of imports and exports in 1915 and 1916 were:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1915	£90,892 ..	£98,545
1916	92,331 ..	97,860

Of the £97,860, produce of the Colony was exported in 1916 of the value of £91,665.

23. The places whence the imports came and the values for the last two years are:—

	1915.	1916.
United Kingdom	£33,825 ..	£36,619
Canada..	15,490 ..	19,812
British West Indies	7,531 ..	7,551
India	864 ..	830
Newfoundland..	5,592 ..	2,326
Other British Colonies ..	423 ..	314
United States of America ..	21,464 ..	21,005
France	1,874 ..	1,764
Denmark	1,068 ..	345
Germany	5 ..	—
Holland	636 ..	355
Foreign West Indies	352 ..	328
Other Countries	1,768 ..	1,082
	£90,892 ..	£92,331

24. From the foregoing figures it appears that imports were principally derived in 1916 from the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada, and in percentages of 39·66, 22·75 and 21·46; and that the value of imports from all other countries was only 16·13 per cent. of the total.

25. Of the £92,331 of imports, £37,347 was the value of articles classified under "Food, Drink, and Tobacco," and £43,647 the value of manufactured articles.

Exports.

26. The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1915 and 1916 were as follows:—

	1915.	1916.
United Kingdom	£63,925	£46,648
Canada	3,595	10,801
United States of America	1,203	2,931
British West Indies	23,655	27,434
Other Countries	109	3,851
	£92,487	£91,665

The increase in the value of exports to "Other Countries" is mainly due to the export of cattle to Martinique.

27. The principal products of the Colony exported were:—

	1915.	1916.
Arrowroot	£44,689	£37,619
Cotton—		
Sea Island	20,604	13,893
Marie Galante	1,521	1,368
Cocoa	7,005	5,214
Sugar—		
Crystallised	—	2,541
Muscovado	3,253	6,979
Syrup and Molasses	503	1,475
Animals	5,054	8,332

28. The reduction in the exports of arrowroot was due to shortage of tonnage, and in the case of cotton the reduction was due to both shortage of tonnage and a decreased output.

Manufactures and Fisheries.

29. The Government Cotton Ginnery continued to buy seed-cotton from peasant growers under the profit-sharing scheme described in the Blue Book Report for 1910–11. Of the Sea Island variety, 132,239 lb. of seed-cotton was bought in 1916–17, and 164,784 lb. of Marie Galante. Some of the ginned cotton is still awaiting shipment so soon as the exigencies of the War will permit of the Controller of Shipping providing tonnage for the purpose. The profits cannot therefore be ascertained, and there has consequently been no distribution of bonuses yet among the sellers.

Agricultural Industries and the Agricultural Department.

30. The adverse effects on the Sea Island cotton industry of successive seasons of unfavourable weather conditions and also of severe attacks of the cotton stainer and internal boll diseases caused a further diminution of the area cultivated. Only 2,401 acres were planted for the 1916–17 crop, as against 2,622 acres in 1915–16 and an annual average of 4,200 acres in 1910–14. The crop was 160,168 lb. of lint, and it was 295,411 lb. in 1915–16.

31. The yield of lint per acre was 66 lb., the lowest recorded. The average annual yield since 1905 is 118·7 lb.

32. Notwithstanding past unsatisfactory results planters have increased the cultivation of Sea Island cotton in the hope of obtaining high prices in 1917–18.

33. In 1897 the quantity of sugar exported was 6,411,564 lb. Since then the decrease in the output was continuous in successive years down to 1913, when the quantity exported was only 250 lb. The history of the Colony shows that the soil of St. Vincent is eminently capable of producing sugar-canes. Of late years plantations with muscovado sugar works were principally cultivated in cotton and arrowroot, but the high war prices of sugar and the fluctuations in the cotton crops during the last few years have stimulated planters to put their sugar works in order and to plant a considerable area of sugar-cane.

34. The following table shows the exports of muscovado sugar, syrup, and molasses in the last four years :—

Year.	Sugar. lb.	Value. £	Syrup and Molasses. gals.	Value. £	Total Value. £
1913 ..	250 ..	2 ..	3,252 ..	171 ..	173
1914 ..	281,990 ..	1,586 ..	8,904 ..	252 ..	1,838
1915 ..	505,232 ..	3,253 ..	10,079 ..	503 ..	3,756
1916 ..	1,198,314 ..	9,520 ..	33,771 ..	1,475 ..	10,995

35. The price of arrowroot was maintained at a remunerative figure. The crop was 4,441,242 lb. in 1916, as against 5,290,781 lb. in 1915.

36. There were 15 Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies, with 578 members. Interest in the system is being well maintained by the peasant proprietors who form these societies.

37. Cotton-breeding, the improvement of Indian corn, manurial experiments, and entomological investigations continued to be the principal subjects of the work done at the Experiment Station of the Agricultural Department.

38. The cotton stainer bug proved to be the most injurious pest of cultivated cotton, not only because of the staining of lint but also from its association with certain destructive internal boll diseases. In consequence of examinations and tests having shown that the stainers feed and breed on the silk-cotton tree (*eriodendron anfractuosum*) and the John Bull tree (*thespesia populnea*), the Cotton Stainer Ordinance was brought into force on the 25th of July, 1916, to make provision for the destruction of trees upon which the cotton stainer is accustomed to feed. In the campaign carried out by the Agricultural Department under this Ordinance from August, 1916, to the end of June, 1917, silk-cotton trees to the number of 1,552 and 11,570 John Bull trees, as well as many thousand seedlings, were destroyed, at a total cost of £295.

39. Of land under the Land Settlement Scheme in St. Vincent, 25 allotments containing 39 acres were sold for £128 12*s.* 3*d.*, and of Crown lands, 14 allotments containing 234 acres were sold for £166 6*s.*

SHIPPING.

40. The number of vessels entered was 323, of 171,078 tons; and 327 cleared, of 169,843 tons. One vessel, of 12 tons, was registered in 1916.

III.—EDUCATION.

42. The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1915–16 and 1916–17 :—

	1915–16.	1916–17.
Number of schools	27 ..	27
Number of pupils on Roll at 31st March	4,060 ..	4,173
Average attendance	1,973 ..	2,037
Government grant-in-aid ..	£1,637 ..	£1,753
Cost per head in average attendance	16*s.* 7*d.* ..	17*s.* 2*d.*

43. Eight of the 27 regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other 19 schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

44. In 1915–16 there were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants. In 1916–17 the number was reduced to eight.

45. The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School, and one for girls—the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1915–16 and 1916–17 was 43 and 41 boys and 26 and 21 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

46. At the Agricultural Experiment Station six lads of the peasant and mechanic class are instructed by the Assistant Agricultural Superintendent in practical agriculture. These pupils are apprenticed for two years and they receive graded allowances in proportion to the length of their apprenticeship. They live with their parents or guardians and come to the Station every day to their work. The land attached to the Station is planted by the pupils in various products, such as cotton, arrowroot, sugar-cane, cassava, etc.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

47. During 1916–17 there were 1,049 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 1,105 cases treated. In 1915–16 the number of cases treated was 901. The daily average was 55 in 1916–17. It was 57 in the previous year. The death rate was 4·3 per cent. of the 1,105 cases treated. The number of operations performed was 187, a decrease of one as compared with the number in 1915–16.

48. There were 49 lunatics under detention and treatment at Fort Charlotte, of whom 10 were new admissions ; 2 were discharged cured and 3 died.

49. In the Leper Asylum 11 patients were maintained.

50. The number of inmates of the Pauper Asylum on the 31st of March, 1916, was 62. During 1916–17 there were 32 new admissions.

51. At the Yaws Hospital 97 cases were treated in 1916–17, and 73 of these were discharged cured. At the usual district dispensaries and

at special travelling dispensaries 1,621 other yaws patients were treated during the year, 616 of whom were cured.

52. The Casualty Hospital at Georgetown, with four beds, continued to fulfil its purpose of providing the means of treating emergency cases.

Savings Bank.

53. The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalised.
		£	£	£
1915	1,130	5,210	6,743	17,223
1916	1,072	5,111	5,724	17,058

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st of December, 1916, amounted to £18,143 2*s.* 5*d.*

V.—JUDICIAL.

54. The police force consisted of a Chief and 48 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties as sanitary inspectors and, in connection with district post offices, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the operation of district telephone exchanges ; and the warders of the Kingstown Prison, except one, are members of the police force. The fire brigade of Kingstown consists of police constables, who receive supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

55. The total number of convicted persons committed to prison in 1916–17 was 207, of whom 100 were men and 107 women. There were also 46 juveniles who were whipped by order of magistrates, but not detained in custody. The average number of prisoners in the Kingstown Prison was 24·24, as compared with 25·37 in 1915–16.

56. The number of cases reported to the police during the year was 438. The number of persons brought before the magistrates was 1,571. The number of summary convictions was 869, and the number of convictions in the Supreme Court was 5, as compared with 973 and 13 in 1915–16. In the Magistrates Courts 442 persons were discharged for want of prosecution and 260 were acquitted on the merits of the case. In the Supreme Court the jury returned verdicts of not guilty in three cases.

57. On charges of praedial larceny 113 persons were convicted. The number in 1915–16 was 97.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

58. The population of the Colony in 1911 was 41,877, according to the census taken in that year. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population on the 31st March, 1917, is 49,422. This estimate is based on the census return for 1911 with corrections for births, deaths, immigration, and emigration.

59. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	1915–16.	1916–17.
Births	1,724	1,731
Males	896	875
Females	834	856
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	35·7	37·4
Deaths	885	961
Death-rate per 1,000	18·3	19·4
Marriages	111	84
Marriage rate per 1,000	2·3	1·6

60. Illegitimate births numbered 1,175, or 67·87 per cent. of the total number of all births. The percentage in 1915–16 was 62.

61. The campaign undertaken by the International Health Board for the eradication of the ankylostomiasis, or hookworm, disease, was carried on throughout the year by Dr. P. B. Gardner. Of 8,834 persons examined, 4,894 were found to be infected with hookworm. The number treated was 3,918, and of these, 3,335 were cured. In connection with the campaign, measures for faecal sanitation under Public Health Regulations were carried out for preventing soil pollution so as to avoid re-infection and new infection. New latrines to the number of 459 were erected at homes located within the area in which the campaign was conducted during the year.

62. The rainfall at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 115·25 inches in 1916–17, as against 114·99 in 1915–16 and 72·67 in 1914–15. The average rainfall in the Island of St. Vincent, as recorded at the Experiment Station and other places, for the year 1916 was 120·84 inches, as against 111·60 in 1915 and 86·71 in 1914. For 1916 the highest recorded rainfall was 150·23 inches at Bellewood, and the lowest was 76·87 at Georgetown. The figures for the past 18 years show that June to November are the months in which most rain falls.

63. Rain fell on 284 days in 1916–17, and the greatest fall for one day was 6·88 inches on the 3rd of November, 1916.

64. An extraordinary rainfall was experienced in all districts during the 23 days from the 21st of October to the 12th of November, 1916, and much damage was done to lands, crops, and roads. The total rainfall in that period, measured at the Botanic Gardens near Kingstown, was 36·17 inches. Of this, 10·57 inches were recorded in the last 11 days of October and 25·60 inches in the first 12 days of November.

65. The reading of the barometer corrected for instrumental error, elevation, and temperature, ranged from 30·153 inches on the 6th of February to 29·814 on the 7th of October, 1916.

66. The mean monthly temperature in 1916–17 was 79° F. The highest was 80·8° F. in September, 1916, and the lowest was 75·6° in February, 1917.

67. The highest temperature recorded was 89° F. on the 15th of September, 1916, and the lowest was 66° F. on the 3rd and 8th of February, 1917.

VII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

68. Steamships of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, under contract with the Canadian Government, continued to call at St. Vincent once a fortnight on their outward voyages to British Guiana and on their homeward voyages to Canada; and during the year seven steamers of the Direct Line also brought and took cargo and mails. Mails were also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Grenada, where there is direct communication by steamer with the United Kingdom and the United States.

69. The Postal Department, with headquarters in Kingstown and 17 district post offices, continued to provide facilities for the transaction of postal business. Mails were sent to the Windward side of the island by motor-car and by boat to the Leeward side and to the Grenadines.

70. There is no inland telegraph service. A subsidy of £300 a year is paid to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company in return for which the Colony receives daily news bulletins and participates in a system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

71. The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with all the police stations in the small towns and villages and with the places of residence and business of renters. Payment of ten shillings a month entitles a renter to be put in communication with all the districts of the Colony. There were 78 telephones rented by the general public, while 74 were attached to Government Departments for official use. A small charge is made for messages sent by persons who are not renters of telephones. There were 77 miles of trunk lines and 76 miles of lines connecting renters with the exchanges. The revenue in 1916–17 was £684 18*s.* 3*d.* and the expenditure was £603 16*s.* 3*d.*

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

72. The general dislocation of trade and the shortage of ships due to war conditions continued to have a detrimental effect throughout the year. There were successive increases in the prices of foodstuffs and other imported articles, and there was some difficulty in obtaining ships for exporting the products of the Colony.

73. Though the usual sources of revenue were supplemented by an increase in the import, excise, and export duties, and by a War Stamp for postal purposes, the year's transactions resulted in a deficit of £359 5*s.* 3*d.*, notwithstanding every effort to reduce expenditure.

74. Loyalty and patriotism continued to be displayed by those who volunteered to join the contingents for the British West Indies Regiment for war service abroad.

75. The Administrator, Mr. R. P. Lobb, C.M.G., left St. Vincent on the 20th of March, 1917, for St. Lucia to take up the appointment of Acting Administrator of that Colony.

ANTHONY DE FREITAS,
Acting Administrator.

Government House, St. Vincent,
10th October, 1917.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	,,
925	Zanzibar	,,
926	Fiji	,,
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
931	Gibraltar	,,
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	,,
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	,,
938	Falkland Islands	,,
939	Sierra Leone	,,
940	Straits Settlements	,,
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	,,
943	Jamaica	,,
944	Somaliland	,,
945	Swaziland	,,
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	,,
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	,,
952	Leeward Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark St., London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 968.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1917-18

(For Report for 1916–17 see No. 942.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1918.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1918.

[Cd. 8973-17.] *Price* 1*d. Net.*

No. 968.

GRENADA.

REPORT ON THE GRENADA BLUE BOOK FOR 1917–1918.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

The financial year 1917–18 was much less satisfactory in its results than any of its immediate predecessors, and it became necessary to defray part of the current expenditure of the year by utilising £3,252 of the surplus assets; at 31st March, 1918, the surplus was £57,376, as compared with £60,628 a year earlier. This result is due to the failure of revenue from imports to reach expectations, the actual receipts from this source being £6,028 less than the estimate. To a great extent the decline was caused by the restriction towards the end of the year of exports from the United States of America, with which country a large amount of increased trade had arisen in consequence of the prohibition at an earlier stage of the War of exports from the United Kingdom. As the stocks of local merchants have become depleted, it is probable, if prices of the Colony's staple exports keep up, that an abnormal boom in imports may later on replace some of the deficiency in revenue that has occurred.

2. The revenue and expenditure of the past two years have been as follows:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
1916–17	£112,759	£106,603
1917–18	105,540	108,792

3. It will be seen from the foregoing statement that the Colony has enjoyed several years of good revenue, a fortunate circumstance in view of the yearly increasing expenditure, part of which is due to the War. The present taxation includes rates specially enforced for the period of the War, and intended specially to meet War expenditure. The revenue from this source last year more than covered the special War expenditure, and the deficit in the year just closed is therefore an unexpected check. It is the more unsatisfactory from the fact that an additional aid to the revenue was given by a large sum from Estate Duties represented by the balance of duty on a large personal estate that has now passed from the Colony. There is a discomforting indication, apart from the question of temporarily reduced imports, that recurrent expenditure unconnected with the War has reached a point much in excess of ordinary revenue. An additional disquieting feature is the future prospect revealed by the budget of 1918–19, in which a further heavy deficit of £13,751 was intimated.

4. Owing to the relatively high figure to which the surplus assets had attained at the close of the previous year, the deficit in the current year causes little present inconvenience, although the assets themselves are to a large extent locked up in long-period investments or advances, and are not readily realisable.

* A Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15 No. 852: [Cd. 7622-43].

(C495) Wt.11/42. 1,000 & 90. 10.18 B.& F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

Surplus Assets.

5. The principal items of the surplus balance of £57,376 at 31st March, 1918, are :—

Invested in Stocks and War Loans ..	£33,188
Loans to District Boards	14,177
Advances under Land Settlement Scheme	5,310
Stores on hand	4,701
	£57,376

New Local Loan.

6. A Loan of £100,000 bearing interest at five per cent. was issued during the year, for various public works including improvement of roads and water services, construction of an esplanade, and purchase of a dredger. Subscriptions amounting to £59,790 were received by 31st March, 1918. The Loan is free from income tax in the Colony, present or future. The debentures are redeemable in 1947, although the Government has the right to begin their redemption by annual drawings at any time after ten years from the date of issue. Provision towards repayment is made by a sinking fund, the rate for the current year being placed at one per cent., a higher rate not being considered necessary in view of the Colony's assets, which will be liquefiable before the date of compulsory repayment of debentures.

Proposed Additional Taxation.

7. To meet the annual charges for interest and sinking fund on the new Local Loan previously referred to, an Income Tax Ordinance was introduced and passed by the Legislative Council in November, 1917, but has not yet been brought into force.

Public Debt.

8. The Public Debt, which had stood at £123,670 for more than two decades, was increased by the new loan referred to in paragraph 6, and now amounts to £183,460. The sinking fund for redemption of the old loan amounts to £45,746, having been increased during the year by £2,761. Sinking fund contributions in respect of the new loan will commence from 1st April, 1918.

Finances of District Boards.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the six District Boards of the Colony during the past year, and their loan debts at the 31st March, 1918, were as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*	*Loan Debts.*
St. George's ..	£3,916	£3,919	£13,256
St. Andrew's ..	2,841	3,057	1,970
St. Patrick's ..	1,903	2,092	4,632
St. John's ..	1,551	1,570	3,300
St. Mark's ..	852	696	1,200
St. David's ..	934	934	—

The debts are being repaid partly by sinking funds and partly by direct annual repayments.

Currency.

10. Gold, silver, and bronze coins are in circulation, the two former being legal tender without restriction. An erroneous statement was made in last year's report in regard to the legal tender of bronze coins; these are legal tender up to the same amount as in the United Kingdom.

11. The two banks established in the Colony are the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada; each has about 50,000 notes of five dollars denomination in circulation in Grenada, and these notes and silver are the common means of monetary exchange. There is scarcely any gold now in the Colony.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Total Trade.

12. The total trade, represented by the combined value of imports (£353,978) and exports (£480,553), amounted in 1917 to £834,531.

Imports.

13. The principal articles imported (exceeding £5,000 in value) are given below, the increase or decrease as compared with the previous year being indicated:—

Commodity.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Apparel	5,264	—	563
Bags and Sacks	8,728	2,365	—
Biscuits, Bread, and Cakes ..	7,554	—	393
Boots and Shoes	7,661	446	—
Motor Cars, including parts ..	12,699	5,504	—
Cement	5,870	3,173	—
Cotton Manufactures	38,519	—	3,914
Fish, dried and salted	18,850	3,502	—
Rice	10,494	1,278	—
Flour	53,146	12,955	—
Haberdashery and Millinery ..	7,161	1,338	—
Hardware	5,468	1,052	—
Meat, salted and cured.. ..	7,242	583	—
Soap, common	5,584	593	—
Sugar	20,449	4,875	—
Spirits and Wines	6,111	—	2,798

14. With the exception of motor cars, bags and sacks, and sugar, the increased values of imports are the result of higher prices and not of increased quantities imported; on the contrary, with th exceptions mentioned, the quantities have decreased.

15. The greatly increased importation of motor cars and acces sories is somewhat striking. It is the result of the distribution of wealth among a numerous body of landed proprietors, small and large, owing to the high prices obtained for the Colony's exports of cocoa and spices. The trade in motor cars has sprung up since the War, and its value, including parts, was last year £12,699. Almost without exception the cars are imported from the United States of America.

EXPORTS.

16. The exports in the calendar year 1917 were as follows:—

	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
	Cwt.	£	£	£
Cocoa	104,520	412,260	—	37,684
Spices:				
Nutmegs ..	11,818	23,520	—	8,427
Mace	2,048	15,397	—	1,476
Lime Juice ..	—	11,184	—	3,302
Cotton	2,453	9,182	—	5,361
Cotton Seed ..	6,199	2,347	—	802

17. Cocoa shipments to the United Kingdom were valued at £254,760; to the United States of America £147,575, and to Canada £5,519.

Nutmegs were exported principally to the United States of America and Canada, the values being £11,160 and £8,200 respectively, while shipments to the United Kingdom amounted to £4,147.

Mace went principally to the United Kingdom, to the value of £9,569; the United States of America coming second with £3,689 and Canada third with £2,139.

All of the cotton and lime juice from the Colony was exported to the United Kingdom.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

18. The direction of trade is shown in the following table:—

	Imports.		Exports.		Total Trade.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£		£	
U.K.	95,681	27·0	289,293	60·2	384,974	46·1
U.S.A.	157,758	44·6	162,643	33·8	320,401	38·4
Brit. Colonies ..	88,399	25·0	27,409	5·7	115,808	13·9
Other Places ..	12,140	3·4	1,208	0·3	13,348	1·6
Total Value ..	£353,978	—	£480,553	—	£834,531	—

19. The import trade from the United Kingdom decreased by 8 per cent., and the trade from the United States of America increased by almost a similar percentage (actual, 7·6 per cent.). The destination of exports did not vary to quite the same extent; the percentage to the United Kingdom fell by 4·8 and that to the United States of America gained by 2·8.

On the combined trade of imports and exports, the United Kingdom still leads with 46·1 per cent. of the total, followed by the United States of America with 38·4.

Trade with Canada.

20. The progress of trade to and from Canada is shown in the following statement:—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Exports to Canada ..	£1,708	£3,681	£11,518	£15,858
Imports from Canada	23,604	26,986	25,680	25,914

21. According to value, the import trade has remained almost stationary, which indicates, as prices are so much higher, that the actual volume of imports has decreased.

22. The growth of the export trade from £1,708 to £15,858 in the course of four years has exceeded expectations. The exports in 1917 consisted of spices valued at £10,339 and cocoa valued at £5,519. This development of a new market for the Colony's products removes any ground for objection from Grenada to the Tariff Recriprocity Agreement on the plea that it is one-sided. Over and above the equality in actual tariff concessions that has now arisen, the Colony, in common with other West Indian Islands, enjoys the great benefit of the regular Canadian Steamship Service which is subsidised entirely by Canada. The contract for the steamer service expires this year.

Agriculture.

23. *Cocoa.*—It appears that the export of cocoa in the crop year ended 30th September, 1917, amounting to 78,535 bags, was only 1,499 bags short of the record crop of 80,034 bags for the year ended 30th September, 1916. The value of the crop as exported was £486,519.

The thrips disease reported as being prevalent in the preceding year is not yet eradicated, but the attacks are stated to be much less severe. The services of Mr. F. W. Urich, Entomologist of the Trinidad Board of Agriculture, were requisitioned for investigation of the disease, and measures recommended by him to exterminate the pest are being undertaken.

24. *Spices.*—The upward tendency in production that had continued for six years was not maintained, the exports in the crop year ended 30th September, 1917, showing a decrease of 402,079 lbs. in quantity and £16,901 in value. The prices in the current year, it may be mentioned, have increased enormously, promising a very satisfactory monetary return.

25. *Cotton.*—The Marie Galante cotton crop, which is grown wholly in Carriacou, again showed a considerable reduction, the lint produced being 2,453 cwt. as compared with 3,116 cwt. in the preceding year. The high market prices continued throughout the year.

Efforts are being made to grow Sea Island cotton, the cultivation of which in Grenada has not hitherto been successful.

26. *Limes.*—This cultivation is being further extended, and it is reported that between forty and fifty estates and holdings are extending the cultivation. Only very small shipments of juice have so far been made from Grenada plantations. The main cultivation is confined at present to Carriacou, in which dependency a decrease in production occurred during last year. The Superintendent of

Agriculture furnishes the following statement showing the progress of the lime industry :—

	Raw Juice.	Concentrated Juice.	Green Limes.	Otto of Limes.	Total Value.
	Galls.	Galls.	Bbls.	lbs.	£
1914	nil.	2,375	6	nil.	1,375
1915	31,615	3,950	nil.	12	6,407
1916	150,525	7,500	nil.	nil.	14,486
1917	104,617	5,650	nil.	nil.	11,184

27. *Subsidiary Crops.*—Sugar cultivation shows no tendency to expand, although high prices continue to prevail. The value of sugar imported last year was £20,449 ; in point of value it ranks third in the list of imports. The real fact is that with so much of the fertile land being under permanent cultivation of cocoa and spices, there is insufficient fertile land left for any other industry that requires for its success cultivation on a large scale, as does sugar. The tendency is more and more to go in for other permanent crops such as limes and coconuts. Efforts to stimulate production of ground provisions are being vigorously undertaken, with the object of making the poorer classes more independent of imported foodstuffs, which are still imported to too great an extent.

Industries.

28. The manufacture of ice, a necessity for comfort and health in the tropics, is carried on at a factory in St. George's. The Government, by the grant of subsidies, makes the sale of ice possible in all the towns of the island and in Carriacou at reasonable prices, and at specially reduced rates to sick persons.

29. A small amount of sugar of the muscovado grade is manufactured at two sugar mills, while numerous smaller mills make what is locally known as " wet " sugar.

30. Fourteen distilleries were at work during the year, the output of rum being 60,041 proof gallons. None of it was exported ; on the contrary, 1,288 proof gallons of rum were imported from Barbados.

Shipping.

31. The tonnage of vessels entered at Grenada during the last three years was as follows :—

1915	425,188
1915	361,302
1917	375,440

The steamer tonnage entered in 1917 was 365,146, and sailing tonnage 10,294. The same steamer tonnage cleared in the year.

All the steamer tonnage was British ; seven Dutch and eleven Venezuelan sailing vessels of small tonnage entered and cleared during the year.

III.—LEGISLATION.

32. The Ordinances passed in 1917 numbered twenty-one, the most important being the Local Loan Ordinance for raising £100,000 for Public Works, a Venereal Diseases Ordinance, and an Income Tax Ordinance. The last mentioned has not yet been brought into force.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary.

33. Primary instruction is given in 59 schools, 2 having been added during the past year. Eleven of the schools are Government Schools, and 48 are denominational schools which are almost entirely financed by the Government Grant in Aid.

34. At the 31st December, 1917, the number of children on the roll was 10,103, a decrease of 1,652 and the average attendance was 5,918, a decrease of 570 as compared with the returns of a year ago.

35. The Government expenditure on Primary Education in 1917 amounted to £8,378, as against £6,061 in 1916, an addition of £2,317, the increase arising from increased remuneration to teachers.

Secondary.

36. Secondary education is maintained by a Government Boys' School and by grants of one hundred and fifty pounds (£150) per annum to each of two girls' schools belonging to the Roman Catholic and Anglican denominations respectively.

37. An external scholarship, instituted by Government in 1916, of the value of £875, was won last year by a pupil of the Government Boys' School.

38. Of 129 candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examination, 6 passed in the Senior, 18 in the Junior, and 19 in the Preliminary. Most of the successes were gained by pupils of the Government Boys' School. Three of the candidates in the Senior gained Honours, one of these being a pupil of the Anglican Girls' High School.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) Hospitals.

39. The Colony Hospital in St. George's has 140 beds, the Carriacou Hospital 24, and the Hospital in St. Andrew's parish 12 beds. In addition, there is in St. George's a Yaws Hospital with accommodation for 70 patients and a Consumptive Hospital with 20 beds.

(*b*) Asylums.

40. The Lunatic Asylum, which receives patients also from St. Vincent, has 120 beds. It is pleasantly situated on Richmond Hill, St. George's, about 600 feet above sea level.

41. The Poor Asylum, with 38 beds for males and 20 for females, is on a site adjacent to the Lunatic Asylum. Most of the patients are of advanced age, and it is practically a hospital for incurables.

(c) Other Institutions.

42. Government Dispensaries are established in each parish, except St. John's and in Carriacou. In St. John's a private dispensary receives a Government subsidy. The cost of free medicines exceeds £1,000 annually.

43. The Ankylostomiasis Campaign, conducted from funds supplied by the Rockefeller Foundation, was temporarily suspended from the end of November, 1917, owing to the resignation of Dr. Colwell for War service. The difficulty of obtaining another medical officer on account of the United States participation in the War has prevented a resumption of work up to the present.

(d) Savings Bank.

44. A further decrease in Savings Bank business occurred during the year, the number of depositors at the 31st December, 1917, being 1,451 and the amount at credit of depositors £17,660, as compared with 1,483 and £19,613 a year earlier. The rate of interest given on deposits is 3 per cent. The issue by Government of a Local Loan bearing interest at 5 per cent. may have had an effect on withdrawals, but part of the decrease in deposits is due to financial stress among a certain section of the community.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(a) Police.

45. The Police Force consists of one officer in command, a sergeant-major, and eighty-one non-commissioned officers and men, in addition to one armourer sergeant (for the Windward Islands), one bugler and two civilian clerks. A large number of rural constables are enrolled and are employed on special occasions. Five of the non-commissioned officers and men are on active service with the British West Indies Regiment.

(b) Prisons.

46. The number of admissions during the year was 362, as compared with 255 in 1916. 296 were convicted, 120 of these being old offenders. The convictions included 107 females. The majority of the sentences of the latter were for periods not exceeding one month.

47. The expenditure on the prisons amounted to £1,998 as against £1,765 in 1916, the increase of £233 being due partly to the greater number of prisoners and partly to the higher cost of articles supplied The annual cost per prisoner was £15 3*s.* 0¾*d.*

(c) Criminal Statistics.

48. An appreciable increase of summary convictions occurred in the year under review. The number of such convictions for 1917 was 2,293, an increase of 370 over the average of the previous three years and of 507 over the number in 1916. 178 of the increase was, however, in respect of revenue, municipal and other laws relating to the social economy of the Colony, there being a slight decrease, as compared with the average of the three previous years, of offences against the person. There was one case of rape, no case of homicide, and no case of offence against property with violence.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

49. The population at the end of the year 1917 was estimated to be 73,373.

50. The birth-rate was 34·9, as against 35·6 in 1916. The births numbered 2,561.

51. The death-rate per 1,000 was 20·06, as compared with 17·5 in 1916. The death-rate varied according to parish from 22·8 to 15·6. The number of deaths was 1,472.

52. The cause of the higher death-rate appears to be mainly economic. The high cost of food has resulted in great hardship to the labourers, and the results of deficient and improper food are particularly noticeable in the case of children and those of advanced age.

53. The percentage of deaths under five years of age as compared with other West Indian Colonies is as follows :—

Year.	Colony.	Percentage of deaths under five years.
1916	Trinidad	31·6
1916	Jamaica	41·9
1915	Bahamas	36·8
1917	Grenada	51·0

On this point the report of the Registrar General states :—

" Once the tender years of childhood are past, the mortality becomes very low, the rates from youth to advanced age being much below those of other West Indian Colonies. The deduction to be drawn is that, apart from morbidity due to insufficient or unsuitable food and want of care in the case of the young, the climate of Grenada is extremely healthy."

54. The cause of the greatest number of deaths was Diarrhoea and Enteritis, from which 322 deaths ensued, Malaria, which caused 88 deaths, being far behind as second on the list.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

55. The temperature in the shade ranged from a minimum of 68·0 on several dates to a maximum of 91·0 which occurred on the 20th September. The maximum temperature in the sun was 139.

56. The rainfall, which varies from 30 to nearly 200 inches according to district, was 74·5 inches at Richmond Hill Station (St. George's), at which station the statistics for the annual meteorological return are recorded.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(*a*) Postal.

57. Postal business is transacted at the Post Office in St. George's, and at the Revenue Offices in the other towns of the Colony. There are, in addition, several small sub-offices for the receipt and despatch of letters and the sale of postage stamps.

Foreign mails were received more irregularly than usual during the past year, owing to alterations in shipping services occasioned by the War.

Inland mails continue to be well served by the local coasting steamer and a motor car service.

(*b*) TELEGRAPHS.

58. There is no inland telegraph service.

The Colony is linked up with other places by the cables of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company. A Government subsidy of £600 per annum is given for the service, which *inter alia* supplies a daily bulletin of press news.

(*c*) TELEPHONES.

59. The Colony is well supplied by telephone, the mileage of trunk lines being 159, with about 700 miles of subscribers' lines. The charges are extremely moderate, and give an inclusive service to any part of the Island. There are five district exchanges.

GENERAL.

60. Two further drafts, numbering 244 men, were despatched to the British West Indies Regiment during 1917, bringing the total from Grenada up to 446.

61. The appointment of an Imperial Trade Commissioner for the West Indies, to reside in Trinidad, as announced by the Board of Trade, may prove of great service in the re-introduction of British trade, which has gradually lost ground in favour of trade with the United States of America. The decrease of business with the United Kingdom was almost inevitable owing to the earlier restriction of exports from the home country, and the greater delay and irregularity in executing orders on account of transport difficulties. Other causes, however, have contributed to the transference of trade, a striking instance being that of the motor car industry. Motor transport was introduced into the Colony in 1914, and although among the first half dozen cars one or two were of British make not one of the succeeding cars, numbering about 150, is of British manufacture. The value of the trade last year was £12,699. The greater degree of standardisation and the readiness with which renewals and spare parts can be obtained are factors favouring the American trade.

62. Some part of the transferred trade should naturally revert to the United Kingdom after the War is over. It has to be borne in mind, nevertheless, that it is more difficult to recover a trade that has been lost than to keep it, and that, moreover, steamship communication with the United States of America is speedier and more frequent. It appears evident that a further reduction in cable rates, and improvement of the steamship services to and from the United Kingdom, may have to be considered in any endeavour to re-establish the trade.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
16th July, 1918.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	"
938	Falkland Islands	"
939	Sierra Leone	"
940	Straits Settlements	"
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	"
943	Jamaica	"
944	Somaliland	"
945	Swaziland	"
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	"
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	"
952	Leeward Islands	"
953	St. Vincent	"
954	Uganda	"
955	Nyasaland	"
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916–1917
959	Cayman Islands	"
960	Bermuda	1916
961	Mauritius	"
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	"
964	Seychelles	"
965	Weihaiwei	"
966	Fiji	"
967	Solomon Islands	1917–1918

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark St., London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 977.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1917-18.

(For Report for 1916-17 see No. 953.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1919.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1919

[Cmd. 1.] *Price* 1*d. Net.*

No. 977.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1917–18.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The financial position of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1918, was :—

Deficit at 1st April, 1917 ..				£359	5	3
Revenue in 1917–18	£35,777	7	4			
Expenditure in 1917–18	33,957	5	6			
				1,820	1	10
Surplus at 1st April, 1918 ..				£1,460	16	7

2. These figures are exclusive of £595 0*s.* 4*d.* expended from the funds of the Rockefeller International Health Board for the purposes of a campaign against the ankylostomiasis (hookworm) disease, and of the sum of £2 17*s.* 10*d.* spent by the Agricultural Department from Imperial funds ; and also of the sum of £850, being the accumulated contributions at the close of the year towards the redemption of loans, which have been credited to Revenue and form part of the Colony's gross surplus.

3. In the last two financial years the total gross revenue and expenditure amounted to :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1916–17 ..	£35,242 ..	£36,139
1917–18	37,535 ..	34,555

4. The net local revenue and expenditure in the same years amounted to :—

	Local Revenue.	Expenditure against Local Revenue.
1916–17	£32,444	£32,437
1917–18	35,102 ..	32,706

5. The principal items of revenue in the last two years were :—

	1916–17.	1917–18.
Import duties	£12,810	£13,438
Export duties	1,094	1,682
Excise duty on rum	5,122	5,938
Land and house tax	3,185	3,206
Income tax	702	722

(C513) Wt. 1/155. 1000-90. 2.19. B.&F.Ltd. G.11/2

6. The sums received for customs duties and for export duties in 1917–18 were respectively less than the estimates by £1,562 or 10·4 per cent. and £283 or 14·4 per cent. The decrease in import duties may be ascribed to the shortage of ships, the difficulty of obtaining goods and the higher cost of them. Shortage of tonnage will also account for the decrease in export duties; a large part of the 1917 arrowroot crop could not be shipped before the end of March, 1918.

7. The Excise Ordinance, 1916, which came into force on the 21st of March, 1916, increased to five shillings the previous duty on rum of four shillings per gallon. The revenue from this source in 1915–16 was £3,933. After the rate of duty was raised by 25 per cent. in 1916 the 1915–16 revenue was exceeded in 1916–17 by £1,189 or 30·2 per cent. and by £2,005 or 50·9 per cent. in 1917–18. The 1917–18 increase was due to a diminution in the quantity of cheap spirits imported and also to more money being in circulation, derived from higher prices for cotton and other agricultural products.

8. In Post Office revenue there was an increase of £143 on the estimate for 1917–18 and an increase of £91 on the receipts in 1916–17. This increase was in the main due to purchases by local and foreign stamp-dealers of an unusually large number of penny War Stamps.

9. Though the year's local revenue was short of the estimate, on the expenditure side there was a saving of £1,726 of the total amount estimated to be spent from local revenue. The surplus of £1,460 16*s.* 7*d.* at the close of the year, shown in the first paragraph of this report, was the result of the exercise of economical control of expenditure.

10. The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions of the Soufriere volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this Fund, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue.

11. There are other funds not derived from taxation, such as the Graham Bequest Fund and the Land Settlement Fund. From the Graham Fund contributions are provided to meet certain expenditure in connection with the Colonial Hospital, and from the other Fund, which is derived from an Imperial grant-in-aid in 1898, roads to the settlers' allotments are maintained.

Public Debt.

12. On the 1st of April, 1917, the public debt of the Colony was £8,700. During the year £1,200 was raised by the issue of debentures under the authority of Ordinance 9 of 1917, to be applied towards the cost of reconstruction of the Windward Highway. At the close of the year the debt amounted to £9,900, including a loan of £1,500 raised by the Kingstown Board in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible in case of default.

13. The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £4,823 2*s.* on the 31st of March, 1918, and towards the repayment of which £3,672 2*s.* 9*d.* has been received from planters.

Currency.

14. British and American gold, five-dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

15. The total revenue and expenditure of the chief towns during the last two years were :—

Town.	Revenue. 1916.	Revenue. 1917.	Expenditure. 1916.	Expenditure. 1917.
Kingstown ..	£1,809	£1,952	£1,776	£1,749
Georgetown ..	158	181	146	195
Calliaqua ..	64	59	72	46
Layou.. ..	66	75	35	73
Barrouallie ..	75	76	77	58

16. On the 31st March, 1918, the towns were indebted to the Government for the following balances of loans made to them :—

Kingstown Board—		
For repairs to Rose Place drain ..	£50 15 1	
Improvement Loan	175 0 0	
		£225 15 1
Georgetown Improvement Loan ..		264 0 0
Calliaqua Water Supply Loan ..		323 15 0
Layou ,, ,, ,, ..		160 0 0
Barrouallie ,, ,, ,, ..		144 0 0
		£1,117 10 1

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates. Kingstown is also indebted in the further sum of £1,500, referred to above.

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

17. The total values of imports and exports in the last two years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
1916	£92,331	£97,860	£190,191
1917	122,114	104,397	226,511

18. The chief places whence the imports came and the values for the last two years were :—

	1916.	1917.
United Kingdom	£36,619	£36,492
Canada	19,812	27,950
British West Indies	7,551	11,143
India	830	330
Newfoundland	2,326	2,028
Other British Colonies ..	314	1,685
United States of America ..	21,005	38,512
France	1,764	1,476
Other Countries	2,110	2,498
	£92,331	£122,114

19. In consequence of the prices of all goods being higher than in previous years there was an increase in the total value of imports, notwithstanding a decrease in the quantity of certain articles imported, such as flour, fish, beef, pork, tea, butter, lard, whisky, and gin.

20. 1917–18 was the first year, so far as can be ascertained, in which the United Kingdom has failed to supply the Colony with a larger percentage of its total imports than any other country. This failure is due to the exigencies of the War. The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1916.	1917.
United Kingdom	39·66	29·88
United States of America ..	22·75	31·54
Canada	21·46	22·89
All other Countries	16·13	15·69

21. Of the £122,114 of imports, £47,985 was the value of articles classified under "Food, Drink, and Tobacco," and £50,828 was the value of manufactured articles.

Exports.

22. The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1916 and 1917 were as follows :—

	1916.	1917.
United Kingdom	£46,648	£58,276
Canada	10,801	4,764
United States of America ..	2,931	3,709
British West Indies	27,434	28,896
British Guiana	—	1,114
Other Countries	3,851	2,975
	£91,665	£99,734

23. The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1916.	1917.
Arrowroot	£37,619	£40,296
Cotton—		
Sea Island	13,893	16,934
Marie Galante	1,368	1,848
Cocoa	5,214	3,911
Sugar—		
Crystallised	2,541	5,335
Muscovado	6,979	6,249
Syrup and molasses ..	1,475	3,102
Animals	8,332	3,762

Agricultural Industries.

24. The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy seed cotton and corn (maize) on profit-sharing terms. The following quantities were dealt with during the season :—Sea Island seed cotton 218,169 lb., Marie Galante seed cotton 134,130 lb., corn on cob 79,174 lb., grain corn 78,923 lb. The corn was kiln-dried and stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1918. The total quantity reserved was 131,409 lb.

The co-operative enterprises continued to receive the support of the small growers, and they have had a beneficial influence on both cotton and corn-growing in the Colony. The number of passbooks issued to growers was 1,427.

25. Since October, 1917, the local Government, on behalf of the Imperial Government, have bought all the Sea Island cotton produced in the Colony. Growers thereby receive remunerative prices for ginned cotton delivered in Kingstown on the scale of 3*s.* per lb. for ordinary quality, 3*s.* 4*d.* for good ordinary and 3*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.* for superfine. This ready and remunerative market, as well as the increased confidence placed in the cotton industry as a result of the work of the Agricultural Department in connection with the control of the cotton stainer pest, led to the planting of 1,057 acres more than in the preceding year. The area planted in the 1917–18 season was 3,458 acres, as against 2,401 in 1916–17. The output in 1917–18 was 329,115 lb., an increase of 105 per cent. on the 160,168 lb. produced in 1916–17.

26. Satisfactory progress was made in the cultivation of corn (maize). Besides the quantity purchased by the Government Granary and that used for domestic consumption soon after it was reaped, there was exported to the United Kingdom and to West Indian Colonies 2,885 bushels, or 159,880 lb. The progressive increase in exports is shown below :—

1914	.. .. ..	761 bushels.
1915	.. .. ..	1,518 ,,
1916	.. .. ..	1,652 ,,
1917	.. .. ..	2,855 ,,

27. The sugar and syrup industries showed a satisfactory increased output, but it is doubtful whether this will be maintained, owing to the attention being given to Sea Island cotton. The following table gives the exports for the last five years :—

Year.	Sugar. lb.	Value. £	Syrup and Molasses. gals.	Value. £	Total Value. £
1913 ..	250	2	3,252	171	173
1914 ..	281,990	1,586	8,904	252	1,838
1915 ..	505,232	3,253	10,079	503	3,756
1916 ..	1,198,314	9,520	33,771	1,475	10,995
1917 ..	1,264,201	11,584	81,144	3,102	14,686

In 1916 there was manufactured 36,451 proof gallons of rum, of which 12,230 were exported in the same year; the corresponding figures in 1917 were 34,129 and 8,038.

28. The price of arrowroot was maintained at a remunerative figure. In the calendar year 1917, the exports amounted to 4,737,548 lb., as compared with 4,441,242 lb. in 1916.

29. The pea-nut was a minor crop of increasing importance, as was indicated by the export of 14,424 bushels of the value of £6,380, against 14,641 bushels in 1916, of the value of £3,660.

30. The Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies continued to make progress, and all loans had been repaid when due. The total number of Societies was 21 with 925 members.

31. The Agricultural Department was occupied with cotton-breeding experiments and the production of supplies of pedigree Sea Island cotton seed of good ordinary grade for planting. Manurial and planting experiments with cotton and arrowroot were conducted. The maintenance of a supply of improved seed corn (maize) and trials of a large number of varieties of peas and beans were other features of the work undertaken. Entomological investigations connected with the life histories and control of the cotton stainer and bush bugs attacking cotton plants were continued. A gratifying degree of success had already attended the measures adopted for the destruction of the cotton stainer.

32. Of land under the Land Settlement Scheme in the Island of St. Vincent 17 allotments containing 28 acres were sold for £173 15*s.*, and of Crown Lands 6 allotments containing 106 acres were sold for £222 10*s.*

SHIPPING.

33. The number of vessels entered in 1917 was 306, of 167,949 tons; and 308 cleared, of 167,982 tons. One vessel was registered, of 61 tons.

IV.—EDUCATION.

34. The following table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1916–17 and 1917–18:—

	1916–17.	1917–18.
Number of schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st March	4,173	3,931
Number of pupils in average attendance..	2,037	1,945
Government grant	£1,753	£1,851
Cost per head in average attendance..	17*s.* 2*d.*	19*s.*

35. Eight of the 27 primary schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other 19 schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these 19 schools are paid from public funds.

36. There were 8 other schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small grants from the Government.

37. For the secondary education of boys and girls the Government maintains in Kingstown a Grammar School and a Girl's High School. The average attendance in 1916–17 and 1917–18 was 41 and 40 boys and 21 and 20 girls.

38. To pupils of Primary Schools the Government offers annually an exhibition to the Grammar School tenable for four years with free tuition; and, biennially, a scholarship tenable for four years with free tuition and a grant of £2 a term towards the cost of the pupil's board and lodging in Kingstown. This scholarship can be won only by a pupil who resides not less than a mile beyond the boundaries of Kingstown. There are always four exhibitioners and two scholars in attendance at the Grammar School.

39. The Board of Education has also established a student-teachership by which certain Pupil Teachers of the third year are given two years at the Grammar School at the expense of the Primary Education Vote. The pupil continues to draw his pay while in attendance at the Grammar School.

40. Ordinances No. 20 and No. 21, of 1917, empower the Town Board of Kingstown and the Town Wardens of Georgetown to spend certain sums from Town Funds towards scholarships and exhibitions on lines similar to the Government Exhibitions.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

41. During 1917–18 there were 1,055 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 1,100 cases treated, as compared with 1,105 in 1916–17. The daily average number of patients was 55 in 1916–17 and 66 in 1917–18. The death-rate was 6·3 per cent. of the 1,100 cases treated; in 1916–17 it was 4·3 per cent. The number of operations performed was 168, being 19 less than in 1916–17.

42. The Casualty Hospital at Georgetown, with four beds, continued to fulfil its purpose of providing the means of treating emergency cases; 23 cases were treated in 1917–18.

43. At the Yaws Hospital 99 cases were treated in 1917–18, and 57 of these were discharged cured. At the usual District dispensaries and at special travelling dispensaries 1,178 other yaws patients were treated during the year. During 1916–17 and 1917–18 a campaign against yaws has been maintained at these dispensaries with the following results:—

Cases treated..	2,308
„ cured	1,152
„ still under treatment.. ..	619

Asylums.

44. There were 54 lunatics under detention and treatment at the Fort Charlotte Lunatic Asylum, of whom 10 were new admissions. Five were discharged cured and six died.

45. In the Leper Asylum 8 patients were maintained. None died.

46. The number of inmates of the Pauper Asylum on the 31st of March, 1917, was 58. During 1917–18 there were 22 new admissions. Six were discharged and 12 died.

Ankylostomiasis Campaign.

47. The campaign undertaken by the Rockefeller International Health Board for the eradication of the ankylostomiasis, or hookworm disease, was carried on by Dr. P. B. Gardner for nine months in 1917. Of 6,295 persons examined in that period 4,118 were found to be infected with hookworm; the number treated was 4,453, of whom 4,159 were cured. In connection with the campaign measures for faecal sanitation under Public Health regulations were carried out for preventing soil pollution so as to avoid re-infection and new infection. New latrines to the number of 414 were erected at homes

located within the area in which the campaign was conducted during the nine months.

Savings Bank.

48. The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalised.
1916 ..	1,072	£5,111	£5,724	£17,058
1917 ..	1,006	4,365	6,420	15,437

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st of December, 1917, amounted to £18,143 2*s.* 5*d.*

VI.—JUDICIAL.

49. The police force consisted of a Chief and 48 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties as sanitary inspectors, and in connection with district post offices, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the operation of district telephone exchanges. The warders of the Kingstown Prison, except one, are members of the police force. The fire brigade of Kingstown consists of police constables, who receive supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

50. The number of convicted persons committed to prison in 1917–18 was 271, of whom 123 were men and 148 women. There were also 44 juveniles who were whipped by order of Magistrates, but not detained in custody. The average number of prisoners in the Kingstown Prison was 34·56, as compared with 24·24 in 1916–17.

51. The number of cases reported to the police was 586, and 394 of these were brought before Magistrates. The number of summary convictions was 916 and the number of convictions in the Supreme Court was 13, as compared with 869 and 5 in 1916–17. In the Magistrates Courts 535 persons were discharged for want of prosecution and 248 were acquitted on the merits.

52. On charges of praedial larceny 233 persons were convicted. The number in 1916–17 was 113.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

53. The population of the Colony in 1911 was 41,877, according to the census taken in that year. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population on the 31st of March 1918 is 50,669. This estimate is based on the census return for 1911 with corrections for births, deaths, immigration, and emigration.

54. Illegitimate births numbered 1,224 or 65·91 per cent. of the total number of all births. The percentage in 1916–17 was 67·87.

55. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	1916–17.	1917–18.
Births	1,731	1,857
Males	875	948
Females	856	909
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	37·04	36·64
Deaths	961	1,064
Death-rate per 1,000	19·44	20·99
Marriages	84	102
Marriage-rate per 1,000	1·6	2·01

56. The rainfall at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 92·96 inches in 1917–18, 115·25 in 1916–17, 114·99 in 1915–16, and 72·67 in 1914–15. The figures for the past 19 years show that June to November are the months in which most rain falls.

57. Rain fell on 260 days in 1917–18, and the greatest fall for one day was 2·17 inches, on the 18th of April, 1917. The greatest fall for one day in the previous year was 6·88 inches, on the 3rd of November, 1916.

58. The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation, and temperature, ranged from 30·142 inches on the 3rd of February, 1918, to 29·810 on the 14th of September, 1917.

59. The mean monthly temperature was 79° F. The highest was 80·1° F. in September, 1917, and the lowest was 76·9° F. in February, 1918. The highest temperature recorded was 88° F. on the 6th of July, 1917, and the lowest was 67°F. on the 13th and 14th December, 1917, and the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of February 1918.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

60. Steamships of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, under contract with the Canadian Government, called at irregular intervals on their outward voyages to British Guiana and less frequently on their homeward voyages; and during the year nine steamers of the Direct Line also brought and took cargo and mails. Mails were also sent and received by occasional sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Grenada, with which Colonies there is direct communication by steamer with the United Kingdom and the United States.

61. The Postal Department, with headquarters in Kingstown and 17 district post offices, continued to provide facilities for the transaction of postal business. Mails were sent to the Windward side of the Island by motor-car and by rowing boat to the Leeward side, and by sailing vessel to the Grenadines.

62. There is no inland telegraph service. A subsidy of £300 a year is paid by the St. Vincent Government to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company in return for which the Colony receives daily news bulletins and participates in a system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

63. The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with all the police stations in the small towns and villages

and with the places of residence and business of renters. Payment of ten shillings a month entitles a renter to be put in communication with all the districts of the Colony. There were 82 telephones rented by the general public in 1917–18, and 69 were attached to Government departments for official use. A small charge is made for messages sent by persons who are not renters of telephones. There are 77 miles of trunk lines and 80 miles of lines connecting renters with the exchanges. The revenue in 1917–18 was £708 13*s.* 4*d.* and the expenditure was £568 9*s.* 8*d.*

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

64. In consequence of war conditions there was a shortage of shipping for exports and imports and there were successive increases in the prices of foodstuffs and other imported articles.

65. The young men of the Colony continued to show their loyalty and patriotism by readily volunteering for war service with the British West Indies Regiment. Two detachments of recruits left the Colony in 1917–18.

66. In a despatch published in the Gazette and in the local press the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies expressed his regret at the loss suffered by the Colony through the death of the Honourable Duncan Alexander MacDonald, whose long and valuable public services had been well known to successive Secretaries of State. Mr. MacDonald died on the 15th of January, 1918. He had served as a member of the Executive Council for 12 years and as a member of the Legislative Council for 21 years.

ANTHONY DE FREITAS,
Acting Administrator.

Government House, St. Vincent,
9th August, 1918.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
942	Grenada ..	1916–1917
943	Jamaica ..	"
944	Somaliland	"
945	Swaziland	"
946	Nigeria ..	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti ..	"
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	"
952	Leeward Islands	"
953	St. Vincent	"
954	Uganda ..	"
955	Nyasaland	"
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	"
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916–1917
959	Cayman Islands	.
960	Bermuda	1916
961	Mauritius	"
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	"
964	Seychelles	"
965	Weihaiwei	"
966	Fiji	"
967	Solomon Islands	1917–1918
968	Grenada ..	"
969	Turks and Caicòs Islands	1917
970	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
971	Ceylon ..	"
972	Hong Kong	"
973	Zanzibar..	"
974	St. Helena	"
975	Malta ..	1917–1918
976	British Guiana ..	1917

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland ..	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies ..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon ..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent ..	Roads and Land Settlement

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1023.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917–18 see No. 968.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1920.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1920.

[Cmd. 508-7.] *Price* 1*d. Net.*

No. 1023.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1918–19.*

GENERAL REMARKS.

Grenada is a rich and prosperous Colony. It is the most developed in permanent economic cultivation of all the small islands of the British West Indies. The staple products are cacao and spice. Muscovado sugar and rum are produced, but solely for local consumption. Although the island is extensively cultivated, there is yet room for further agricultural development and, where practicable, lands that are unsuitable for cacao are being utilised for other cultivation, especially coconuts, which in time may develop into a substantial auxiliary product. In the Southern part of the island there are good sugar cane lands that afford possibilities for the establishment of a central sugar factory well adapted for rail transport and within close and easy communication with the principal shipping port. There are, however, no tracts of virgin cultivable lands. The ridges and mountain slopes in the centre of the island are wooded and have already been disafforested as far in elevation as is prudent without encroachment on the reserve necessary for the protection of the water supply. The island offers therefore no opportunities for pioneer settlement. Its length is 21 miles and its greatest breadth does not exceed 12 miles and is about the size of the Isle of Wight. This small Colony exported in 1918 produce to the value of £699,096. It is prosperous for the reason that, unlike other small Colonies in which the plantations are usually held by a few proprietors, the lands in Grenada are divided into a large number of separate holdings. The population at 31st December, 1918, was estimated at 73,881, and there were 13,391 freehold owners, representing a much larger proprietary body in proportion to the population than will be found in any other British West Indian Colony. In paragraph 22 details are given of the number and areas of the holdings. These landowners form the backbone of the Colony's prosperity as the great majority live in the island and possess the wealth they produce. To illustrate the prosperity in another way, the value of the exports in the past five years reached the sum of £2,517,275 while the value of the imports in the same period was £1,607,368, or an excess of exports amounting to £909,907. These figures speak for themselves.

* A Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15 No. 852: [Cd. 7622–43].

There are 444 miles of public roads affording communication in all directions. Most of these roads are suitable for motor car traffic, and those needing improvement are receiving attention. Motor cars have been largely substituted for horses and carriages and even on plantations carts drawn by mules and oxen are giving place to motor vehicles for agricultural transport.

The Colony is supplied with a telephone service in all directions, and there is a daily post, except on Sundays and holidays, to and from every settlement in the island.

THE WAR.

2. Now that the War has ended, the extent to which Grenada participated may be here briefly stated. Far from the scene of strife, the Colony was spared the terrible realities of the struggle, and had only to endure, in common with other remote parts, the privations that resulted from the shortage of necessaries and the consequent high cost of living. In the earlier moments when enemy cruisers were at large, the presence of the "Karlsruhe" in Caribbean waters caused some anxiety, and it is of interest to record that the first indication of the destruction of this ship was traced by parts of the wreckage that floated ashore on the coasts of this Colony.

3. The call to arms found a ready response and many young men volunteered for service. Fifteen enlisted on their own account in various units of the British Army and 446 joined the Grenada Contingent to the British West Indies Regiment. Of these 7 were killed in action or died from wounds, and 30 died from disease on active service.

The distinctions earned were 2 Military Crosses, 1 Distinguished Flying Cross, 1 Distinguished Conduct Medal, 1 Meritorious Service Medal.

4. The Colony's expenditure on War services for the period of the War to 31st March, 1919, from public funds was as follows :—

For purchase of gift of cacao for Army and Navy	£6,000
Contribution to the Prince of Wales National Relief Fund	4,000
Expended on various services on account of the Grenada Contingent..	33,635
	£43,635

The contributions from private sources were :—

Subscriptions to the—	
British Red Cross Fund	£6,070
Prince of Wales National Relief Fund	1,250
West Indies Contingent Fund	228
Belgian Relief Fund	139
	£7,687

Besides these many sums were privately remitted by religious bodies and others.

Valuable donations of local produce were given for sale by many agriculturists and the proceeds paid to the British Red Cross Fund. A considerable quantity of clothing was made by women in the Colony and sent to the United Kingdom for distribution.

(628) Wt.32795/354. 1,250 & 90. 1.20. P.&F.,Ltd. G./11.

5. When notification of the Armistice was received an outburst of public rejoicing took place such as had never before been known within living memory. The enthusiasm was spontaneous and genuine, not alone because it was felt that the end of all danger and suffering was in view, but also from a sense of pride that the Colony had in its small way contributed to the enemy's downfall.

FINANCIAL.

6. The total revenue for the financial year to the 31st March, 1919, was £110,386, and the expenditure for the same period, £108,251. The surplus assets amounted to £59,511 including £39,154 surplus funds invested at interest. The public debt was £192,180, and the accumulated sinking fund in repayment £49,381, showing a very satisfactory financial condition.

The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs duties	£55,325
Licences, excise duty, and internal revenue ..	35,757
Other sources	19,304
	£110,386

7. Specific Customs duties are imposed on the principal foodstuffs and drinks, and on a few other articles including arms, ammunition, and explosives, cement, matches, oil of all kinds, and tobacco. The duties are fixed on a moderate scale and at low rates on articles of common consumption. On all other goods not included in the free list, an ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. is payable.

8. A graduated export duty is levied on cacao, the Colony's principal product, on the following scale :—

When the price according to the London Market at the time of export to Europe, or according to the New York Market at the time of export to any place elsewhere than to Europe, does not exceed 50*s*. per cwt.	7½*d*. per cwt.
When the price exceeds 50*s*. per cwt. ..	1*s*. 3*d*. per cwt.

An additional export duty on cacao was also payable during the War.

Other export duties are :—

On Raw Cotton per cwt. or fractional part..	4*d*. per cwt.
Cotton Seed ,, ,, ,, ..	2*d*. ,,
Nutmegs ,, ,, ,, ..	6*d*. ,,
Mace ,, ,, ,, ..	1*s*. ,,

The receipts from export duties realised £6,251 and the War tax on cacao amounted to £3,255, making a total of £9,506. The declared value of the products subject to export duty were :—

Cacao	£519,365
Cotton	23,156
Cotton Seed	2,309
Nutmegs	103,417
Mace	31,691
	£679,938

The total export duty therefore represented only 1·39 per cent. of the value.

The War tax on cacao and the penny surcharge postage on letters to places within the British Empire were the only extra taxes imposed for providing additional revenue to meet expenses due to the War. The War tax postage for the financial year amounted to £455.

The excise duty on rum and trade duty on spirits sold contributed a seventh part of the revenue.

9. The internal taxes include a rate on houses and lands outside the boundaries of towns. On houses a graduated scale is payable on the assessed annual rental, from 4*s*. on a house of the rental value of £5 up to £1 8*s*. on houses of rental value up to £20, and a rate of 7 per cent. on a rental value above £20. Houses assessed at a less rental than £5 are exempt, unless the owner is beneficially possessed of half an acre or more of land.

The tax on land is 1*s*. an acre and 3*d*. an acre on lands on the islets around the Colony.

Houses within the towns are rated by District Boards for municipal purposes.

10. The following figures give the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
1914–15	£93,198	£95,660
1915–16	99,027	106,144
1916–17	114,525	108,077
1917–18	106,138	109,390
1918–19	110,386	108,251

11. In September the liquor and cacao dealers' licences were increased, not alone for revenue purposes but to reduce the number, which had become too numerous owing to the low rates payable. Simultaneously the import duties on beer, wines, spirits, and tobacco, and the trade duty on spirits sold in the Colony, were increased. With these additional rates it was anticipated that the revenue in 1918–19 would easily have exceeded £114,000, but in the last months of the year, contrary to expectations from averages in the previous years, a disappointing shrinkage occurred in imports that affected the year's revenue.

12. The Colony is progressing with upward strides in its atmosphere of prosperity and demands for improved conditions and conveniences of life that a few years back were considered beyond the means of the Colony are now regarded as necessities. An increased revenue to meet all needs can easily be raised without hardship by an income tax, and as the wealth of the Colony is obtained entirely from the soil, by an increased land tax.

Local Loan.

13. In July, 1917, an Ordinance was passed to authorise a loan of £100,000 for certain public works, mainly for the improvement of roads and bridges, and the provision of water supplies, and for other requirements of minor importance. In September of that year a prospectus was issued inviting applications for debentures

of £20, £50, £100, £500, and £1,000 for a period of thirty years at 5 per cent. interest, the Government reserving the right of redemption by annual drawings after the expiration of ten years. The response at 31st March, 1919, reached the sum of £68,510, which included contributions from subscribers in Grenada amounting to £45,150, and from neighbouring Colonies to £23,360. Of the sum raised, £27,300 was invested in the Imperial War Loan, and £32,000 was retained to meet the cost of the works to be undertaken in 1918 and 1919.

So far the loan has not been taken up in Grenada to the extent that was anticipated. Provision was made for the issue of debentures at low rates in the belief that residents with small savings would welcome the opportunity for such investment, but this has not proved to be the case. Very few debentures at the small figures have been called for and £46,000 of the total amount was paid up in £1,000 shares. It seems that better terms than the loan offers are obtainable in the Colony on the security of valuable land.

Municipal Bodies.

14. The island is divided into six parishes or districts, and a District Board in each has the management of local affairs. The Boards are composed of elected and nominated members. Half are elected by voters registered in the district and half are nominated by the Governor. The life of each Board runs for two years. The Boards have the power to impose local rates in towns, and represent in their respective districts the local authority in regard to water and sanitation, and are charged with the upkeep of public roads, other than main roads, for which purpose they receive an annual grant from general revenue.

TRADE, INDUSTRIES, AND SHIPPING.

Imports.

15. The value of the imports and exports representing the trade of the Colony amounted to £1,080,109.

The value of the imports was £377,332. The United Kingdom supplied £76,691, Canada £51,827, Newfoundland £13,829, the neighbouring Colonies of Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana £55,895, and other places £14,873, making a total from British countries of £213,115. The United States supplied £151,980, and other foreign places £12,237, making a total of £377,332.

Food and drink supplies and tobacco amounted to £186,095, and manufactured and other goods to £191,237. Of foodstuffs, the United Kingdom supplied £6,315, as against £60,847 from the United States, and of manufactured and other goods the United Kingdom supplied £67,473, and the United States £91,133.

16. Owing to dislocation of trade due to the War, it is useless to go into figures for purposes of comparison. The restricted exports from the United Kingdom and other places, and the high cost of goods, caused a reduced consumption, and many classes of goods, although showing higher values, were imported in less quantity.

17. The Colony had to look to the United States for many supplies that before the War were almost exclusively ordered from Great Britain. But a diversion of trade in this direction was already taking place even prior to any of the disturbing influences in recent years. Because of its proximity, New York is the natural market for the West Indies, and if the United States can compete in supplying goods required, trade in that direction is bound to expand. A few examples are given as follows :—

	1910.	1915.	1918.
	£	£	£
Boots and shoes, U.K. ..	4,126	1,637	530
,, ,, U.S.A. ..	1,460	3,153	6,048
Cement, U.K.	1,056	1,786	250
,, U.S.A.	—	508	3,924
Cordage, U.K.	985	1,061	668
,, U.S.A.	161	200	1,084
Cottons, U.K.	21,161	18,480	25,572
,, U.S.A.	447	3,918	14,014
Hardwood, U.K.	6,256	4,013	2,558
,, U.S.A.	1,438	2,226	5,817
Paper, U.K.	501	1,038	1,187
,, U.S.A.	152	378	1,701
Soap, U.K.	1,861	3,419	4,749
,, U.S.A.	507	698	4,540

EXPORTS.

18. The value of the exports amounted to £702,777, of which £699,096 represented the produce of the Colony.

The direction of the exports was as follows :—

Great Britain	£386,348
Other parts of British Empire	26,226
United States	290,039
Other foreign Countries	164
	£702,777

The principal products exported were :—

	Quantity.	Value.
Cacao	135,572 cwts.	£519,365
Cotton, raw	2,168 ,,	23,156
Lime Juice, raw	172,725 gallons	12,108
,, ,, concentrated	5,810 ,,	2,147
Cotton Seed	5,479 cwts.	2,309
Nutmegs	23,053 ,,	103,417
Mace	3,420 ,,	31,691

Of the cacao, 41 per cent. went to Great Britain, 56 per cent. to the United States, and 2 per cent. to Canada. Of the nutmegs, 54 per cent. was exported to Great Britain, 39 per cent. to the United States, and 4 per cent. to Canada. Great Britain received 95 per cent. of the mace and all the lime juice and raw cotton.

Shipping.

19. The shipping entered and cleared is shown in the following table :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing vessels	468	10,736	466	10,745
Steam vessels	94	249,522	94	249,522

Of the sailing vessels entered, 434 were British, 3 Dutch, 1 American, and 30 Venezuelan. These sailing vessels are for the most part small sloops owned in the Colony, that trade with the neighbouring islands.

Of the steam vessels entered 92 were British, 1 American, and 1 Venezuelan.

Steamship Services.

20. The steamships that call regularly at Grenada are vessels of the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company, the Royal Mail steamers subsidised by Canada for a service between Canada and the West Indies and British Guiana, and steamers belonging to Scruttons, Sons & Co. The first named ply between New York and the West Indies, and provide an approximate fortnightly service. Grenada is the first and last port of call on the outward and homeward voyages.

The Royal Mail steamers, besides bringing Canada into close touch with the West Indies, were the only means of communication by steamer between the Northern and Southern Colonies, and the service was a great boon to the West Indian community.

The Scruttons line of steamers called at intervals, bringing all freight that offered from the United Kingdom and conveyed all the Colony's produce exported to Europe.

Productions and Natural Resources.

21. Grenada is exclusively an agricultural Colony. If any wealth lies beneath the soil, its existence has not yet been ascertained, but it is said that there are indications that point to the presence of oil, bauxite, and copper. It is not unreasonable to believe that such mineral deposits exist, as the island is within sixty miles of Trinidad, where oil in large quantities is obtained. Geological and scientific investigation might result in valuable discoveries that would not only be an asset to the Colony, but might prove a useful addition to the mineral resources within the Empire.

22. The area of the Colony is estimated at 76,548 acres, of which about 27,550 are in permanent cultivation, not including numerous vegetable gardens and pasture lands. The area assessed for taxes was 74,296 acres. There are 143 estates of 100 acres and over, and 13,248 small holdings, the areas of which are given in the following table :—

2½ acres and under	10,482
Over 2½ ,, to 5 acres	1,762
,, 5 ,, to 7 ,, ...	348
,, 7 ,, to 10 ,, ...	243
,, 10 ,, and under 100 acres	413

Houses to the number of 6,543 outside of towns were included in the assessment list for taxes.

The area of Carriacou is estimated at 8,467 acres, of which 3,189 are in cultivation. Almost the whole of the lime juice and raw cotton exported comes from that dependency.

23. The lands in Grenada are exceptionally favourable for cacao. This cultivation forms a belt round the greater part of the island from the sea coast extending inland in the valleys and up the slopes to the ridges in the interior to the elevation of about 700 ft. Above that height the trees do not bear well.

Nutmegs during the War were in great demand, and the price in 1918 rose to figures that gave unprecedented returns to those who fortunately owned such produce.

The price of raw cotton also exceeded previous records. The cotton produced is almost entirely Marie Galante, and the cultivation is in the hands of small growers, chiefly in Carriacou. Their feeling of lively satisfaction in getting such unusual rewards for their industry was in many instances manifested by generous subscriptions to the Red Cross Fund.

Lime cultivation has been tried to some extent in Grenada, but not with promising results. All citrus plants seem not to fare well and are subject to attacks of black blight, which is prevalent and difficult to eradicate.

Coconuts are being extensively planted and in time to come will probably add largely to the Colony's economic production.

Owing to the restricted supply of imported foodstuffs, and to high prices prevailing owing to the War, every encouragement was given to the growing of ground provisions. The results have been a useful object lesson to the people as the advantages to be gained by helping themselves have been proved to their knowledge. In previous years they depended largely on imported wheaten flour from the United States and ground provisions from the neighbouring Colonies, but are able now to rely more on their own produce. As an illustration, twenty years ago when the population was considerably less than at present, 30,037 barrels of flour were imported, as against 23,066 in 1918.

24. Apart from the manufacture of sugar and rum, there are no industries of any appreciable consequence. Soap-making has been attempted, and there is a tannery that produces a small amount of leather, and an ice factory supplies this tropical necessity.

Twelve rum distilleries were in operation. The stock in hand at the commencement of the year was in proof gallons 14,008; the quantity made 49,934, and the amount duty paid for consumption 54,221. Added to this 2,370 proof gallons were imported from Barbados.

The sugar estates are small concerns that cannot supply local needs. As many as 125 sugar works actually exist, but of these 69 operate in the most primitive way with cattle mills; 20 use water power, 10 steam, and 26 have small oil engines. A few of the larger estates make centrifugal sugar, but all the others produce what is called "wet sugar." The total output is not known, and has to be largely supplemented from the neighbouring sugar colonies. The imported quantity in 1918 amounted to 22,821 cwts. of the value of £27,058, not including refined sugar.

Although the local production might be increased in most localities, only in the Southern part of the island is there any extensive area available that could be adapted by enterprise for the manufacture on a large scale. Within this area two of the best equipped sugar works exist at present.

Forestry.

25. There is a forest reserve of Crown Lands on the hills in the centre of the island extending North and South about 4½ miles, and covering an area of about 2,550 acres. This reserve is necessary for the protection of the water supply. Valuable woods exist, such as mahogany and white cedar, but not in quantity that would be available for any commercial enterprise.

Cost of Living and Wages.

26. The cost of living has greatly increased as it has everywhere else. The price of imported foodstuffs has in the case of many commodities increased by 100 per cent., and other necessities of life even of the cheapest description have risen over 200 per cent. The ordinary wages for able-bodied labourers were for men 1*s.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*, and for women 10*d.* to 1*s.* Long after all rates of pay ceased to have their former value, the same scale was maintained in the hope that after the termination of the War prices would fall, but this has not happened, and a higher grade of pay in all classes of employment has become obligatory. Recently rates of pay to labourers were increased to a minimum of 1*s.* 4*d.* for men and 1*s.* 2*d.* for women, but a satisfactory scale cannot be fixed until conditions return to a settled stage.

There was no dearth of labour. It is estimated that about 18,000 persons are employed in agriculture. Unlike sugar cane cultivation which demands a large labour supply, in the case of established cacao and nutmegs the requirements are comparatively small.

Currency, Banking, Weights, and Measures.

27. The currency is the coinage of Great Britain, and silver is principally in circulation. Gold and notes of the United States also pass current.

Branches of the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada are established, and have a note circulation.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

28. The estimated population at 31st December, 1918, was 73,881.

The immigration and emigration returns record 3,752 arrivals and 4,333 departures from the Colony.

The births, deaths, and marriages registered were respectively 2,449, 1,312, and 301.

The birth-rate was 34·66, and the death-rate 17·08 per 1,000.

The infant mortality among children under two years, though less than in the preceding year, was considerable, the death-rate being 38·4 per cent. of the total of all deaths, as against 42·9 in 1917. This large death-rate among young children is often the result of improper feeding, due perhaps to ignorance and neglect, and no doubt in many

cases to the poverty of parents. To succour young children in their early stages of life is a social problem that exists everywhere. The Legislature made a grant from public funds to provide a supply of milk in all districts to infants of poor parents, and to this help may be ascribed the reduction in the death-rate below the preceding year. Apart from this infant mortality among the poorer classes, the death-rate was very low. The Colony can be described as an extremely healthy one, for Europeans as well as for those born and bred in these parts.

CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGICAL.

29. The climate is mild and in the dry season is salubrious and pleasant. This period usually lasts from January to the end of May, when the rains commence. The latter part of the year is sometimes damp and as a rule hot. Daylight never exceeds thirteen hours and there is not more than an hour's difference between the longest and the shortest day. The island is south of the hurricane zone, and has been fortunately free from any cataclysm or seismic disturbance. The last earthquake of any severity occurred in 1888.

30. The meteorological records are taken at the Government Station at Richmond Hill, at an elevation of 509 feet overlooking the town of St. George. The maximum temperature in the sun was 138 degrees, and in the shade 90 on the 4th September. The temperature in the shade varied in the year from 69 to 90 degrees. The rainfall was 81·40 inches, 3·77 more than the average in the three preceding years. The minimum for a month was 1·60 inches in April, and the maximum 11·76 inches in October. The greatest fall at any one time was 3·50 inches on 29th May. The rainfall, of course, varied considerably in different parts of the island.

EDUCATION, NEWSPAPERS, AND PUBLICATIONS.

Primary Education.

31. Elementary education is controlled by a Board of Education comprised, by law, of the Governor as President and of not less than ten members, of whom one half shall be and one half shall not be Roman Catholics. The members are appointed by the Governor and hold office for two years.

There are 59 primary schools, of which 11 are Government schools, and 48 denominational grant-in-aid schools, namely, 27 Roman Catholic, 14 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, and 2 Presbyterian. The number of pupils on the rolls at 31st December, 1918, was 9,845. The average attendance was 5,645. The Government grant for primary education was £7,331, and the voluntary contributions £779.

Elementary education is compulsory between the ages of six and twelve years, but existing circumstances do not warrant stringent enforcement.

Secondary Education.

32. Secondary education is provided by a Government Boys' School, and by two schools for girls, maintained by the Roman Catholic and Anglican denominations, assisted by a Government

grant of £150 to each school. 127 candidates went up for the Cambridge Local Examination. The Government Boys' School contributed 13 out of 15 for the senior examination of whom 9 passed, including 5 with honours.

33. The Grenada external scholarship established by law in 1916 is open to public competition each year to candidates with certain local qualifications. It is awarded on the results of the Cambridge Local Examination to the competitor who is reported by the Examiners to have the best claim. The annual value is £175, and offers opportunities to take up a university career in any selected professional branch in the United Kingdom, Canada, or the United States. Two candidates have been successful in obtaining this scholarship since it was established in 1916.

Newspapers and Government Publications.

34. There are two newspapers—The West Indian, published daily, and the Grenada People, published bi-weekly.

The Government publishes a Gazette on the 1st and 15th of each month, and other special issues at other times when necessary. The Gazette is exclusively limited to Government notices and publications.

A useful handbook is published by the Government, and can be purchased on application. Besides the up-to-date information it gives on all matters of public concern, it contains an interesting history of the Colony.

LOCAL FORCES AND POLICE.

Volunteers.

35. A small volunteer corps is maintained for local defence, which includes a maxim gun section. The men were kept in training under the supervision of a Staff Officer appointed from the Regular Forces.

Police.

36. The Police Force is composed of one Officer and 83 N.C.O.'s and Constables, including an Armourer and European Sergeant Major. The force is armed and trained as a semi-military body.

A number of Rural Constables are also enrolled to assist the police when their services are needed.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

39. Steamers of the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company provided a fairly regular fortnightly mail and cargo service between New York and Grenada, and a similar service was maintained between Canada and the West Indies by steamers of the Royal Mail Company. There was no regular service to and from Europe. Mails and parcels post were dispatched as opportunities offered. After the termination of the War, these opportunities became more frequent. Parcels post from the United Kingdom were usually conveyed by the Scruttons steamers.

The want of a regular mail and an efficient passenger service between the United Kingdom and the West Indies, with steamers calling at each Colony, is a convenience that is urgently desired.

There is an inland daily post to all district towns and principal centres.

40. The cables of the West India and Panama Telegraph Co. connect the Colony with the neighbouring islands and with the outer world.

There are no inland telegraphs.

41. The Government provides a telephone system extending to all parts of the island. At the close of the financial year, the service included 523 connexions.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

42. Grenada is especially well favoured with roads that intersect the Colony in all directions. Although there is not much level ground and there are no straight runs for any distance, the configuration of the island affords easy gradients, that render the roads suitable for motor car traffic. There are nearly 200 motor cars owned in the Colony. 444 miles of roads are maintained at public expense.

The Government runs a daily motor car passenger service to and from St. George's round the eastern side of the island to Sauteurs at the North end.

A coastal service performed by two small steamers of the Royal Mail Company supplied a passenger and cargo service round the island, with a weekly connexion with Carriacou. The Company has, however, lately withdrawn these steamers on the termination of their contract. Tenders have been invited for a new service, which it is hoped will soon be obtained.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

A house-surgeon is in charge of the Colony Hospital, and the staff includes a European nurse matron.

Provision has been made for the erection of a suitable building as a private ward for a better class of paying patients, which, when completed, will supply a much felt want.

The other institutions in St. George are supervised by the Colonial Surgeon assisted by the District Medical Officer.

Dispensaries are established in all the districts at which the medical officers attend for the purpose of treating patients.

MEDICAL.

45. The public health of the Colony was reported by the Colonial Surgeon as on the whole satisfactory. The death-rate per thousand was 17·08, as compared with 20 in the preceding year, and 20·50 in the past decade.

The year was marked in the medical history of the Colony by the adoption of vigorous measures for the eradication of the loathsome diseases of syphilis and yaws.

With regard to the former, the Colonial Surgeon writes: " The year 1918 will be memorable as one in which an Ordinance, introduced in the previous year, was put into practice for the compulsory treatment of venereal diseases. Complete regulations for carrying out its provisions were duly drawn up and operations commenced on 1st June."

In this respect Grenada has been the pioneer Colony in the West Indies in starting a crusade against this terrible scourge. The Medical Officers displayed energy and enthusiasm, and the results up to the end of the financial year are described as "eminently satisfactory." It is reported in connexion with the treatment by injections of Novarsenobillon that patients submitted willingly, and latterly came forward voluntarily asking for injections. The cases of venereal disease and syphilis treated amounted to 1,579, of which 220 were discharged as cured.

There seems to be every prospect that this work, if continued with the same energy and care, will soon produce a check on infection that will be a lasting benefit to the people.

46. The kindred disease of yaws was also attacked by an intensive treatment with Novarsenobillon. It is said the disease in its worst forms succumbs in a short time to the effects of this drug. The results are reported to be so encouraging as to hold out every hope that in a comparatively short period the disease will practically cease to exist in Grenada.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

47. The past year that will ever be remembered as the year of the glorious triumph of the Allies will also be recalled in the Colony as one of unexampled prosperity. Looking back on the protracted period of the War, the enormous sacrifice of material wealth, the appalling loss of life and suffering, and the immense strain imposed on the Mother Country and on other parts of the Empire, the inhabitants of this Colony have to be more than thankful that they had to bear no greater trials than were caused by a limited deprivation of the necessities of life, and that their island home has been fortunately able to emerge from the trying times in a state of financial prosperity, and with an outlook full of promise for the future.

E. D. LABORDE,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
25th September, 1919.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
991	Straits Settlements	1917
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	,,
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1917–1918
996	Nyasaland	,,
997	Basutoland	,,
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
1000	Zanzibar	,,
1001	Hong Kong	,,
1002	Somaliland	1917–1918
1003	Cayman Islands	,,
1004	Malta	1918–1919
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	,,
1007	Ceylon	,,
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	,,
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1012	Ashanti	,,
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland	,,
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	,,
1019	Bermuda	,,
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office,
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1037.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917–18 see No. 977.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

July, 1920.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1920.

[Cmd. 508-20.] *Price* 1*d*. *Net.*

No. 1037.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1918–19.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The financial position of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1919, was :—

Surplus at 1st April, 1918		£1,460 16 7
Revenue in 1918–19..	£41,503 3 10	
Expenditure in 1918–19	36,356 5 6	
		5,146 18 4
Surplus at 1st April, 1919 ..		£6,607 14 11

2. These figures are exclusive of £599 6*s.* 8*d.* received from the funds of the Rockefeller International Health Board, of which £240 18*s.* 5*d.* was expended for the purposes of a campaign against the ankylostomiasis (hookworm) disease, the remainder, £358 8*s.* 3*d.*, having been refunded to the Board at the close of the campaign in September, 1918 ; and also of the sum of £1,235, being the accumulated contributions at the close of the year towards the redemption of loans, which have been credited to Revenue and form part of the Colony's gross surplus.

3. In the last two financial years the total gross revenue and expenditure amounted to :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1917–18	£37,535 ..	£34,555
1918–19	42,488 ..	36,597

4. The net local revenue and expenditure in the same years amounted to :—

	Local Revenue.	Expenditure against Local Revenue.
1917–18	£35,102 ..	£32,706
1918–19	41,503 ..	35,105

*A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 858 [Cd. 7622–49.]

5. The principal items of revenue in the last two years were :—

	1917–18.	1918–19.
Import duties	£13,438	£17,620
Export duties	1,682	2,520
Excise duty on rum	5,938	6,723
Land and House tax	3,206	3,282
Income tax	722	798

6. The sums received for Customs duties and for Export duties in 1918–19 were respectively more than the Estimates by £3,620 or 25·9 per cent. and £145 or 6·1 per cent. The large increase under Import duties was due principally to the extension, by Ordinance No. 7 of 1918, of the period for the collection of additional duties to include the year under review.

7. The revenue from Excise during the year was £6,723, showing an increase of £1,523 over the estimate and £785 in excess of the receipts of the previous year.

8. In Post Office revenue there was a decrease of £146 on the estimate for 1918–19 due to the non-realization of the estimate for sale of War stamps.

9. The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions of the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested, and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this Fund, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue.

10. There are other funds not derived from taxation, such as the Graham Bequest Fund and the Land Settlement Fund. From the Graham Fund, contributions are provided to meet certain expenditure in connection with the Colonial Hospital, and from the other Fund, which is derived from an Imperial grant-in-aid in 1898, roads to the settlers' allotments are maintained.

Public Debt.

11. On the 1st of April, 1918, the public debt of the Colony was £9,900. During the year £700 was paid for the Post Office premises, leaving the public debt at £9,200, which includes a loan of £1,500 raised by the Kingstown Board in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible in case of default.

12. The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £4,019 5*s.* 0*d.* on the 31st of March, 1919, and towards the repayment of which £3,317 14*s.* 5*d.* has been received from planters.

Currency.

13. British and American gold, five-dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

(679) Wt.32796/354. 1,250 & 90. 7.20. G.11/14.

Finances of Municipalities.

14. The total revenue and expenditure of the chief towns during the last two years were :—

Town.	Revenue. 1917	Revenue. 1918	Expenditure. 1917	Expenditure. 1918.
Kingstown ..	£1,952	£2,061	£1,749	£1,903
Georgetown ..	181	172	195	156
Calliaqua ..	59	55	46	45
Layou.. ..	75	65	73	53
Barrouallie ..	76	78	58	48
Chateaubelair	35	44	26	37

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

15. The total values of imports and exports in the last two years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
1917 ..	£122,114	£104,397	£226,511
1918 ..	134,699	195,205	329,904

16. The chief places whence the imports came and the values for the last two years were :—

	1917.	1918.
United Kingdom	£36,492	£53,114
Canada	27,950	27,387
British West Indies ..	11,143	9,984
India	330	145
Newfoundland	2,028	1,664
Other British Colonies ..	1,685	290
United States of America	38,512	38,604
France	1,476	992
Other Countries	2,498	2,519
	£122,114	£134,699

17. The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1917.	1918.
United Kingdom	29·88	39·43
United States of America	31·54	28·66
Canada	22·89	20·33
All other Countries ..	15·69	11·50

18. Of the £134,699 of imports, £43,711 was the value of articles classified under "Food, Drink, and Tobacco," and £74,712 was the value of manufactured articles.

EXPORTS.

19. The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1917 and 1918 were as follows :—

	1917.	1918.
United Kingdom	£58,276 ..	£144,618
Canada	4,764 ..	11,751
United States of America	3,709 ..	4,122
British West Indies	28,896 ..	29,171
British Guiana	1,114 ..	3,394
Other Countries	2,975 ..	722
	£99,734	£193,778

20. The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1917.	1918.
Arrowroot	£40,296 ..	£95,828
Cotton—		
Sea Island	16,934 ..	58,119
Marie Galante	1,848 ..	2,803
Cocoa	3,911 ..	6,021
Sugar		
Muscovado	6,249 ..	5,296
Syrup and Molasses ..	3,102 ..	4,796
Animals	3,762 ..	2,356
Cassava starch	1,420 ..	3,831
Pea Nuts	380 ..	6,046

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

21. The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy seed-cotton and corn (maize) on profit-sharing terms. The following quantities were dealt with during the season :—Sea Island seed-cotton 386,431 lb., Marie Galante seed-cotton 117,588 lb., corn on cob 71,883 lb., grain corn 54,335 lb. The corn when kiln-dried amounted to 104,899 lb., and was stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1919.

The co-operative enterprises continued to receive the support of the small growers, and they have had a beneficial influence on both cotton and corn-growing in the Colony. The number of pass books issued to growers was 2,375.

22. Since October 1917, the local Government, on behalf of the Imperial Government, have bought all the Sea Island cotton produced in the Colony. Growers thereby received remunerative prices for ginned cotton delivered in Kingstown on the scale of 3*s.* per lb. for ordinary quality, 3*s.* 4*d.* for good ordinary and 4*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.* for superfine. This ready and remunerative market, as well as the increased confidence placed in the cotton industry as a result of the work of the Agricultural Department in connection with the control of the cotton stainer pest, led to the planting of 1,125 acres more than in the preceding year. The area planted in the 1917–18 season was 3,458 acres as against 4,583 acres in 1918–19. The output in 1918–19 was 437,273 lb. or 95·4 lb. per acre, as against 329,115 lb. in 1917–18.

23. Satisfactory progress was made in the cultivation of corn (maize). Besides the quantity purchased by the Government Granary and that used for domestic consumption soon after it was reaped, 170,079 lb. was exported as against 159,880 lb. in 1917–18. The progressive increase in exports is shown below :—

1914	761 bushels.
1915	1,518 „
1916	1,652 „
1917	2,855 „
1918	3,037 „

24. The sugar and syrup industries were well maintained, although the exports during the year were not as large as in the two previous years. The following table gives the exports for the last five years :—

Year.	Sugar. lb.	Value. £	Syrup and Molasses. gals.	Value. £	Total Value. £
1914	281,990	1,586	8,904	252	1,838
1915	505,232	3,253	10,079	503	3,756
1916	1,198,314	9,520	33,771	1,475	10,995
1917	1,264,201	11,584	81,144	3,102	14,686
1918	316,460	3,297	79,834	4,796	8,093

In 1916 there was manufactured 36,451 proof gallons of rum, of which 12,230 were exported in the same year ; the corresponding figures in 1917 were 34,129 and 8,038, as compared with 20,858 gallons manufactured in 1918, none of which was exported.

25. The position in regard to the arrowroot market during the year was unstable. In the calender year 1917 the exports amounted to 4,737,548 lb. as compared with 5,084,262 lb. in 1918.

26. The pea nut was a minor crop of increasing importance, as was indicated by the export of 13,489 bushels of the value of £6,046, against 14,424 bushels in 1917 of the value of £6,380.

27. The Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies continued to make progress, and all loans had been repaid when due. The total number of Societies was 21 with 1,060 members, as compared with 925 members in the previous year.

28. The Agricultural Department continued to be occupied with cotton-breeding experiments and the production of supplies of pedigree Sea Island cotton-seed of ordinary grade for planting. Manurial and planting experiments with cotton and arrowroot were conducted. The maintenance of a supply of improved seed corn (maize) and trials of a large number of varieties of peas and beans were other features of the work undertaken. Entomological investigations connected with the life histories and control of the cotton stainer and bush bugs attacking cotton plants were continued. The measures adopted for the destruction of the cotton stainer have proved efficacious.

29. Of land under the Land Settlement Scheme in the Island of St. Vincent, 8 allotments containing 22 acres were sold for £129 10*s.* 6*d.*, and of Crown Lands 927 acres were sold for £481 8*s.* 4*d.*

SHIPPING.

30. The number of vessels entered in 1918 was 287, of 104,548 tons; and 284 cleared, of 107,369 tons. Six vessels were registered, of 111 tons total.

III.—EDUCATION.

31. The following table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1917–18 and 1918–19:—

	1917–18.	1918–19.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st March	3,931	3,914
Number of pupils in average attendance	1,945	1,861
Government Grant	£1,851	£1,724
Cost per head in average attendance	19*s.*	18*s.* 7*d.*

32. Eight of the 27 primary schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other 19 schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these 19 schools are paid from public funds.

33. There were 9 other schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools", which were assisted by small grants from the Government.

34. For the secondary education of boys and girls the Government maintains in Kingstown a Grammar School and a Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1917–18 and 1918–19 was 40 boys and 21 and 20 girls.

35. To pupils of Primary Schools the Government offers annually an exhibition to the Grammar School tenable for four years with free tuition; and, biennially, a scholarship tenable for four years with free tuition and a grant of £2 a term towards the cost of the pupil's board and lodging in Kingstown. This scholarship can be won only by a pupil who resides not less than a mile beyond the boundaries of Kingstown. There are always four exhibitioners and two scholars in attendance at the Grammar School.

36. The Board of Education has also established a student-teachership by which certain pupil teachers of the third year are given two years at the Grammar School at the expense of the Primary Education Vote. The pupil continues to draw his pay while in attendance at the Grammar School.

37. Ordinances No. 20 and No. 21 of 1917 empower the Town Board of Kingstown and the Town Wardens of Georgetown to spend certain sums from Town Funds towards scholarships and exhibitions on lines similar to the Government Exhibitions.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

38. During 1918–19 there were 982 admissions to the Colonial Hospital, making, with those remaining from the previous year, 1,049 cases treated, as compared with 1,100 in 1917–18. The daily average number of patients was 86 in 1918–19. The death rate was 5·7 per cent. of the 1,049 cases treated; in 1917–18 it was 6·3 per cent. The number of operations performed was 352, being 184 more than in 1917–18.

39. The Casualty Hospital at Georgetown, with four beds, continued to fulfil its purpose of providing the means of treating emergency cases; 32 cases were treated as against 23 in 1917–18.

40. At the Yaws Hospital 80 cases were treated in 1918–19 and 49 of these were discharged cured. At the usual District Dispensaries and at special Travelling Dispensaries 999 other yaws patients were treated during the year. The number under treatment at the close of 1917–18 was 619.

Cases admitted	380
„ discharged cured	299
„ still under treatment	324
„ unaccounted for	376

From the inception of this campaign on 1st April, 1916, to 31st March, 1919, the following results have been obtained:—

Total cases treated	2,688
„ „ discharged cured	1,451
„ „ under treatment	324

Asylums.

41. There were 46 lunatics under detention and treatment at the Fort Charlotte Lunatic Asylum, of whom 12 were new admissions. Four were discharged cured and five died.

42. In the Leper Asylum there were 8 patients on the 31st March, 1918. Four were admitted during the year and two died.

43. The number of inmates of the Pauper Asylum on the 31st March, 1918, was 62. During 1918–19 there were 26 new admissions. Six were discharged and fourteen died.

Ankylostomiasis Campaign.

44. The campaign undertaken by the Rockefeller International Health Board for the eradication of the ankylostomiasis, or hookworm disease, was carried on by Dr. P. B. Gardner to 9th September, 1918. Of 21,430 persons examined, 12,395 were found to be infected with hookworm; the number treated was 11,577, of whom 10,279 were cured. In addition the sanitary preventive work of providing fly-proof latrines and closets of an approved pattern has proceeded uninterruptedly throughout the year, notwithstanding the closing down of the campaign by the Rockefeller International Health Board on the 9th September, 1918. New latrines to the number of 450 were erected at homes located within the area in which the campaign was conducted.

Savings Bank.

45. The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalised.
1917	1,006	£4,365	£6,420	£15,437
1918	993	5,004	4,697	16,167

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st of December, 1918, amounted to £18,143 2*s.* 5*d.*

V.—JUDICIAL.

46. The police force consisted of a Chief and 48 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates. In addition to ordinary police work they perform duties as sanitary inspectors, and in connection with district post offices, births and deaths registration, poor relief, and the operation of district telephone exchanges. The warders of the Kingstown Prison are members of the Police force. The fire brigade of Kingstown consists of police constables, who receive supplementary pay for this service from the funds of the Kingstown Board.

47. The numbers of convicted persons committed to prison in 1918–19 was 220, of whom 141 were men and 79 women. There were also 26 juveniles who were whipped by order of Magistrates, but not detained in custody. The daily average number of prisoners in the Kingstown Prison was 30·09, as compared with 34·56 in 1917–18.

48. The number of cases reported to the police was 566, and 336 of these were brought before Magistrates. The number of summary convictions was 869, and the number of convictions in the Supreme Court was 12, as compared with 916 and 13 in 1917–18. In the Magistrates Courts 541 persons were discharged for want of prosecution, and 215 were acquitted on the merits.

49. On charges of praedial larceny 133 persons were convicted. The number in 1917–18 was 233.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

50. The population of the Colony in 1911 was 41,877, according to the census taken in that year. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population on the 31st March, 1919, is 51,990. This estimate is based on the census return for 1911 with corrections for births, deaths, immigration and emigration.

51. Illegitimate births numbered 1,193 or 66·46 per cent. of the total numbers of all births. The percentage in 1917–18 was 65·91.

52. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	1917–18.	1918–19.
Births	1,857	1,795
Males	948	951
Females	909	844
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	36·64	34·52
Deaths	1,064	1,113
Death-rate per 1,000	20·99	21·47
Marriages	102	134
Marriage-rate per 1,000	2·01	2·57

53. The rainfall at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 99·36 inches in 1918–19, 92·96 inches in 1917–18, 115·25 in 1916–17, 114·99 in 1915–16 and 72·67 in 1914–15. The figures for the past 18 years show that June to November are the months in which most rain falls.

54. Rain fell on 253 days in 1918–19, and the greatest fall for one day was 4·42 inches, on the 17th of September, 1918. The greatest fall for one day in the previous year was 2·17 inches on the 18th April, 1917.

55. The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation, and temperature, ranged from 30·129 inches on the 11th of July, 1918, to 29·739 on the 22nd August, 1918.

56. The mean monthly temperature was 78·9° F. The highest was 80·8° F. in September, 1918, and the lowest was 76·8° F. in March, 1919.

VII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

57. Steamships of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, under contract with the Canadian Government, called at irregular intervals on their outward voyages to British Guiana and less frequently on their homeward voyages ; and during the year nine steamers of the Direct Line also brought, and took, cargo and mails. Mails were also sent, and received, by occasional sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Grenada, with which Colonies there is direct communication by steamer with the United Kingdom and the United States.

58. The Postal Department, with headquarters in Kingstown and 17 district post offices, continued to provide facilities for the transaction of postal business. Mails were sent to the Windward side of the Island by motor-car and by rowing boat to the Leeward side, and by sailing vessel to the Grenadines.

59. There is no inland telegraph service. A subsidy of £300 a year is paid by the St. Vincent Government to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, in return for which the Colony receives daily news bulletins, and participates in a system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

60. The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with all the police stations in the small towns and villages, and with the places of residence, and business of renters. Payment of ten shillings a month entitles a renter to be put in communication with

all the districts of the Colony. There were 91 telephones rented by the general public in 1918–19, and 66 were attached to Government departments for official use. A small charge is made for messages sent by persons who are not renters of telephones. There are 77 miles of trunk lines and 86 miles of lines connecting renters with the exchanges. The revenue in 1918–19 was £769 7*s.* 9*d.*, and the expenditure was £563 13*s.* 8*d.*

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

61. The glad tidings on the 11th November, 1918, of the cessation of hostilities with Germany and her Allies, was received with great rejoicing. The telegram announcing the welcome news was proclaimed throughout the Island by the several ministers of religion at the annual Thanksgiving services which by a coincidence, had been appointed to be held on that day.

62. In order to ameliorate the hardship caused to the poorer classes by the continued high cost of living, an Ordinance removing the 10 per cent. additional duty on the necessary commodities of life was passed by the Legislative Council on the 31st March, 1919.

63. His Honour Anthony DeFreitas continued to administer the Government until the return on the 16th December, 1918, of His Honour R. Popham Lobb, who had been acting Administrator of the Government of St. Lucia since the 20th March, 1917.

S. J. THOMAS.
Acting Administrator.

Government House, St. Vincent,
25th March, 1920.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1003	Cayman Islands	1917–1918
1004	Malta	1918–1919
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	"
1007	Ceylon	"
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	"
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1012	Ashanti	"
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland	"
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	"
1019	Bermuda	"
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918–1919
1024	Jamaica	"
1025	Cyprus	"
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918–1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	"
1030	Nigeria	"
1031	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918
1035	Barbados	1918–1919
1036	Mauritius	1918

MISCELLANEOUS.

No	Colony, &c.	Subject.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office,
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1043.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918–19 see No. 1023.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1920.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1920.

[Cmd. 508–26.] *Price 2d. Net.*

No. 1043

GRENADA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1919.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. The financial year has been changed to correspond with the calendar year. The advantage of the change is that the annual statistics and returns, the majority of which were already rendered in respect of the calendar year, will now relate to the same period. It happens, also, that the passing of the annual budget as from the 1st of January in each year will facilitate the execution of public works, and of projects that require to await approval of the Estimates, as such will now be undertaken from the commencement of the dry season, which sets in at the beginning of the year and continues until May.

2. The financial period under review is from 1st April to 31st December, 1919, and it would serve no useful purpose to compare the results with any full year, nor, on account of the unsettled and changed conditions that have prevailed, with a corresponding nine months' period in previous years. It will be sufficient to offer a remark or two on the differences between the estimated and actual revenue and expenditure.

3. With regard to revenue, the estimated amount was £81,068, while the amount actually received during the period reached £87,295. The increase of £6,399 is attributable to an increase of £2,820 under the head of Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue, chiefly arising from the increased duty on rum, and the greater consumption of that article owing to the cost of imported spirits. Post Office receipts were higher than estimated for by £544, on account of higher commission rates on money orders, which were raised to meet advanced bank rates. A sum of £1,537 was transferred to revenue in the period, being three years' profit on the Government Drug Store. Against these increased receipts, there was a slight drop in Customs Revenue of £375, caused by fewer steamers arriving in consequence of strikes in the United States of America.

4. The expenditure during the period amounted to £107,011, being £20,750 over the estimate of £87,491. This considerable excess was caused chiefly by the following unforeseen expenditure:

* A map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 852 [Cd. 7622–43].

	£
Payments to returned Grenada Contingent ..	10,220
Refund of Voluntary Allotments	905
Extra Ration Allowance	588
Peace Celebrations	1,090
Other War Expenses	1,844
Medicines and Disinfectants	2,312

In other respects the expenditure varied but slightly from the amounts placed on the Estimates.

Surplus Assets.

5. The net result of the financial operations of the period being that actual expenditure exceeded receipts by £19,716, the surplus assets have been reduced by that sum. The assets amounted on 31st December, 1919, to £39,795.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt was increased by £82,400, in consequence of further subscriptions to the local loan which was floated in 1917. The debt now amounts to £206,070, against which the Sinking Fund has reached the sum of £52,974.

Finances of District Boards.

7. Six District Boards manage the municipal affairs of the towns, and have charge of water supplies, sanitary arrangements and upkeep of byeways. Their revenue and expenditure for the period and their loan debts at 31st December, 1919, were as under :

	Revenue	*Expenditure*	*Loan Debts*
St. George's	£4,003	£3,759	£13,347
St. Andrew's	2,556	2,525	2,240
St. Patrick's	1,834	1,745	4,528
St. John's	1,301	1,181	3,250
St. Mark's	685	629	1,200
St. David's	825	825	—

Some of the debts are being reduced by annual repayments, and against others sinking funds have been established.

II.—TRADE, INDUSTRIES, AND SHIPPING.

Imports.

8. The imports during the calendar year 1919 amounted in value to £438,110. Nearly half, actually £214,743, came from foreign countries, chiefly the United States, the imports from which were of the value of £202,465. The imports from the United Kingdom amounted to £94,237, from Canada £60,882, Newfoundland £17,293. The joint total from the United Kingdom and all other parts of the British Empire was £223,367.

(706) Wt.32596/354, 1,250 & 90. 10.20. B.&F.,Ltd. G.11/14.

9. Food and drink supplies and tobacco amounted to £201,371, the principal sources of supply being the United States (£80,046), Canada (£45,642), Newfoundland (£17,293), Trinidad (£19,645) and United Kingdom (£12,374).

10. The value of imports of articles wholly or mainly manufactured was £148,722, of which the United States accounted for £68,886 and the United Kingdom for £59,241.

11. The change in the sources of supply of imports may be seen from the following table :—

Imports.

	1913.		1919.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage
U.K.	£113,076	40	£94,237	21·5
U.S.A.	88,343	31·2	202,465	46·2
British Dominions and Colonies ..	69,136	24·4	129,130	29·5
Other Places ..	12,372	4·4	12,278	2·8
Total Value ..	£282,927	—	£438,110	—

12. The principal articles of import were :—

Apparel	£6,245
Bags and sacks	4,660
Biscuits, bread and cakes	4,943
Boots and shoes	9,721
Butter	4,312
Motor cars and parts	9,832
Cement	3,694
Cotton piece goods	38,733
Other cotton manufactures	11,639
Fish, dried and salted	20,896
Flour	75,195
Rice	11,502
Corn (maize)	3,363
Haberdashery and millinery	4,791
Hardware	5,649
Manure, chemical	3,628
Meat, salted and cured	7,497
Medicines and drugs	10,082
Iron and steel manufactures	5,085
Kerosene oil	7,291
Gasoline	6,065
Oleomargarine	7,036
Soap, common	7,618
Sugar	14,353

The importations of flour, fish, sugar and rice, amounting in value to £121,946, show the extent to which the Colony is dependent on outside sources for its food supplies.

Exports.

13. The value of the exports amounted to £637,369, the principal products exported being :—

	Quantity.	*Value.*
Cocoa	99,368 cwts.	£539,740
Spices : Nutmegs ..	15,354 ,,	54,281
Mace	2,193 ,,	14,218
Lime juice, raw	17,000 gallons	3,042
,, ,, concen. ..	300 ,,	113
Cotton, raw	2,748 cwts.	11,908
Cotton seed	7,067 ,,	2,855

14. Of cocoa, 46·9 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 15·4 per cent. to the United States, 23·0 per cent. to France and 14·7 per cent. to Trinidad. The United Kingdom took 31·6 per cent. of the nutmegs, the United States of America 49·6 per cent., and Canada 16·9 per cent. 42·1 per cent. of the mace went to the United Kingdom, 42·0 per cent. to the United States of America, and 14·2 per cent. to Canada. All the lime juice and raw cotton went to the United Kingdom.

15. The direction of trade in exports may be seen from the following table :—

Exports.

	1913.		1919.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage
U.K.	£228,232	62·2	£328,642	51·6
U.S.A.	89,666	24·4	107,867	16·9
British Dominions and Colonies ..	6,497	1·8	98,626	15·5
Other Places ..	42,755	11·6	102,224	16·0
Total Value ..	367,150	—	£637,359	—

The exports to "Other Places," amounting in value to £102,224 and consisting solely of cocoa, went to France.

Total Trade.

16. The value of the total trade of the Colony, represented by imports and exports, was £1,075,479

Shipping.

17. The following table shows the shipping which entered and cleared in 1919 :—

	Entered.		*Cleared.*	
	No.	*Tonnage.*	*No.*	*Tonnage.*
Sailing Vessels	483	10,978	505	11,530
Steam Vessels	131	357,483	132	357,569

The sailing vessels are principally small sloops owned locally. Fourteen of the sailing vessels entered came from Venezuela.

Of the steam vessels, 128 were British.

18. The steamship companies that provide regular services to and from Grenada are the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company, plying between New York, Grenada, and Trinidad every ten to fourteen days ; the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company with a fortnightly service to and from Canada ; and Scrutton, Sons, and Company to and from London fortnightly. The steamer service to New York occupies only seven days, that to Canada by the existing itinerary fifteen days, and to the United Kingdom sixteen days. The excellence of the service to New York materially assists the trade between Grenada and the United States.

III. PRODUCTIONS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

19. The sole industries of Grenada are those directly connected with cultivation of the soil. The greater part of the most fertile soil is under permanent crops, such as cocoa, nutmegs (with its derivate mace), limes, and coconuts. Almost all the cotton produced, which is of the Marie Galante variety, is grown in Carriacou, an island dependency lying to the north of Grenada and containing about 8,467 acres.

20. When sugar prices declined in the latter part of last century, many of the sugar estates in Grenada were abandoned, or sold out in small lots to new proprietors, who began to cultivate cocoa, for which the soil proved highly suitable. At first lands of a medium elevation above sea level were cultivated, there being an opinion that cocoa would not thrive on the low lands, but the cultivation has now extended to most of the lands formerly under sugar canes. The Governments of past years initiated and carried through a far-sighted policy of road and bridge construction, resulting in the bringing into profitable cultivation of nearly all the cultivable lands in the island. The island, which is very mountainous, is probably better supplied with good roads than any similar extent of hilly country in the world. Peasant settlements have been established by Government and there are now over 13,000 individual land owners, chiefly of lots under 5 acres in extent Estates over 100 acres in area number 143. Land now commands a high price

and can scarcely be obtained by persons not resident in the Colony, owing to keen local competition. It should be added that allotments under the Land Settlement Schemes of the Government are readily taken up by native agricultural labourers, and are not suited for settlers from a temperate zone.

21. The gradually increasing area under permanent crops has certain disadvantages. It reduces the area available for annual crops of foodstuffs and of grazing land for meat and milk supplies, with the result of increased cost of living to the general community through forced dependence on imported food. There is not enough sugar produced to meet the local demand, even with the assistance of the present high market price of sugar. A large amount of money also leaves the Colony for meat and foodstuffs of various kinds.

Cocoa.

22. The crop for the year ended 30th September 1919, was a moderate one, the produce amounting to 60,455 bags of 180 lbs. The average crop for the past 12 years has been 68,028 bags. Prices for this staple have been very good, and the value of the produce exported in 1919 was the highest on record, £539,740.

Spices.

23. The Agricultural Superintendent reports that the season was favourable for a good crop of nutmegs, which met with a good and steady market. Buyers from Canada have opened agencies here, and are obtaining a good share of the trade. Increased planting of nutmeg trees has taken place within the last five to seven years, and these areas, chiefly on the uplands, are now bringing this spice into bearing.

24. The increase in production and value of nutmegs and mace may be seen from the following table :—

		Quantity in lbs.	*Estimated Value.*
1914–15	..	1,674,276	£37,204
1915–16	..	1,940,965	51,690
1916–17	..	1,538,886	34,789
1917–18	..	1,910,147	55,505
1918–19	..	2,098,364	103,773

Cotton.

25. As previously remarked, this cultivation, of the Marie Galante type, is confined to Carriacou, and no important change is recorded in the crop, which amounted in quantity to 2,748 cwt. and in value to £11,908.

Limes.

26. Carriacou is also the principal producer of limes, and is the only place at present possessing a factory for the proper making and distilling of lime products. The cultivation there and in Grenada is hampered by the prevalence of scale insects. 17,100 gallons of raw, and 300 gallons of concentrated juice were exported during the year of a total value of £3,155. Despite efforts to encourage it, the cultivation is dwindling, the crop last year, expressed in barrels of fruit, being 2,465 barrels as compared with 21,671 barrels in 1918 and 27,253 in 1916.

Coconuts.

27. Large areas are being put into coconuts, and there will soon be an appreciable acreage under this crop, which gives promise of being a valuable industry in the near future.

Sugar.

28. The large estates in the southern portion of the island have been making efforts to increase production, but all over the island there appears to have been a shrinkage in the area under canes. In one instance it is reported that coconuts planted six to seven years ago have crowded out the cane cultivation. A few of the larger estates produce centrifugal sugar, but most of the other mills turn out what is known as "wet sugar." Despite the extraordinarily high prevailing prices, the output of sugar falls considerably below what is consumed in the colony, which imported this commodity to the value last year of £14,353.

Manufactures.

29. With the exception of the manufacture of sugar and rum, it can scarcely be said that there are any manufacturing industries in the island. Rum is made in fourteen distilleries, twelve of which were in operation during 1919, the quantity manufactured being 63,579·5 proof gallons. The stills are of the pot still type, with either one or two retorts and the largest still has no greater wash capacity than 400 gallons. The spirit is made from the drainings from muscovado sugar and in some instances from cane juice itself, and a very fine quality of rum could be produced if the manufacture were carried out on scientific lines. The quantity produced does not exceed the demand ; 54,968·5 gallons were duty paid in 1919. A profitable price is obtained for the rum, for which an increased demand has sprung up owing to the high price of imported spirits. In addition to the quantity manufactured locally, 2,314·5 gallons of rum were imported from Barbados.

30. Ice is manufactured by a local factory, which receives a subsidy from the Government. Attempts to establish a soap factory and a tanning industry have been made from time to time, but have not been successful.

31. A small whaling industry was started last year on the southern coast of Grenada, but has not yet reached a stage at which any report can be made.

Forestry.

32. An area of Crown Lands in the centre of the island, about 2,550 acres in extent, has been reserved in forest, in order to protect water supplies. Provision exists under a Forestry Ordinance for creating other Forest Areas and Rain Reserves, and a Forestry Board exists for the purpose of safeguarding the general interests in this respect. Although some valuable woods exist, the quantity is insufficient to establish any commercial enterprise in timber. A small quantity of mahogany was exported last year.

IV.—COST OF LIVING AND WAGES.

33. The cost of living, always fairly high in Grenada as compared with neighbouring Colonies, has greatly increased and is still steadily rising. Generally speaking, it may be said that wages and rates of pay have not been augmented to the extent necessary to meet the changed conditions and depreciated purchasing value of money. Owing to the large number of landowners and the increased market prices of their crops, a large section of the community are in the fortunate position of being better off than before, but for the labourer without land and the class who have fixed wages or salaries the conditions of living have become arduous in the extreme. The pay of male labourers is now 2*s*. per nominal day or task, as compared with 1*s*. in pre-war days, and increases have been given to the salaries of employés in mercantile firms, offices, and Government Departments.

V.—CURRENCY, BANKING, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

34. The coins in use are those of the United Kingdom. Gold has almost entirely disappeared from circulation. Silver, which is legal tender without limit, is the principal medium of ordinary monetary exchange. Supplies of silver, are, however, also becoming scarce, and it became necessary to prohibit by law the exportation of silver.

35. Branches of the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada are established in the Colony. Both have issues of banknotes of the

denomination of five dollars. Owing to the scarcity of silver, steps are being taken by the Government for the introduction of notes of smaller value.

36. The bank exchange rate with the United States of America has been adverse, in line with the exchange rate between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. It has acted as a barrier to trade from the United States, and led to increased orders to firms in the United Kingdom.

37. The weights and measures in use are of the Imperial standard.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

38. The Ordinances passed during the year 1919 numbered 20, many of them being Ordinances repealing war legislation. An Excess Profits Ordinance was passed towards the end of the year, but has not yet come into force.

VII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

39. The estimated population at the end of 1919 was 74,490.

40. The natural increase in population, i.e., the difference between births and deaths, was 1,139. The migration statistics, however, show an excess of departures over arrivals of 530. Deducting this excess of emigrants from the natural increase of population, an augmentation of population of 609 is recorded.

41. The deaths numbered 1,332, the death-rate per 1,000 being 17·9. The death rate in the previous year was 17·8, and the average for the period since 1901 has been 20·9. The death-rate among children below the age of 5 years is still high, as compared with deaths in temperate climates, but has been considerably reduced owing to preventive measures and assistance given by the Government towards supplying pure milk for the children of poor parents. The percentage of deaths under 5 years has fallen from 51·0 in 1917 to 41·3 in the past year.

42. The births numbered 2,471, of which 1,260 were boys and 1,211 girls. The birth-rate was 33·17 per 1,000, as compared with 34·66 for 1918.

43. 301 marriages were registered, being the same number as in 1918.

44. The principal causes of death are given below, with the figures for the two previous years for comparison :—

	1919	1918	1917
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	270	233	322
Malaria	88	105	88
Syphilis	38	80	63
Premature Birth and Diseases of Early Infancy	61	77	86
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	64	65	61
Dysentery	77	48	60

METEOROLOGICAL.

45. The meteorological observations are taken at the Station on Richmond Hill, St. George's, at an elevation of 509 feet above sea level. The records of this Station may be taken as representing the average meteorological conditions in Grenada.

46. The rainfall in 1919 was 73·09 inches, a decrease of 8·31 inches from the previous year, and 3·79 less than the average for the period since 1892. The rainfall varies greatly throughout the Colony, ranging from less than 20 inches in the extreme south to about 200 inches in the mountainous region of the interior. Cultivation prospers best in the regions with a rainfall between 60 and 120 inches annually.

47. The maximum temperature in the shade was 90° on the 2nd October, and the minimum 69° on the 23rd August.

The fact that it is a matter for special meteorological record whenever the thermometer in the shade reaches 90° or falls below 70° is worthy of note, as indicating a certain degree of equability in the climate. As a general rule, climatic conditions during the continuance of the trade winds, which prevail from December to June, may be said to be healthy and pleasant. The remaining months, owing to humidity and cessation of the breezes, are relaxing and enervating.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education.

48. Primary education is free, and is provided by 11 Government and 48 grant-in-aid schools, the latter belonging to the various denominations as follows, Roman Catholic 27, Anglican 14, Wesleyan 5, and Presbyterian 2.

49. The Government grant for primary education in 1919 amounted to £7,862.

50. The number of children on the roll at 31st December, 1919, was 9,898. The average attendance was 5,622.

Secondary.

51. Secondary education is provided by a Government Boys' School, and by two Girls' Schools belonging to the Roman Catholic and Anglican denominations, each of the latter schools receiving a grant-in-aid of one hundred and fifty pounds annually.

52. An external scholarship of the annual value of £175 (increased temporarily to £210) tenable for 5 years at an approved University in the United Kingdom, Canada, or the United States, is provided by Government, and is awarded annually on the results of the Senior Cambridge Local examination.

IX.—HOSPITALS, ASYLUMS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*

53. There are three ordinary hospitals in the Colony, the central institution being in St. George's, with accommodation for 140 patients. District hospitals are provided in St. Andrew's (12 beds) and in Carriacou (24 beds).

54. Two other hospitals are situated in St. George's, one for yaws patients, with accommodation for 70, and the other a Consumptive Hospital with 20 beds. The latter institution is pleasantly situated at Richmond Hill, at an elevation of about 600 feet above sea level.

55. Government dispensaries are now established in every parish and in Carriacou. A considerable sum is expended on free medicines, principally for the relief of venereal diseases and yaws.

(*b*) *Asylums.*

56. A Lunatic Asylum and a Poor Asylum are also erected on Richmond Hill, the former having 120 beds, and the latter 58.

Savings Bank.

57. A Government Savings Bank is established in St. George's, with branches in each of the parishes and in Carriacou. The rate of interest given on deposits is 3 per cent. The number of depositors on 31st December, 1919 was 1564, with £19,383 to their credit.

Medical Service.

58. A Government Medical Service, comprising a Colonial Surgeon, a Resident Surgeon for the Hospital in St. George's and eleven District medical officers, is maintained by Government. Medical attendance is given free to paupers, and at reduced rates to labourers under an approved scale of charges.

59. Two special campaigns against venereal disease and yaws respectively have been giving satisfactory results. The Colonial Surgeon reports that the beneficial results achieved by the intensive treatment of yaws by injections of Novarsenobillon in the districts

have been almost phenomenal and beyond the most optimistic anticipations. Patients recognizing the obvious good of the treatment come readily to the Medical Officers for treatment. In the short period from May to the end of the year 5,000 cases were injected with Novarsenobillon and 808 were discharged as cured. The Medical Officers have evinced the greatest keenness in this work, which they have performed in the most efficient manner, and one of the results, in the opinion of the Colonial Surgeon, of such extensive and sustained efforts to eradicate this loathsome disease will be the possibility of closing the Yaws Hospital within a short time and its utilisation for some other purpose.

60. The campaign instituted in 1918 against venereal diseases is being steadily proceeded with, and a great deal of conscientious work is being performed by the medical staff, with gratifying results to the patients concerned and the community in general.

61. The campaign against ankylostomiasis which was discontinued in November 1916 has not been started again, but will be resumed by the International Health Board as soon as the Colony can give a certificate that the areas to be operated on have been previously brought to a sufficient standard of sanitary efficiency. This disease is still prevalent throughout the Colony. Special attention is being given to improvement of general sanitation, both in respect of the special areas which are intended to be operated under the ankylostomiasis campaign, and in the Colony generally. Several sites for the erection of public latrines have been decided upon in the districts selected for operations under the International Health Board, and one latrine (at Mount Moritz Village) has been completed. The greatest difficulty in the way is the lack of domestic latrine accommodation of the poorer classes, and although the problem is difficult of solution every effort is being made to deal with it.

X.—POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

62. The Colony is well provided with postal facilities, there being branch post offices in each district in addition to numerous small sub-offices. A Government mail car service conveys mails daily from St. George's to the eastern districts, the requirements of the western side being met by a subsidised motor launch service.

63. The Colony is connected with the neighbouring islands by the cables of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

64. There are no inland telegraphs.

65. A telephone service is maintained by Government. There are five district exchanges in addition to the head office. The number of subscribers at the end of 1919 was 230, and there were 159 miles of trunk lines and connections.

XI.—GENERAL.

66. There is little of special interest to record in the history of the Colony in the short period under review. The official peace celebrations were carried through in July, separate public holidays being appointed for the several districts, in order to allow of the attendance of the public at the various functions. The Grenada Contingents of the British West Indies Regiment had the fortunate record of returning to the Colony with no casualties except from disease. The men were well looked after by the Returned Soldiers' Committee, and liberal grants, allowances, and refunds of voluntary allotments were paid to them from the Colony's funds. The pensions and gratuities in respect of disabled men are a charge against the Colony, which was able on that account to fix the rates on a scale that compares favourably with the rates in force in the neighbouring West Indian Colonies.

HERBERT FERGUSON.
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada.
26th July, 1920.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	"
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1012	Ashanti	"
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland	"
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	"
1019	Bermuda	"
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918–1919
1024	Jamaica	"
1025	Cyprus	"
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918–1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	"
1030	Nigeria	"
1031	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918
1035	Barbados	1918–1919
1036	Mauritius	1918
1037	St Vincent	1918–1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
1039	St Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	"
1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1063.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1919

(APRIL TO DECEMBER.)

(For Report for 1918–19 see No. 1037.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

FEBRUARY, 1921.

LONDON:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and
28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER;
1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN

1921.

[Cmd. 1103-6] *Price 1d. Net.*

No. 1063.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF ST. VINCENT FOR APRIL TO DECEMBER, 1919.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land, about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of 9 miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton ; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The general health of the inhabitants continued to be good throughout the year.

His Excellency the Governor was resident in the Colony from the 26th September to the 16th October, 1919.

The remunerative prices for cotton, syrup, and cocoa continued during the period under review.

Increases in the prices of foodstuffs continued and the purchasing power of money was in consequence reduced by over 100 per cent.

There are 284 miles of public roads affording communication in all directions. Motor cars are being gradually substituted for horses and carriages.

The postage on letters between the United States and this Colony was reduced from 2½d. to 1d. per ounce, and there was a noticeable increase in the number of letters despatched.

The telegram announcing the signing of the Peace Treaty with Germany was enthusiastically received on the 29th June, 1919. The 19th, 24th, and 25th July were the days set apart for the Peace Celebrations. Bonfires throughout the Colony were lit at eight o'clock on the evening of the 19th, and on the 24th and 25th special provision was made for the entertainment of the returned invalided members of the St. Vincent contingents of the British West Indies Regiment, the poor, the inmates of hospitals, asylums and charitable institutions, and school children. General rejoicing prevailed throughout the Colony.

III.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1919, was :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Surplus at 1st April, 1919 ..				6,607	14	11
Expenditure in 1919	35,361	2	1			
Revenue in 1919	34,110	16	3			
				1,250	5	10
Surplus at 31st December, 1919 ..				£5,357	9	1

From this must be deducted the sum of £260, being the contribution to the Public Loans Redemption Fund for the period 1st April to 31st December, 1919, thus showing a net surplus of £5,097 9s. 1d.

The total revenue and expenditure from all sources in the last three financial periods were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1917–18	37,535	34,555
1918–19	42,488	36,597
1919	34,111	35,361

The net local revenue and expenditure amounted to :—

	Local Revenue	*Expenditure against Local Revenue.*
	£	£
1917–18	35,102	32,706
1918–19	41,503	35,105
1919	32,851	33,094

The principal items of revenue in the last two financial periods were :—

	1918–19.	1919.
	£	£
Import duties	17,620	13,084
Export duties	2,520	1,512
Excise duty on rum	6,723	4,777
Land and House Tax ..	3,282	4,897
Income Tax	798	849

(1881) Wt.29921/587 1,250 & 90 2/21 Harrow (G. 75/1921)

The sum received for Import duties was £4,434 more than was estimated, due to increased importations and to the increased value of goods on which an *ad valorem* duty was leviable. The collections for Export duties realised £738 less than estimated, due mainly to restricted exportations of arrowroot in consequence of the condition of the market abroad. The value having considerably declined, the export duty on this commodity was reduced from 1s. to 3d. per cwt. from 2nd November, 1919.

The revenue from Excise duty for the nine months was £4,777, showing an increase of £877 on the estimate.

In Post Office revenue there was an increase of £815, due to large sales of postage stamps, increased receipts from commission on money orders, and premiums on remittances from the United States in settlement of money order transactions.

The War Tax Stamp, under the provisions of the War Stamp Ordinance, 1916, was discontinued from the 30th June, 1919.

Local revenue amounted to £32,851, being £7,555 in excess of the estimate.

The total expenditure of the Colony was £35,361, which included the sum of £1,118 from Loan Funds for the reconstruction of the Windward Highway, and £1,149 in connection with the return to the Colony of the St. Vincent contingents of the British West Indies Regiment.

The local expenditure, which was £33,094, showed an excess on the estimate of £4,891, due principally to the increased cost of the upkeep of Government institutions, a grant of 10 per cent. to local pensioners, the payment of War bonuses to Government officials, and the cost of the Peace Celebrations.

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufriere volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

There are also other funds of less importance forming assets of the Colony which were not derived from taxation. Some of these are extinguishable in time, but others, such as the Graham Bequest Fund and the Thompson Home Fund, are available only to the extent of the annual interest obtained from them.

Public Debt.

The public debt at the close of the year stood at £10,200, as against £9,900 in 1918–19. During the period a sum of £1,000 was raised under the authority of Ordinance No. 8 of 1917, the Windward Highway Loan Ordinance, by the issue of five debentures of £200 each bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. Included in the debt is a loan of £1,500 raised by the Kingstown Board in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible in case of default.

The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £3,369 5s. on the 31st of December, 1919. On that date there had been received from planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £2,846 18s. 9d., of which £2,839 11s. 7d. was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

The accumulated sinking funds provided for the redemption of the public debt of £10,200 stood at £1,495 on the 31st of December, 1919.

Currency.

British and American gold, five dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

Finances of Municipalities.

The total revenue and expenditure of the towns during the last two years was :—

Town.	*Revenue.* 1918.	*Revenue.* 1919.	*Expenditure.* 1918.	*Expenditure.* 1919.
Kingstown	£2,061	£2,242	£1,903	£2,191
Georgetown	172	174	156	143
Calliaqua	55	57	45	68
Layou	65	67	53	73
Barrouallie	78	74	48	62
Chateaubelair	44	44	37	59
Bequia	13	13	4	5

Debts of Towns.

At the 31st December, 1919, the towns were indebted to the Government for the following balances of loans made to them :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Kingstown Board—						
For repairs to Rose Place drain	30	15	1			
Improvement Loan	150	0	0			
				180	15	1
Georgetown Improvement Loan				240	0	0
Calliaqua Water Supply Loan				306	5	0
Layou Water Supply Loan				152	0	0
Barrouallie Water Supply Loan				128	0	0
				£1,007	0	1

Provision for repayment of these loans is made by rates. Kingstown is also indebted in a further sum of £1,500, referred to above.

IV.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1911 was 41,877, according to the census taken in that year. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population on the 31st December, 1919, is 53,210. This estimate is based on the census return for 1911 with corrections for births, deaths, immigration, and emigration.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	1918–19.	*April to December.* 1919.
Births	1,795	1,320
Males	951	681
Females	844	639
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ..	34·52	24·8
Deaths	1,113	706
Death-rate per 1,000	21·47	20·67
Marriages	134	99
Marriage-rate per 1,000 ..	2·57	1·86

Illegitimate births numbered 899, or 68·1 per cent. of the total number of all births. The percentage in 1918–19 was 66·46.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 ft. above sea level, was 99·52 in. as compared with 99·36 in. in 1918–19, 92·96 in. in 1917–18 and 115·25 in. in 1916–17. The figures for the past 19 years show that June to November are the months in which most rain falls.

Rain fell on 208 days in 1919 and the greatest fall for one day was 3·61 in. on 23rd August. The greatest fall for one day in 1918–19 was 4·42 in. on the 17th September, 1918.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30·206 in. on the 19th August to 29·847 in. on the 11th November, 1919.

The mean monthly temperature was 80·3° F. The highest was 82·6° F. in April and the lowest was 78·0° F. in December, 1919.

V.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1918 and 1919 were :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1918 ..	134,699	195,205	329,904
1919 ..	185,128	153,892	339,020

Produce of the Colony to the value of £149,749 was exported in 1919.

The places whence the imports came and the values for the last two years are :—

	1918.	1919.
	£	£
United Kingdom	53,114	58,121
Canada	27,387	54,123
British West Indies	9,984	13,186
India	145	557
Newfoundland	1,664	971
Other British Colonies ..	290	898
United States of America ..	38,604	54,750
France	992	883
Denmark	124	72
Holland	102	137
Foreign West Indies	1,018	465
Other Countries..	1,275	965
	£134,699	£185,128

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1918.	1919.
United Kingdom	39·43	31·40
United States of America ..	28·66	29·24
Canada	20·33	29·57
All other Countries	11·50	9·80

Of the £185,128 of imports, £66,883 was the value of articles classified under "Food, Drink, and Tobacco," and £83,730 the value of manufactured articles.

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1918 and 1919 were as follows :—

	1918.	1919.
	£	£
United Kingdom	144,618	87,523
Canada	11,751	13,068
United States of America ..	4,122	3,311
British West Indies	29,171	40,498
British Guiana	3,394	4,046
Other Countries..	722	1,303
	£193,778	£149,749

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1918.	1919.
	£	£
Arrowroot	95,828	42,222
Cotton—		
Sea Island	58,119	64,004
Marie Galante	2,803	2,778
Cocoa	6,021	6,385
Sugar—		
Muscovado	3,296	3
Syrup and Molasses ..	4,796	10,723
Cassava Starch	3,831	4,836
Pea Nuts	6,046	5,098
Animals	2,356	3,980

The reduction in the exports of arrowroot was due to the decline in the prices in the London market.

There was a marked improvement in the trade with Canada in fancy molasses or syrup during the year, and the high prices obtaining in that market induced planters to manufacture syrup instead of Muscovado sugar.

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy seed cotton and corn (maize) on profit sharing terms. The following quantities were dealt with during the season :—

	lb.	lb.
Sea Island seed cotton ..		332,773
Marie Galante		288,504
Corn on cob	92,672	
Corn, grain	83,842	
		176,514

The corn when kiln dried amounted to 151,800 lb. and was stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1920.

The co-operative enterprises continued to receive the support of the small growers, and they have had a beneficial influence on both cotton and corn growing in the Colony. The number of pass books issued to growers was 2,611 as against 2,375 last year.

Since October, 1917, the local Government, on behalf of the Imperial Government, have bought all the Sea Island cotton produced in the Colony. Growers thereby received remunerative prices for ginned cotton delivered in Kingstown on the scale of 3s. per lb. for ordinary quality, 3s. 4d. for good ordinary, and 4s. 2d. to 4s. 7d. for superfine. This ready market as well as the increased confidence placed in the cotton industry as a result of the work of the Agricultural Department in connection with the control of the cotton stainer pest led to the planting of 6,633 acres, of which 5,079 were in Sea Island and 1,554 in Marie Galante, the largest area ever planted in cotton in St. Vincent. The output in 1919 was 475,650 lb., or 93 lb. per acre, as compared with 437,273 lb., or 95·4 lb., in 1918-19. The weather conditions in November were unfavourable and a large number of the bolls were attacked by fungus diseases, added to which the lint could not be picked and the seeds germinated in the bolls. About 25 per cent. of the crop was lost on this account.

The transactions at the Government Granary were considerably in excess of those of the previous years. The industry continued to yield satisfactory results. Besides the quantity purchased and that used for home consumption, 69,016 lb. of corn were exported as against 170,079 lb. in 1918–19.

The sugar cane industry is again becoming an important one in the Colony, and during the year the manufacture of syrup considerably increased, only a small proportion being made into sugar. The following table gives the exports for the last five years :—

Year.	*Sugar.*	*Value.*	*Syrup and Molasses.*	*Value.*	*Total Value.*
	lb.	*£*	*Galls.*	*£*	*£*
1915	505,232	3,253	10,079	503	3,756
1916	1,198,314	9,520	33,771	1,475	10,995
1917	1,264,201	11,584	81,144	3,102	14,686
1918	316,460	3,297	79,834	4,796	8,093
1919	250	3	170,842	10,722	10,725

In 1919 there was manufactured 27,211 proof gallons of rum, of which 56 gallons were exported as compared with 20,858 gallons manufactured in 1918, none of which was exported.

The position of the arrowroot market continued to be very unsatisfactory. During the year there was a decrease in the area planted, due to large stocks having accumulated in England, which caused considerable reduction in prices. In 1918, 5,084,262 lb. were exported as against 2,244,575 lb. in 1919.

The pea nut industry showed a decrease on the production of the previous year, which may be attributed to the increased area planted in other crops. 13,489 bushels were exported in 1918, as against 11,329 bushels in 1919.

The Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies continued to make progress, and all loans have been repaid when due. The total number of Societies was 21 with 1,122 members, as compared with 1,060 members in the previous year.

The Agricultural Department continued to be occupied with cotton breeding experiments and the production of supplies of pedigree Sea Island cotton seed of good ordinary grade for planting. Manurial and planting experiments with cotton and arrowroot were conducted. Cotton seed is used extensively as a fertilizer. The maintenance of a supply of improved seed corn (maize) and trials of a large number of varieties of peas and beans were also undertaken.

Entomological investigations connected with the life histories and control of the cotton stainer and bush bugs attacking cotton plants were continued. The measures adopted for the destruction of the cotton stainer have proved efficacious and 220 John Bull trees were destroyed together with numerous seedlings of the silk cotton tree.

Of land under the Land Settlement Scheme in the Island of St. Vincent 14 allotments containing 29 acres were sold for £134 9s. and of Crown Lands 183 acres were sold for £103 5s.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 328, of 156,703 tons ; and 334 cleared, of 156,896 tons. Two vessels were registered of 43 tons total.

VI.—EDUCATION.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1918-19 and 1919 :—

	1918–19.	1919.
Number of schools	27	27
Number of pupils on Roll at 31st December	3,914	2,481
Average attendance	1,861	1,860
Government grant-in-aid	£1,724	£1,481 3s. 9d.
Cost per head in average attendance	18s. 7d.	15s. 11d.

Eight of the 27 regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other nineteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as " Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys, the Grammar School, and one for girls, the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1918–19 and 1919 was 37 and 45 boys and 17 and 27 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

Ordinances Nos. 20 and 21 of 1917 empower the Town Board of Kingstown and the Town Wardens of Georgetown to spend certain sums from Town Funds towards scholarships and exhibitions on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VII.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	*Number of depositors at 31st December.*	*Amount of deposits.*	*Amount of withdrawals.*	*Balance at credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalised.*
1918 ..	993	£5,004	£4,697	£16,167
1919 ..	982	5,102	6,007	15,707

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st of December, 1919, amounted to £18,143 2s. 5d. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values investments could not be realised with advantage.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank with headquarters in England with an

	£
Authorised Capital of	5,000,000
Subscribed Capital of	1,000,000
Paid-up Capital of	200,000
Reserve Fund	400,000

There is also a Savings Bank Department attached to the Branch.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Steamships of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, under contract with the Canadian Government, continued to call at St. Vincent once a fortnight on their outward voyages to British Guiana and on their homeward voyages to Canada; and during the year three steamers of the Direct Line also brought and took cargo and mails. Mails were also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Grenada, where there is direct communication by steamer with the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Postal Department, with headquarters in Kingstown and 16 district post offices, continued to provide facilities for the transaction of postal business. Mails were sent to the windward side of the island by motor car and by boat to the leeward side and to the Grenadines.

There is no inland telegraph service. A subsidy of £300 a year is paid to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, in return for which the Colony receives daily news bulletins and participates in a system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with all the police stations in the small towns and villages and with the places of residence and business of renters. Payment of 10s. a month entitles a renter to be put in communication with all the districts of the Colony. There were 93 telephones rented by the general public, while 71 were attached to Government departments for official use. A small charge is made for messages sent by persons who are not renters of telephones. There were 77 miles of trunk lines and 92 miles of lines connecting renters with the exchanges. The revenue was £622 6s. 2d. and the expenditure was £502 8s. 4d. In 1918–19 the revenue was £769 7s. 9d. and the expenditure was £563 13s. 8d.

S. J. THOMAS,

Acting Administrator.

Government House,

St. Vincent.

30th November, 1920.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918
1035	Barbados	1918–1919
1036	Mauritius	1918
1037	St. Vincent	1918–1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	,,
1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	,,
1044	Bermuda	,,
1045	Basutoland	1919–1920
1046	Cyprus	,,
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	,,
1049	Ceylon	,,
1050	Gibraltar	1919–1920
1051	Somaliland	,,
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	,,
1056	Swaziland	1919–1920
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	
1061	Seychelles	1919
1062	Mauritius	

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

Printed by H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE PRESS, Harrow

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1078.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

For Report for 1919 see No. 1043.

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.2, and 28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W.1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1921.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1078.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.—Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad, and between the parallels of 12° ·30′ and 11° ·58′ North latitude and 61° ·20′ and 61° ·35′ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 in its greatest breadth. Its area is 125 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forest to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island, 1,740 feet above sea level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.—The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May, when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small, and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade, or drops below 70°, and these occasions are specially recorded in the meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1920 was 90°, on October 17 and November 27, and the lowest 69° on March 8. The average mean temperature is 79°.

(3689) Wt.11197/394 625 7/21 Harrow G.75/2

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
RECEIVED
DEC 22 1921
DOCUMENTS DIVISION

The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches; in the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1920 was 68·66 inches. Over the past 29 years, the average has been 76·58 inches yearly.

Historical.—Grenada was discovered by Columbus on August 15, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674.

In 1795-6, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion against the British rule broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 47 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development and prosperity.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The period of abnormal prosperity which the Colony had enjoyed during the past few years reached its maximum in 1920. Cocoa, which is the staple product of the Colony and accounts for from 80 to 85 per cent of the value of the exports, attained the price of 130s. per cwt. The average pre-war prices ranged from 50s. to 65s. Spices and cotton, the other main crops, also reached unprecedented prices.

Altogether the trade balance in favour of the Colony, as represented by the excess in value of exports over imports during the past five years, has amounted to £1,031,097.

Towards the end of 1920 market quotations dropped, in consequence of the financial depression throughout the world, and sales were difficult to effect at any price. The prosperity of the past few years has unfortunately not been used to the best advantage. The set-back in prices appears to have taken people by surprise, and retrenchment has been found necessary in almost every direction.

On September 24th took place the historic event of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness arrived on board H.M.S. "Renown" at 9 a.m., and left the following morning for St. Lucia. The arrangements for his reception included the presentation of loyal addresses at a public meeting in York House, the assembling of the school children of the Colony, a drive to the Grand Etang, and a luncheon party and garden party at Government House. In the evening His

Royal Highness held a reception on board H.M.S. "Renown." The Prince's visit had been eagerly looked forward to throughout the Colony, and numbers thronged the streets of St. George's, which were gaily decorated. His Royal Highness spoke to the School children in the Market Square, and inspected the officers and men who took part in the War. With many of these the Prince entered into conversation, and the interest which His Royal Highness took in the general affairs of the Colony evoked much enthusiasm and gratification. The Prince of Wales has endeared himself to the people of the Colony, and has deepened and strengthened in Grenada, as elsewhere, the devoted loyalty of the people to the Throne.

Public Health.—Health conditions during the year were good. The death-rate, 17·5 per 1,000, is the lowest since 1901, in which year the same rate occurred. 43·9 per cent. of the total deaths were of children below the age of five years. This is a reduction on the percentage in 1917 which was 51·0, but it is still too high. Intestinal diseases, due to insufficient and improper feeding, are the cause of most of the deaths of children, and remedial measures were undertaken during the year by the Government and the District Boards to counteract the evil. Deducting infantile deaths, the adult death-rate in proportion to the population above five years of age becomes reduced to nearly 10 per 1,000, and compares favourably with the death-rate in temperate zones.

Diarrhœa and enteritis caused 304 deaths (4·0 per 1,000 of the population), dysentery 99 (1·3 per 1,000), and malaria 77 deaths (1·0 per 1,000).

Water Supplies.—There is a pipe-borne water service in all the parishes of the island except St. David's, the latter being supplied with numerous protected springs and streams. Certain lands forming the catchment area of the water supply of St. George's were acquired by the Government during the year in order to prevent pollution.

III.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The revenue during 1920 amounted to £134,128 and the expenditure to £148,174, resulting in a deficit of £14,046.

The corresponding figures for previous years are as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
1915–16	96,420	103,992	—	– 7,572
1916–17	114,525	108,078	6,447	—
1917–18	106,138	109,390	—	– 3,252
1918–19	110,387	108,252	2,135	—
1919 (nine months) ..	87,295	107,011	—	– 19,716
1920	134,128	148,174	—	– 14,056

The public debt of the Colony amounts to £223,670, against which there is an accumulated sinking fund of £57,283, while £54,535 of the latest Loan issue remains unexpended. This leaves the Colony with a net indebtedness under Loan Funds of £111,852.

The assets at 31st December stood at £105,725 and the liabilities at £79,976, showing a credit surplus of £25,749 as compared with a surplus of £39,795 at the opening of the year. No allowance for depreciation of investments has been taken into account in these figures.

Owing to the impossibility of realising the surplus investments of the Government except at a loss owing to their present depreciated market value, the Colony's current account with the Colonial Bank was overdrawn at the end of the year by £19,573, while a further sum of £17,235 was borrowed from local loan funds.

An issue of Government Currency Notes of the denominations of 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. was made during the year to the amount of £12,500, which had an effect equivalent to a loan of the same amount without interest for two years, owing to the fact that redemption of the notes is postponed by law until the expiration of two years from the date of issue. A reserve fund in specie to the extent of 25 per cent. of the issue will then be provided by the Government.

Banks.—Two banks are established in the Colony, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada. Branches of the former also exist at Grenville and Carriacou. Both Banks conduct a Savings Bank Department in addition to their other business.

The authorised note circulation in the Colony of the Colonial Bank was £25,000, and of the Royal Bank of Canada 100,000 dollars. The actual amount of paper money in circulation at the end of the year was approximately £30,000, in addition to currency notes to the amount of £12,500 issued by the Government.

Gold coins have disappeared, the principal medium of monetary exchange, in addition to notes, being silver, which is legal tender to any amount.

Savings Bank.—The Government Savings Bank continues to attract patronage, although the local branches of the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have established similar banks. The depositors at the end of the year numbered 1,509, and the amount at their credit was £18,636. In 1913 when only the Government Bank was in operation the depositors numbered 2,356 and the deposits amounted to £27,936.

IV.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

Trade Agreement with Canada.—The agreement entered into by the Canada-West Indies Conference held at Ottawa in June, 1920, at which the Colony was represented, was ratified by the Legislative Council on August 31, and was followed in November by a new Customs Duties Ordinance. This Ordinance provides for a preference of 33⅓ per cent. on all goods of Empire origin or manufacture. The general *ad valorem* rate of duty is fixed at 15 per cent., the preferential rate being 10 per cent. Under the old Agreement of 1912, which is brought to an end by the present one, a fair increase of trade between the Dominion and the Colony had sprung up, and it is expected that a further growth will take place in consequence of the increased preferences now given, and of the improved steamship service which it is intended to provide.

Imports and Exports.—The total trade of the Colony during the year was £1,236,877. Imports amounted to £620,378 and exports to £616,499.

This is the high water mark of the Colony's trade, and is more than double the value recorded in any pre-war year. This is due solely to the increase in prices, as there has been no increase in volume. Owing to the extent to which the Colony is already developed there is little scope for augmentation of existing crops, or introduction of new ones.

The United States takes the leading place in regard to imports, 34·3 per cent. coming from that country as compared with 31·3 per cent. from the United Kingdom. Since 1913 the United States of America percentage has grown from 31 to 34, while that of the United Kingdom has declined from nearly 40 to 31.

This diversion of trade is still more noticeable in the case of manufactured goods, the importations from the United States of America having increased in the seven years from 13 to 54 per cent. The Collector of Customs reports that notwithstanding the high rate of exchange certain classes of goods can be obtained of as good a quality and cheaper from the United States of America than from the United Kingdom. Such articles include drills, shirtings, Oxfords, and hosiery of all kinds, also dress materials and boots and shoes in good styles and greater variety. Certain classes of hardware are also said to be as good as and cheaper than British manufactures. American medicines and drugs, perfumery, toilet soaps and common soap are also displacing importations from the United Kingdom.

Notwithstanding the substantial preference of 33⅓ per cent. on all goods of Empire manufacture provided for in the new Customs Duties Ordinance to which reference has been made, it still appears that the United States of America can compete successfully with the United Kingdom. Unless prices of goods

manufactured in the United Kingdom become considerably reduced, the diversion of trade to the nearer New York market will continue, especially when the rate of exchange falls to a normal figure.

With regard to exports, cocoa to the value of £372,135 went to the United Kingdom, and £66,284 to the United States of America, the total value of cocoa exports being £466,658.

All the cotton, to the value of £40,950 was exported as usual to the United Kingdom.

Much of the trade in spices was transferred to the United States of America and Canada, where better prices appear to have been obtained. Nutmegs to the value of £36,625 were exported to the United States of America and £11,939 to Canada, the exports to the United Kingdom being £9,969. Seven hundred and twenty-four hundredweights of mace exported to the United States of America were estimated at the value of £5,230, and 1,206 cwts. to the United Kingdom were recorded at £6,852. Ninety-nine hundredweights went to Canada at a value of £969.

The exportation of lime juice was considerably less than in 1919 and was of the value of £9,025.

Agriculture.—The crop of cocoa in the crop year ending September 30 was one of the largest on record, 76,686 bags (180 lb.) having been exported as against 77,275 in 1917, the record year. Prices were high except towards the end of the year, when they fell rapidly, the range being from a maximum of 130s. to a minimum of 50s.

The exports of spices (principally nutmegs and mace) showed some decline from the two preceding years. Prices on the whole were good, the estimated value of the export being £73,232, which was only exceeded by that of the preceding year, when it reached £103,773.

The exports of cotton (the cultivation of which is mainly confined to Carriacou) were the highest in value on record, the value being £48,679 as compared with £14,523 in the preceding crop year. The type produced is Marie Galante, only a few bales of Sea Island cotton being grown.

The cultivation of limes has not proved a permanent success, and the exportation has fallen in quantity from 178,525 gallons in 1918 to 23,310 in the past year. The main reason of its decline is that lands not already under other permanent crops are of little value and not particularly suited for new industries. The accuracy of the remarks of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies (Sir Francis Watts, K.C.M.G.), in reporting on limes and coconuts in Grenada in 1914, are now observable, and they are worthy of repetition. They were as follows: "It is essential in pushing new industries that the crops should be planted in favourable situations: this will have to be kept well in mind in Grenada, where the best lands are given

up to cocoa; it is not likely that success with new crops will be obtained if they are relegated to land of little value and not particularly suitable for them."

Land.—The number of separate lots of land may be seen from the following:—

		Number of Lots.						
Total taxable acreage.	2½ acres and under.	Over 2½ to 5 acres.	Over 5 to 7 acres.	Over 7 to10 acres.	Over 10 to 20 acres.	Over 20to100 acres.	Over 100 acres.	Total.
75,377	8,756	1,362	378	200	237	181	138	11,252

From these particulars it will be observed that Grenada is a land of small peasant owners, the majority of the holdings being under five acres. The acquisition of land by peasants began towards the end of last century, when many sugar estates were derelict, and the new industry of cocoa was being established. A few acres under the latter crop provides a comfortable living for a family of the peasant class, and the success which attended the first efforts of these small proprietors led to a great demand for small lots, which were readily granted by the proprietors of unprofitable sugar estates. The settling of small holders on their own lands was afterwards encouraged by the Land Settlement Scheme of the Government, which was first instituted in 1903. The main features of the scheme consist of the buying up of large estates, which are then divided into small lots, supplied with suitable roads and tracts connecting with the by-ways, and then sold on easy terms of payment extending over twelve years. Owing to the extent to which the Colony was given up to cocoa, the latter crop was prohibited on Government Land Settlement lots in order to encourage the growth of local food crops, the supply of which is insufficient for the demands of the ordinary people, and the dearth of which makes conditions arduous for the poorer classes.

There are no Crown Lands for sale, the lands remaining in the possession of the Crown being reserved in forest, for preservation of the rainfall. The extent of the Government Forest Reserve is 2,652 acres.

The demand for land in Grenada is so keen that persons other than natives or residents stand little chance of acquiring it. All the lots under the Government scheme are taken up. On the few occasions when large estates change hands, competition of local proprietors and residents forces the price up to a figure which makes purchase by an outsider unprofitable. Lands

under full cultivation have fetched as high as £200 an acre. Uncultivated land is scarce and comparatively poor, and hence unsuitable for profitable cultivation of any new industry.

Industries.—With the exception of the manufacture of sugar and rum there are no industries of any importance whatever in the island. Sugar is made to a very small extent, and the Colony imports most of its supplies of that commodity. Enough rum is made to supply the local market, which is protected by a heavy countervailing duty on imported rum amounting to a protection of 4s. per proof gallon. There are thirteen distilleries, the total rum made during the year being 51,907 proof gallons.

An ice factory is established in St. George's with the aid of a Government subsidy.

A small whaling industry started at Point Saline on the southern coast a year or two ago has not developed, the returns of the past year being very poor, and the industry is not likely to be proceeded with.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Sixteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, the principal being the following :—

No. 3. The Profiteering Ordinance, which follows the lines of the English Imperial Act, modified to suit local conditions.

No. 4. The West Indies Court of Appeal (Local Provisions) Ordinance, to give effect to the Imperial West Indian Court of Appeal Act.

No. 6. The Seditious Publications Ordinance giving power to prohibit the importation and circulation of seditious publications.

No. 7. The Paper Currency Ordinance, providing for the issue of Government Currency Notes of the denominations of 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s.

No. 15. The Customs Duties Ordinance, following the model agreed upon at a Trade and Customs Conference held at Trinidad in 1919, and providing for preferential rates of duties on goods of Empire origin or manufacture in consequence of the Canada-West Indies Conference held at Ottawa in 1920.

VI.—EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Primary.—The number of schools, 59, was the same as at the end of 1919. Eleven are Government schools, and 48 Grant-in-aid schools. One new building was erected to form the premises of the St. George's Anglican School. The building is a large one, of pleasing architectural design, and reflects credit on the Anglican organisation.

The number of pupils on the roll was 9,437 and the average attendance was 5,847. The contribution by Government in aid of primary education amounted to £8,919, giving a cost of £1 10s. 6d. per head of average attendance.

The Education Ordinance was amended during the year to provide for the advancing of the compulsory school age from 12 to 14 years. A School Attendance Officer for St. George's Parish was appointed under the amending Ordinance.

Secondary.—Secondary education is provided for at the Government Boys' School, the St. Joseph's Convent School for Girls and the Anglican Girls' High School. Satisfactory progress was made at all these schools, the results of the Cambridge Local Examination showing an improvement over those of the previous year.

An external scholarship of the value of £175 (temporarily increased to £210) and tenable for five years at an approved university is provided annually by the Government.

Technical Education.—A technical school, attached to the new Anglican School buildings, started operations in November, 1920, the curriculum including drawing to scale, carpentry, printing, metal work, book-binding, basket work, wood turning and carving, and the art of colour mixing and painting.

One half of the cost of equipment was defrayed by the Government, and a grant-in-aid to the school of £75 per annum for three years was approved by the Legislative Council. The management of the school is under a Committee consisting of the Manager of the St. George's Anglican Boys' School, the Superintendent of Public Works and the Inspector of Schools.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The island is well supplied with main roads and by-ways, there being 146 miles of the former and 305 miles of the latter.

A Government mail and passenger motor service is run between St. George's and Sauteurs and supplies the eastern side of the island. Mails and passengers on the western side are conveyed by motor launch, to which a subsidy is given. A serviceable main road on the western side is also available for traffic.

Post Offices are established in the principal centre of each parish, and there are numerous small postal stations throughout the Colony.

The telephone service is under Government control, and is efficiently run at a very moderate cost, a payment of 12s. per month entitling the subscriber to an unlimited service throughout the entire island without payment for trunk calls. There are six telephone exchanges, 159 miles of direct wire, and 938 miles of wire connecting subscribers and exchanges.

There is no inland telegraph service, and no wireless installation. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company supplies the means of external telegraphic communication, and furnishes a daily press news bulletin.

Shipping.—The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamers plying between Canada and the West Indies call fortnightly on the up and down journeys. A direct service to New York is maintained, Grenada being the first and last port of call on the Furness-Withy Steamer line from New York to Grenada and Trinidad. Cargo steamers of the Harrison Line, carrying also a few passengers, and plying between the United Kingdom and the West Indies, also visit the Colony at frequent intervals.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada.
8th June, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	,,
1044	Bermuda	,,
1045	Basutoland	1919–1920
1046	Cyprus	,,
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	,,
1049	Ceylon	,,
1050	Gibraltar	1919–1920
1051	Somaliland	,,
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	1919–1920
1056	Swaziland	,,
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	,,
1061	Seychelles	,,
1062	Mauritius	,,
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	,,
1066	Gold Coast	,,
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1070	British Honduras	,,
1071	Hong Kong	,,
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919–1920
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1094.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For previous Report see No. 1063.)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. 2, and
28, ABINGDON STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER;
1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH;
or from EASON & SON, LTD., 40 & 41, LOWER SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.
1921.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1094.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1920.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land, about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter Island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of 9 miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the Island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the Island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton ; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their sovereign.

In 1779 the Island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The prosperity of St. Vincent is wholly dependent upon agriculture. The main crops are cotton, syrup and arrowroot.

There was general depression in the Colony owing to the remunerative prices for cotton and syrup not being maintained throughout the the year, and to the continued increases in the prices of foodstuffs and clothing, which bore heavily, especially on the middle and labouring classes. The position of the arrowroot market continued to be very unsatisfactory.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
RECEIVED
MAR 8 1922
DOCUMENTS DIVISION

His Excellency the Governor was resident in the Colony from the 6th February to the 4th March, 1920.

His Honour R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G., Administrator, was absent from the Colony on leave from the 16th February to the 16th December, 1920. During his absence the Government was administered by His Honour S. J. Thomas, Chief Justice.

There are 284 miles of public roads affording communication in all directions. Motor cars continue to be substituted for horses and carriages.

The Flag and replica of the Shield presented to the British West Indies Regiment by the League of the Empire was placed in St. George's Cathedral on the 25th August, when a special service was held.

On the occasion of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's visit to Grenada in September, His Honour, the Acting Administrator, proceeded to Grenada and presented an Address of Welcome to His Royal Highness on behalf of the Colony.

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The temperature throughout the year varied from 77·3° F. to 81·0°F. The highest was in September and the lowest in January.

Meteorological records for 1920 show that the mean monthly temperature was 79·0° F.

St. Vincent experienced no abnormal weather during the year. The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 85·51 in., as compared with 99·52 in. in 1919. The figures for the past 19 years show that June to November are the months in which most rain fell. Rain fell on 257 days and the greatest fall for one day was 5·17 in. on the 24th October.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation, and temperature, ranged from 30·176 in. on the 8th March to 29·835 in. on the 24th October.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1920, was :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Surplus at 1st January, 1920 ..				5,097	9	1
Revenue in 1920	59,221	8	4			
Expenditure in 1920	52,305	6	10			
				6,916	1	6
Surplus at 31st December, 1920 ..				£12,013	10	7

In this amount is included a sum of £1,042 18s. 6d., unspent balance at 31st December, 1920, of the Windward Highway Loan.

(4552) Wt.19440/726 625 10/21 Harrow G.75/2

The total revenue and expenditure from all sources in the last three financial periods were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1918–19	42,488	36,597
1919	34,111	35,361
1920	59,221	52,305

The net local revenue and expenditure amounted to :—

	Local Revenue.	*Expenditure against Local Revenue.*
	£	£
1918–19	41,503	35,105
1919	32,851	33,094
1920	58,221	52,302

The principal items of revenue in the last two financial periods were :—

	1919	1920
	£	£
Import Duties	13,084	21,744
Export Duties	1,512	4,233
Excise Duty on Rum ..	4,777	4,637
Land and House Tax ..	4,897	7,697
Income Tax	849	2,630

Of the total expenditure of £52,305 the sum of £2,492 was expended on Colonial gratuities and cost of passages to Cuba of the returned soldiers of the British West Indies Regiment. The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902-3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

Public Debt.

The public debt on 31st December, 1920, was £11,900, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £2,511 on the 31st December, 1920, of which £2,035 was in respect of Government Loans other than the Kingstown Board Loan. The actual net indebtedness of the Colony was therefore £8,365, equivalent to less than one-fifth of the average annual revenue for the four years ending 31st December, 1920.

The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £2,565 on the 31st of December, 1920. On that date there had been received from planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £2,234, of which £2,160 was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Currency.

British and American gold, five dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1911 was 41,877, according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1920, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 54,014 persons.*

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	April to December, 1919.	*January to December,* 1920.
Births	1,320	1,998
Males	681	1,046
Females	639	952
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ..	24·8	36·99
Deaths	706	1,008
Death-rate per 1,000	20·67	18·66
Marriages	99	159
Marriage-rate per 1,000 ..	1·86	2·94

Illegitimate births numbered 1,401, or 70·1 per cent. of the total number of all births.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1919 and 1920 were :—

Year	*Imports* £	*Exports* £	*Total Trade* £
1919 ..	185,128	153,892	339,020
1920 ..	257,230	299,650	556,880

Produce of the Colony to the value of £299,650 was exported in 1920.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1919. £	1920. £
United Kingdom	58,121	83,518
Canada	54,123	70,978
British West Indies .. .	13,186	15,764
India	557	957
Newfoundland	971	1,818
Other British Colonies ..	898	6,983
United States of America ..	54,750	72,739
France	883	560
Denmark	72	231
Holland	137	251
Foreign West Indies	465	861
Other Countries..	965	2,570
	£185,128	£257,230

*Note.—This estimate was shown by the Census of 24th April, 1921, to be over 20·5% in excess of the true figure.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1919.	1920.
United Kingdom	31·40	32·46
United States of America ..	29·24	28·27
Canada	29·57	27·59
All other Countries	9·80	11·66

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	87,763
Articles mainly manufactured	124,433
Articles mainly unmanufactured ..	45,034
	£257,230

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1919 and 1920 were as follows :—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
United Kingdom	87,523	215,538
Canada	13,068	29,851
United States of America ..	3,311	538
British West Indies	40,498	43,984
British Guiana	4,046	4,015
Other Countries..	1,303	128
	£149,749	£294,054

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
Arrowroot	42,222	52,771
Cotton—		
Sea Island	64,004	163,443
Marie Galante	2,778	15,508
Cocoa	6,385	4,956
Sugar—		
Muscovado	3	—
Syrup and Molasses ..	10,723	27,828
Cassava Starch	4,836	3,844
Pea-nuts	5,098	10,816
Animals	3,980	2,995
Cotton-seed Oil	223	2,217

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy seed cotton and corn (maize) ofitno pr-sharing terms.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1919 and 1920:—

	1919.		1920.	
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Sea Island seed cotton ..		332,773		78,236
Marie Galante		288,504		—
Corn on cob	92,672		85,018	
Corn, grain	83,842		106,077	
		176,514		191,095

There was considerable competition with private dealers for the purchase of Sea Island cotton in 1920, and no Marie Galante was purchased by the factory, the bulk of it having been sold to dealers in Carriacou, Grenada.

The corn, when kiln dried, amounted to 165,232 lb. and was stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1921.

Cotton.—During the year the area planted was 7,965 acres, the largest on record, and an increase of 1,332 acres over that planted in the previous year, of which 6,453 was in Sea Island and 1,512 in Marie Galante. The total output in Sea Island cotton was 614,508 lb. or 95·5 lb. per acre. Cotton seed is used extensively as a fertilizer.

Sea Island cotton amounting to 475,650 lb., of the value of £163,443, was exported during the year, as against 410,277 lb., value £64,004, in 1919.

Marie Galante—77,540 lb., value £15,508, in 1920, as against 33,331 lb., value £2,778, in 1919.

Sugar.—The Sugar-cane industry continued to be an important one; a small quantity only was, however, made into sugar, which was used for home consumption.

Syrup and Molasses.—185,999 gallons, of the value of £27,828, were exported in 1920, as against 170,842 gallons, of £10,723 value, in the previous year.

Rum.—20,147 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing an increase of 5 gallons on the previous year.

Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 10,482 gallons, as compared with 4,470 gallons in 1919.

Arrowroot.—This article continued to be unremunerative. 2,794,532 lb., of the value of £52,771, was exported, as compared with 2,244,575 lb., valued at £42,222, in 1919.

Pea-nuts.—12,017 bushels, value £10,816, were exported, showing an increase of 688 bushels, of the value of £5,718, over the exports in 1919.

There are 21 Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies in the Colony, and the total sum of £4,886 was loaned to the various Societies during the year. All loans were duly repaid when due.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 363, of 174,812 tons; and 362 cleared, of 172,084 tons. Three vessels were registered of 81 tons total.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1919 and 1920 :—

	1919.	1920.
Number of schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	2,481	3,669
Average attendance	1,860	1,912
Government grant-in-aid	£1,481 3s. 9d.	£2,069
Cost per head in average attendance	15s. 11d.	£1 1s. 8d.

Eight of the 27 regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other 19 schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as " Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys, the Grammar School, and one for girls, the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1919 and 1920 was 45 and 49 boys and 27 and 32 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

Provision has been made for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	*Number of depositors at 31st December.*	*Amount of deposits.*	*Amount of withdrawals.*	*Balance at credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalized.*
1919 ..	982	£5,102	£6,007	£15,707
1920 ..	921	5,391	4,988	16,530

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £420.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st of December, 1920, amounted to £17,944. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values investments could not be realised with advantage.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank with headquarters in England. There is also a Savings Bank Department attached to the branch.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana. The Harrison Line of steamers also call with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the Cash on Delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with 16 district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor car, by motor boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at St. Vincent, and a subsidy of £300 per annum is paid to the Company, in return for which daily news bulletins are furnished and the Colony participates in the system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 173 services and 169 miles of line in use.

R. POPHAM LOBB,

Administrator.

Government House,
Saint Vincent.
13*th September*, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April–December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919–1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920–1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920–1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920–1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919–1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918–1919
1093	Cyprus	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

Printed by H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE PRESS, Harrow

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF
MARKETS AND CROP ESTIMATES
SEP 13 1922
RESEARCH AND FOREIGN
STATISTICS SECTION

No. 1124.

GRENADA.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
From EDWARD A. FOLEY,
Agricultural Commissioner,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

REPORT FOR 1921.

For Report for 1920 see No. 1078.

LONDON:
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37 Peter Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh.

1922.

Price 3*d*. net.

No. 1124.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year 1921 amounted to £97,931, and the expenditure to £136,969, showing a deficit of £39,038.

2. This is mainly the result of the fall of the market prices for cocoa, the Colony's staple product.

3. The following comparative statement indicates the extent of this fall:—

Value of Cocoa exported from the Colony.	1917 ...	£412,261
	1918 ...	519,365
	1919 ...	539,740
	1920 ...	466,658
	1921 ...	185,193

4. The revenue during 1921 amounted to £97,931, and the expenditure to £136,969, resulting in a deficit of £39,038.

The corresponding figures for previous years are as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
1916–17	114,525	108,078	6,447	—
1917–18	106,138	109,390	—	3,252
1918–19	110,387	108,252	2,135	—
1919 (nine months) ...	87,295	107,011	—	19,716
1920	134,128	148,174	—	14,056

5. The assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1921, stood at £97,512, and the liabilities at £110,800, showing a net deficit of £13,288.

6. The public debt at the same date was £223,670, and the sinking fund £62,427 6*s*. 2*d*.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

7. The value of the imports during the year was small as compared with those of previous years. This is shown by the following comparative statement:—

Country.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	95,681	79,274	94,467	204,639	70,435
Trinidad	21,961	28,658	30,691	53,379	22,310
U.S. of America	157,758	151,980	202,465	212,929	63,839
Canada	26,324	51,827	60,882	90,944	54,430

(7153) Wt. 11469/572 625 8/22 Harrow G.75/2

8. The value of the exports amounted to £279,217, of which £251,486 represents the produce of the Colony, and £27,731 the value of imported goods exported.

The principal countries which received the exports of the Colony were as under:—

United Kingdom	£165,950
Trinidad	33,684
Canada	16,404
United States of America	51,069

The values of the exports for the last five years are shown in the following statement:—

Country.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	289,292	386,348	238,642	436,531	165,950
Canada	15,858	15,056	10,902	15,527	16,404
Trinidad	6,207	6,548	78,569	32,155	33,725
U.S. of America	162,643	290,039	107,867	108,955	51,069

9. A severe storm on the 8th September caused much damage to cocoa and nutmeg plantations. Many trees were destroyed, and the crop on others seriously affected.

SHIPPING.

10. One hundred and twenty-seven steam vessels, totalling 355,044 tons, entered at the port of Saint George during the year. Of these, 125 were of British build, one Cuban, and one American. One hundred and one arrived from ports in the British West Indies, 25 from the United States of America, and one from the French West Indies.

The same number cleared during the year. One hundred and two cleared for ports of the British West Indies, 24 for the United States of America, and one to the French West Indies.

Five hundred and fifty-one sailing vessels with total tonnage of 13,898 tons entered during the year.

LEGISLATION.

11. Among the more important of the Ordinances passed during the year are the Census Ordinance, which makes provision for the taking from time to time of a census of the Colony, and the Income Tax Ordinance, under which a tax on incomes was for the first time imposed and collected.

VITAL STATISTICS.

12. The population at the 31st December, 1921, is estimated to have been 66,957. According to the Census of the 24th April, 1921, the population at that date was 66,302, and the above estimate is arrived at after taking into account the natural increase since that date, and the difference between emigration and immigration.

13. By the Census it was shown that the population was 448 less than that in April, 1911. This result is attributed to the constant stream of emigration to the Canal Zone, Cuba, the United States of America and other places.

14. The birth-rate per thousand was 34·86 and the death-rate 19·5.

15. Judging from the returns as to deaths caused by syphilis, it would appear that the operation of the Venereal Diseases Ordinance of 1917 is producing beneficial results. In 1921 the number of deaths caused by that disease was 18 as compared with 25 in 1920, and 38 in 1919.

MEDICAL.

16. A new private ward, constructed as a separate building near the Colony Hospital, was formally opened by the Governor in April. This building provides accommodation for six patients, each in a separate room affording absolute privacy. In addition, a nurses' day recreation room is provided in the basement of the building.

17. Owing to the reduction in the number of cases treated in the Yaws Hospital, the direct outcome of the success attending the prosecution of the campaign of intensive treatment of yaws in the districts, that institution was closed on the last day of the year.

18. The general health of the Colony was on the whole satisfactory, for, in spite of an epidemic of dysentery in St. John's, which accounted for 61 deaths out of a total of 182 for that parish, the total number of deaths recorded was 1,309, and the death-rate per 1,000, 19·5 as compared with 1,318 and 17·5 respectively for the previous year.

19. The recorded number of deaths from malarial fevers was 69 as compared with 77 in 1920, and 88 in 1919. The free distribution of quinine to persons of the labouring classes continues. Certain anti-malarial measures were carried out with good results.

20. The campaign instituted in 1918 for the compulsory treatment of venereal diseases has been steadily prosecuted with good results. The Travelling Commission of the National Council for combating venereal diseases visited the Colony in the year under review.

POST OFFICE.

21. Increased rates of postage on correspondence posted in Grenada for places outside the Colony, except to the United Kingdom and British Possessions generally, and in the case of letters to the United States of America, were adopted as from the 1st December, 1921, in conformity with the requirements of the Postal Union Convention of Madrid.

METEOROLOGICAL.

22. The rainfall was 78·71 inches, 10·05 more than in 1920, and 4·33 more than the average for the past three years. The maximum temperature in the sun was 152 on the 11th June, and 93·0 in the shade on the 7th September. The minimum in the shade was 68 on the 11th March.

N. JULIAN PATERSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
10th June, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	,,
1092	Cayman Islands	1918–1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	,,
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	,,
1098	Nigeria	,,
1099	New Hebrides	,,
1100	Somaliland	,,
1101	Straits Settlements	,,
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1106	Seychelles	,,
1107	Ashanti	,,
1108	Hongkong	,,
1109	British Guiana	,,
1110	British Honduras	,,
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	,,
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1128.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1094.)

LONDON:
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37 Peter Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; and 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh.
1922.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1128.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1921.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land, about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of nine miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The prosperity of St. Vincent is wholly dependent upon agriculture. The main crops are cotton, syrup and arrowroot.

The general depression in the Colony owing to the unremunerative prices for cotton, syrup and arrowroot, which obtained in 1920, continued throughout the year. The high prices for foodstuffs and

(7486) Wt.14130/732 375 9/22 Harrow Gp.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
RECEIVED
APR 9 1923
DOCUMENTS DIVISION

clothing were also maintained and this, added to the hurricane which visited the island on the 8th September, 1921, and did extensive damage to property and widespread damage to staple and native food crops, entailed considerable hardship on the populace.

The hurricane which struck the island destroyed 729 and damaged 1,292 dwelling houses in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Many churches and schools were also materially damaged and the entire telephone system collapsed. Nine vessels were wrecked with the loss of many lives.

Measures of relief were immediately instituted; free issues of food and grants of money, lumber and materials, to the value of £3,295, were made to those who suffered by the storm.

His Excellency The Governor was resident in the Colony from the 27th October to the 10th November, 1921.

His Honour R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G., Administrator, was absent from the Colony on leave from the 14th to 17th January, and on duty leave from 29th March to 11th April, while attending the Education Conference in Trinidad. He was also absent on duty leave from 7th to 11th September in Grenada, during his absence the Government was administered by His Honour S. J. Thomas, Chief Justice.

There are 284 miles of public roads affording communication in all directions. Motor cars continue to be substituted for horses and carriages.

St. Vincent has the reputation of being one of the most law-abiding communities in the West Indies. The total number of criminal convictions for the last ten years was 103 for an average annual population of 43,162, equivalent to ·238 per 1,000 of population.

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, with an average rainfall of 4·04 in. per month, and the wet season from June to December, with an average of 8·22 in. per month. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 76·9° F. to 80·2° F. The highest was in July and the lowest in March. Meteorological records for 1921 show that the mean monthly temperature was 78·8° F.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 85·96 in. as compared with 85·51 in. in 1920. Rain fell on two hundred days, and the greatest fall for one day was 2·75 in. on the 8th October.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30·64 in. on the 27th July, to 29·629 in. on the 8th September.

At 10 o'clock a.m. on 8th September, St. Vincent experienced a gale of hurricane force which blew from the north-east, gradually

varying, and from the south-east at 7.30 p.m. The correct reading of the barometer at 9 a.m. was 29·925, this steadily dropped until between 5.30 and 6 p.m., when it stood at 29·629, after which it gradually rose to normal.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1921, was:—

Surplus at 1st January, 1921	£12,013 10 7
Revenue in 1921	53,805 11 0
	65,819 1 7
Expenditure in 1921	56,220 13 7
Surplus at 31st December, 1921	£9,598 8 0

In this amount is included a sum of £1,042 18*s.* 6*d.*, unspent balance at 31st December, 1921, of the Windward Highway Loan.

The total Revenue and Expenditure from all sources in the last three financial periods were:—

	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
*1919	34,111	35,361
1920	58,221	52,302
1921	53,806	56,221

The net local Revenue and Expenditure amounted to:—

	Local Revenue. £	Expenditure against Local Revenue. £
*1919	32,851	33,094
1920	58,221	52,302
1921	53,806	56,221

The principal items of Revenue in the last three financial periods were:—

	*1919. £	1920. £	1921. £
Import Duties	13,084	21,744	16,163
Export Duties	1,512	4,233	2,987
Excise Duty on Rum ...	4,777	4,637	4,947
Land and House Tax ...	4,897	7,697	5,442
Income Tax	849	2,630	5,193

* This represents nine months, April to December, 1919.

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

Public Debt.

The public debt at 31st December, 1921, was £11,900, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the Town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £3,176 on the 31st December, 1921, of which £2,603 was in respect of Government Loans, and £573 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £1,762 on the 31st December, 1921. On that date there had been received from Planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £1,804, of which £1,559 was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Currency.

British and American Gold, Five Dollar Notes of the Colonial Bank, and British Silver and Bronze Coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and Commercial and Banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447, according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1921, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 45,295 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years:—

	1920.	1921.
Births	1,998	1,763
Males	1,046	896
Females	952	867
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	36·99	38·92
Deaths	1,008	1,058
Death-rate per 1,000	18·66	23·36
Marriages	159	97
Marriage-rate per 1,000	2·94	2·14

Illegitimate births numbered 1,237 or 70·2 per cent. of the total number of all births.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1920 and 1921 were:—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £	Total Trade. £
1920	257,230	299,650	556,880
1921	144,543	137,718	282,261

Produce of the Colony to the value of £130,739 was exported in 1921 as against £294,054 in 1920.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years:—

	1920. £	1921. £
United Kingdom	83,518	39,058
Canada	70,978	36,869
British West Indies	15,764	8,811
India	957	1,673
Newfoundland	1,818	6,339
Other British Colonies	6,983	3,778
United States of America	72,739	37,385
France	560	324
Denmark	231	11
Holland	251	582
Foreign West Indies	861	792
Germany	—	111
Other Countries	2,570	8,810
	£257,230	£144,543

The decreases in the values of imports and exports were due to the general depression in trade, and in the case of exports to the great reduction in the values of the articles exported.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained:—

	1920.	1921.
United Kingdom	32·46	27·02
United States of America	28·27	25·86
Canada	27·59	25·51
All other countries	11·66	21·60

The following is a summary of the imports for the year:—

	£
Food, Drink and Tobacco	57,051
Articles mainly manufactured	64,455
Articles mainly unmanufactured	15,502
Miscellaneous and unclassified	7,535
	£144,543

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1920 and 1921 were as follows:—

	1920. £	1921. £
United Kingdom	215,538	85,280
Canada	29,851	11,300
United States of America	538	—
British West Indies	43,984	32,056
British Guiana	4,015	1,674
Other countries	128	429
	£294,054	£130,739

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1920. £	1921. £
Arrowroot	52,771	21,216
Cotton—		
Sea-Island	163,443	70,532
Marie Galante	15,508	89
Cocoa	4,956	2,259
Sugar—		
Crystallised	—	3,364
Muscovado	—	150
Syrup and Molasses	27,828	9,878
Cassava Starch	3,844	1,666
Peanuts	10,816	4,474
Animals	2,995	4,663
Cotton-seed Oil	2,217	299
Vegetables, Fresh	2,742	4,595
Peas	982	1,472

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy Seed Cotton and Corn (maize) on profit-sharing terms.

There was considerable competition with private dealers for the purchase of Sea-Island Cotton in 1921, and no Marie Galante was purchased by the Factory, the bulk of it having been sold to dealers in Carriacou, Grenada.

The Corn, when kiln dried, amounted to 165,232 lb., and was stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1922.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1919–20 and 1920–21 :—

	1919–20.		1920–21.	
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Sea-Island seed cotton		332,773		78,236
Marie Galante ...		288,504		—
Corn on cob	92,672		85,018	
Corn, grain	83,842	176,514	106,077	191,095

Cotton.—During the year the area planted was 3,998 acres, a decrease of 3,956 acres in that planted in the previous year, of which 2,907 was in Sea-Island and 1,091 in Marie Galante. Cotton-Seed is used extensively as a fertilizer.

Sea-Island Cotton amounting to 502,398 lb. of the value of £70,532 was exported during the year, as against 475,650 lb., value £163,443 in 1920.

Marie Galante—2,380 lb., value £89 in 1921, as against 77,540 lb., value £15,508 in 1920.

Sugar.—The Sugar-Cane industry continued to be an important one.

Crystallized—349,440 lb., value £3,364, and Muscovado, 17,920 lb., value £150 was exported in 1921.

Syrup and Molasses.—117,157 gallons of the value of £9,878 were exported in 1921, as against 185,999 gallons of the value of £27,828 in the previous year.

Rum.—31,995 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing an increase of 11,848 gallons on the previous year. Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 507 gallons as compared with 10,482 gallons in 1920.

Arrowroot.—This article continues to be unremunerative. 2,093,358 lb. of the value of £21,216 was exported, as compared with 2,794,532 lb., valued at £52,771 in 1920.

Peanuts.—5,583 bushels, value £4,474 were exported, as against 12,017 bushels of the value of £10,816 in 1920.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies in the Colony, and the total sum of £5,369 was loaned to the various Societies during the year. All loans were duly repaid when due.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 342, of 172,084 tons; and 345 cleared, of 174,839 tons. Three vessels were registered of 53 tons total. Five vessels locally registered of 144 tons were lost in the hurricane of September, 1921.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to Primary Education during the years 1920 and 1921:—

	1920.	1921.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	3,669	4,506
Average attendance	1,912	2,453
Government Grant-in-Aid	£2,069	£2,362
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 1*s.* 8*d.*	£0 19*s.* 3*d.*

Nine of the twenty-seven regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other eighteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a Secondary School for the education of boys, the Grammar School, and one for girls, the Girls High School. The average attendance in 1920 and 1921 was 49 and 62 boys, and 32 and 43 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the Primary Schools.

An Island Scholarship has been established, under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, to be awarded biennially, and to be tenable for four years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

Provision has been made for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards Scholarships and Exhibitions at the Secondary Schools on lines similar to the Government Exhibitions.

VIII.—HOSPITALS.

The following hospital accommodation is provided: Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 94 beds (including four beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, four beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, six beds.

IX.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years:—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st Decr., including interest capitalized.
		£	£	£
1920	921	5,391	4,988	16,530
1921	895	4,064	4,520	16,516

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £442.

The Savings Bank Funds invested at the 31st December, 1921, amounted to £17,944. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values, investments could not be realized with advantage. Interest at 3% is paid on deposits.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank, with headquarters in England, with a paid-up capital of £900,000. There is also a savings bank department attached to the branch.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana. The Harrison and the Canadian Merchant Marine Lines of Steamers also call with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also

sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the Cash on Delivery System with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and other Countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with sixteen district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor car, by motor boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at St. Vincent, and a subsidy of £300 per annum is paid to the Company, in return for which daily news bulletins are furnished, and the Colony participates in the system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 173 services and 169 miles of line in use.

W. C. HUTCHINSON,

Administrator (Acting).

Government House,
St. Vincent,

27th July, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	,,
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	,,
1098	Nigeria	,,
1099	New Hebrides	,,
1100	Somaliland	,,
1101	Straits Settlements	,,
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1106	Seychelles	,,
1107	Ashanti	,,
1108	Hongkong	,,
1109	British Guiana	,,
1110	British Honduras	,,
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	,,
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territory of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate ...	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1141.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1915-16 see No. 918.)

LONDON:
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37 Peter Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; and 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh.
1922
Price 9d. Net.

No. 1141.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COLONY.

St. Lucia is the largest of the Windward Islands. Its extreme length is 27 miles and its greatest breadth 14 miles with an estimated area of 233 square miles. It is situated within view between the French island of Martinique on the north and St. Vincent on the south. It is well known in military history for the many struggles that took place between the British and French until the island was finally ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814. Although under British rule from that period, the Colony remained French in most respects until the early 'eighties of the last century when, the British Government having decided to make St. Lucia a military and naval station, extensive military works were undertaken that attracted labour and settlers from the neighbouring British islands, and a garrison 1,000 strong was established in the Colony. The advent of this British influence gradually effected a change and to-day, although French to some extent is still spoken and French patois is the common vernacular of speech among the lower classes, the instincts of the people are now entirely British and the feeling of strong loyalty to the British Crown exists in every class of the inhabitants.

2. Castries, the chief town, lies on the north-west end of the island on the eastern shore of the harbour which extends a mile to the entrance on the west and is almost land-locked. The town is built on level and for the most part reclaimed land and is well laid out with wide and rectangular streets. On the north and west sides are wharves for the shipping. The port is well known as a coaling station, and nowhere else in the British West Indies can ships lie alongside and be coaled and watered with such rapidity as the conveniences of this port permit.

Government House, the official residence of the Administrator, stands on a prominent spur of Morne Fortuné at the back of the town about 500 ft. above sea-level. The house is a fine commodious building of some architectural pretensions and overlooks the town and harbour, and from it a splendid panoramic view is obtained of the surrounding country and sea. The island of Martinique stands quite visible on the horizon crested by Morne Pelée, the volcano that in 1902 destroyed the beautiful city of St. Pierre and its 30,000 inhabitants in that island. Close on the coast of Martinique is the celebrated Diamond Rock once seized

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
RECEIVED
APR 9 1923

by the British and commissioned as His Majesty's ship "Diamond Rock." Many captures of vessels proceeding to Martinique were made by cutting-out expeditions from the Rock during the British occupation. In closer view off the coast of St. Lucia is Rodney's fort on Pigeon island, from which observation was kept on the movements of the French fleet under de Grasse and ultimately led to Rodney's celebrated victory in 1782. Pigeon island was once a military station, but has long been abandoned for that purpose and only relics remain of its former historic use. Closer inshore is Rat island, fitted as a quarantine station but fortunately seldom required for such purpose, and more frequently in demand as a health resort and a favourite place for holiday parties and sea-bathing.

In the near distance across the harbour is the narrow promontory known as the Vigie, stretching a mile out to the west forming the northern protecting arm of the port with the lighthouse and signal station on a culminating peak. Many military buildings are located there and are rented from the War Office as private residences.

At the back of Government House, on the summit of Morne Fortuné, 300 ft. above sea-level, is a plateau on which extensive barrack accommodation was provided for the garrison. The troops were, however, withdrawn in 1905 when St. Lucia was abandoned as a military and naval station. All the fine buildings, substantially constructed of brick, are now vacant and deserted. The barracks are too large and inconvenient for private residential use, and the Government already possess all the accommodation needed for public institutions.

3. Twelve miles from Castries on the west side of the island is the picturesque town of Soufriere with about 2,000 inhabitants. This little town, second in importance in the Colony, lies on the margin of a deep bay with lofty hills at the back. Close at hand are the two famous Pitons of St. Lucia. Both cone in shape and less than a mile in circumference at the base, they rise from the sea carrying their peaks into the clouds. The smaller one, 2,461 ft. in height, is almost detached from the land, with precipitous sides that seem incapable of ascent. There is a legend that a party of bluejackets once gained the top and planted a flag, but were unable to descend and perished. In 1887, however, a party of military officers and local residents were successful in climbing to the summit, and returned in safety, and since then the ascent has occasionally been made. When celebrating the coronation of His Majesty King George a man who had previously climbed to the top was employed to make a bonfire on the summit, and the blaze from wood gathered on the spot was visible for many miles around. The larger Piton, though rising to 2,600 ft., is not as precipitous, and can be easily climbed from the land side.

4. Two miles from the town of Soufriere at an elevation of about 800 ft. from sea-level, at the back of the Pitons, is a volcanic crater of peculiar interest which is usually visited by all tourists to

(8115) Wt. 20618/1078 500 12/22 Harrow G.75/2.

St. Lucia. The sides and basin are encrusted with sulphurous deposits, and boiling cauldrons of black water are in a perpetual state of activity emitting sulphurous fumes. A stone thrown into a cauldron immediately excites increased agitation as of apparent wrath at the aggressive disturbance. There is a comfortable home close by used as a health resort, and hot sulphurous baths can be obtained which if located in the United Kingdom or Europe would be immensely patronized. Beyond Soufriere at intervals of a few miles are the villages of Choiseul and Laborie, and at the southern end of the island which opens out into flat country is the small town of Vieuxfort, prosperous in the days when West Indian sugar held its sway and many thriving planters lived in the locality, but now almost deserted by such residents and showing signs of the struggle against the hard times. Here, at the extremity of the island, is Cape Moule-a-Chique rising abruptly from the low land to an elevation of 733 ft., on the summit of which is a lighthouse fitted with a dioptric flash light with a visibility of 35 miles.

On the east coast are the villages of Micoud and Dennery, and elsewhere on the sea coast are three other villages known as Gros Islet, Anse-la-Raye and Canaries. Besides these towns and villages there are many settlements in inland parts of the island.

5. The Colony is divided into three judicial districts and eleven quarters or parishes.

6. The island is mountainous and rugged with a central ridge running for the most part from north to south, the highest peak attaining an altitude of 3,012 ft. Descending from this ridge in the centre part of the island are three extensive valleys that stretch out into level land many miles in extent. Here are situated three fine sugar factories, one in each valley. A fourth factory is located in the Vieuxfort quarter. There is considerable cultivation in various other directions, but a large portion of the mountain slopes and interior lands still remain in virgin forest in possession of the Crown, while at lower levels around the coast are extensive areas of uncultivable lands in scrub and bush. The island is well watered with several rivers and innumerable streams.

ADMINISTRATION.

7. The Governor-in-Chief resides at Grenada, the headquarters of the Government of the Windward Islands, and pays periodical visits to the other islands of the Windward group. There is, however, no political union between the islands, and the Government of St. Lucia is administered in the Governor's absence by an Administrator invested with the Governor's powers who acts as Colonial Secretary when the Governor is present. There is an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. The former is an advisory body, and many specific functions of administration are imposed by the laws of the Colony on the Governor in Council. The Legislative Council passes all laws and approves all expenditure of public funds.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

8. A census of the population was taken on 24th April. The returns gave a total of 51,505 persons; males 23,506 and females 27,999. Compared with the census in 1911 the figures show an increase of 2,868 or nearly 6 per cent. for the decennial period. 47,876 of the population were born in St. Lucia and 3,629 elsewhere, including 93 Europeans of whom 52 were born in the United Kingdom. 2,189 were returned as of East Indian origin but only 135 were born in India. The population lived in 11,220 houses—in towns and villages 3,519, and in rural districts 7,701. 46,413 of the inhabitants, or 90 per cent., were Roman Catholics, 3,845 Anglicans, 766 Wesleyans, and 270 of other denominations. 33,760, or 65·55 per cent., were unable to read or write.

The following figures show the population at four age groups:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
5 years and under ...	4,374	4,306	8,680	16·8
6 to 20 years	8,972	9,379	18,351	35·7
21 to 60 years ...	8,901	12,629	21,530	41·8
61 years and over ...	1,259	1,685	2,944	5·7
	23,506	27,999	51,505	

There were 223 inhabitants per square mile.

The births in the year were 2,090—males 1,047, females 1,043. The deaths numbered 1,283; males 657, females 626. The birth-rate and the death-rate were respectively 37·2 and 21·8 per 1,000 of the total population.

CLIMATIC.

9. The climate of St. Lucia is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian Colonies. Not for many years has there been any outbreak of smallpox or yellow fever or other quarantinable disease or serious epidemic. The temperature ranges from 70° in the cool season to 90° in the summer. The town of Castries, lying on low land with the majority of the houses roofed with corrugated iron, is sometimes hot during the day, but is cool at night. On the hill-sides around, where many of the best residences are built, it is never unbearably warm, while on Morne Fortuné, where the garrison was formerly located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60°, and the climate at all times during the year is extremely mild and pleasant for Europeans.

The rainfall in 1921 was 90·06 in., 2·60 in. in excess of the previous year.

10. On the 8th September a storm passed over the Colony with a wind velocity of 40 miles an hour. The damage sustained was insignificant and only one life was lost. The Colony has been singularly free from all serious climatic or seismic disturbances,

and has been fortunately outside the track of the severe hurricanes that have visited the West Indies in past years.

11. Much has been said and written about the presence of the dreaded fer-de-lance snake in St. Lucia. In former years the Colony was infested with this deadly reptile. In 1870, Sir George Des Voeux, the then Administrator, offered a reward of 6*d.* a head which resulted in the destruction in one year of 52,000 at a cost to the Colony of £1,300. As the result of the introduction of the mongoose in 1890, and with the advance of cultivation and the continuation of rewards, the remnants of this pest have been driven into the interior, and no one in the Colony now remembers anything about the presence of snakes. The highest number of deaths recorded from snake-bite was 22 in 1869, and not a dozen have occurred during the past twenty years. There was not one in 1921.

FINANCIAL.

12. The inflated prosperity that succeeded the War had the same effect in St. Lucia as elsewhere, and the belief that increased prices for sugar and other products of the Colony would always prevail inspired speculation and excessive expenditure. Some of the sugar factories passed at fictitious values into the hands of syndicates without capital, and when prices suddenly fell in 1920 operations were carried on for a time but came to a stand-still in 1921 until accommodation could be secured from the banks. This cessation of employment and the fall in the market values of all staple products caused a serious set-back to the island. The expenditure of the Colony, which in 1913–14 amounted to £68,352, had risen in 1921 to £101,148. During that period up to 1919 the average expenditure had been £72,000, but in 1920 it jumped to £93,159. The average revenue for the corresponding period up to 1919 was £69,480. In 1920 it increased to £98,139, and fell in 1921 to £72,227, or £28,921 less than the expenditure. Fortunately, a surplus in hand of £12,577 at the commencement of the year reduced the deficit to £16,344. A good deal of revenue was in arrear at the close of the year which would have considerably added to the receipts if the collection had been possible, but, in the general state of severe depression in business and trade, concessions in extending time for payment were imperative. The arrears included about £3,000 for export duties and £5,500 for income tax.

Assets and Liabilities.

13. The assets of the Colony at 31st December amounted to £40,822, and the liabilities to £49,731. The assets included investments of £5,027 surplus funds, £7,437 Public Buildings Insurance Fund being the accumulation of annual contributions from general revenue set apart for the insurance of public buildings, and £15,008 savings bank deposits.

The principal items of the liabilities were £15,516 due to savings bank depositors, £7,252 payable on redemption of temporary currency notes, £12,000 advanced by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Colony for services in the United Kingdom, and £7,825 overdrawn at the Colonial Bank.

Public Debt.

14. The Public Debt stood at £155,799. The first debt amounting to £3,000 at 5 per cent. interest was incurred in 1885 for immigration purposes and will be finally repaid in 1922. In 1887 £10,000 was borrowed for the purchase by the Colony of preference shares in the St. Lucia Central Sugar Factory Company. Not long after, however, the Company came to grief, and the factory passed into other hands. In the same year a loan of £70,000 was raised for improving the Castries harbour. Both these loans were incurred at 4½ per cent. interest and will be finally repaid in 1931. The harbour was dredged and substantial concrete wharves were built. The outlay for the purpose, besides providing excellent accommodation for shipping, has been the means of adding a considerable source of income to the Colony from the coaling business that the facilities of the improved harbour made it possible to establish.

Other loans raised were £66,479 at 4 per cent. under the authority of Ordinance No. 19 of 1892 for public works, including a loan of £10,000 to the Castries Town Board. This loan will be finally repaid in 1944. Also loans amounting to £19,000 at 4 per cent. for constructing new waterworks for Castries, to be repaid in 1948. In 1916 a further loan of £30,000 at 5 per cent. interest was raised for the construction and improvement of roads and bridges. The Colony is now reaping the advantages of this well-considered outlay. Communication that was previously difficult, even on horseback, has been rendered practicable for motor cars, and parts of the island that were formerly almost unknown are at the present time within easy reach by comfortable conveyance.

Two small loans of £700 and £5,000 at 5 per cent. each were recently raised. The first in 1917 for the construction of a new wing for private paying patients at the Victoria Hospital, and the second in 1920 for the purchase of a motor launch for coastal service and for the establishment of a motor-bus service across the island.

The sinking funds towards the redemption of these several loans amounted to £37,807 at the close of the year.

Revenue.

15. The total local revenue of the Colony was estimated at £95,137, but the actual receipts were only £72,227. Owing to the restricted condition of trade and employment there was very

little money in circulation, and the revenue was bound to suffer in consequence.

The chief items of income are derived from Customs duties on imports and exports, excise duties, and income tax. The receipts from these sources were:—

Import duties	£26,550	
Export ,, ...	1,135	
Excise ,, ...	11,341	
Income Tax	8,963	
		47,989

Other principal receipts were:—

Licences—Spirit dealers, vehicles, etc....	3,119	
Stamp duties	2,320	
Succession duties	2,378	
Interest on investments	2,715	
Fees of Court	6,201	
		16,733
Various other items of local revenue amounted to		7,505
Making the total revenue for the year		72,227
To this sum may be added the grant received from the Rockefeller Foundation International Health Commission for carrying on the campaign for the eradication of ankylostomiasis in the Colony		1,950
Making a total revenue from all sources of ...		£74,177

The import duties comprise specific rates, principally on foodstuffs, and an *ad valorem* duty, chiefly on manufactured goods. The tariff of duties was revised on 16th August, 1921, and the existing duties are enumerated in the schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance of St. Lucia, No. 11 of 1921. The Ordinance prescribes a general tariff and fixes the *ad valorem* duties at 15 per cent. All British goods verified as such under a certificate of origin to be the produce or manufacture of any part of the Empire are subject to the preferential abatement of 33⅓ per cent. of the general tariff rates.

The export duties are levied on sugar, molasses, cocoa, and lime products on a graduated scale according to prices at the time of exportation, and duties are also levied on certain other miscellaneous minor products exported, including bay leaves, coconuts, coconut-oil, copra, hardwood, logwood and pimento wood.

The excise duty is fixed at 5*s.* a proof-gallon and so in proportion for any greater or less quantity on spirits manufactured in the Colony. The only spirit so manufactured is rum. Included in the excise duty is a trade duty at the rate of 1*s.* 8*d.* a proof-gallon on all spirits imported or made locally and obtained for sale.

The income tax is payable on a graduated scale commencing at the low rate of 1*d.* per pound on incomes of £50, to 3*s.* 6*d.* per pound on incomes exceeding £10,000. Incomes under £50 are

not subject to the tax. The income tax roll in 1921 contained 616 taxed incomes out of a population of 51,505 persons, showing that only 1·19 per cent. were the happy possessors of an income of £50 and upwards. 53·9 per cent. of the taxed incomes ranged from £50 to £100. In the United Kingdom in 1920, 52·2 per cent. of the taxed incomes ranged from £500 to £1,000.

An item of revenue not shown in the Colony's annual estimates is a tax on houses in rural districts, which brings in about £2,300 a year. The tax was levied for the purpose of meeting the interest and sinking fund payable on any loans raised for the reconstruction and improvement of existing roads and for the construction and maintenance of new roads and bridges. Under the law imposing the tax the receipts are credited to a special "Roads Fund," but the law will be amended, and the tax will be shown in future as part of the Colony's revenue, but will be utilized for the same purposes.

In the present state of the Colony's development, taxation to secure a revenue of £95,000 is a severe strain. At that figure the taxation per head would be £1 16*s*. 10½*d*., but the earning capacity of the large majority of the population does not exceed £12 a year, and the burden of taxation therefore falls on a small minority. A budget of £95,000, the estimate for 1921, can only be realised in abnormal periods of prosperity. In view of the general depression that prevailed during the year, it was not considered expedient to impose additional taxation to meet the deficit.

EXPENDITURE.

16. The expenditure for 1921 was placed at £97,531 including the grant of £1,934 from the Rockefeller International Health Commission, and the actual expenditure amounted to £102,928, being £28,751 in excess of the actual revenue. With a shrinking income it became necessary to exercise careful economy, and savings were effected to the extent of £3,156, but several services had been under-estimated in the mistaken belief that prices of imported commodities would fall during the year, and supplementary votes had to be granted. The Colony also suffered a loss of £2,102 on the sale of investments. Retrenchment is essential because the expenditure has reached a figure beyond normal resources, but it is not easy to see where considerable savings are possible without the withdrawal of progressive measures that have become the every-day conveniences of life. The civil establishment is not overstaffed for the various duties required, and the salaries are not excessive compared with the higher emoluments of corresponding officials in larger and more prosperous Colonies. A few amalgamations are possible as opportunities may occur, but any reductions made in salaries or in staff will tend to less efficiency. For want of funds no new works of improvement could be undertaken during the year, and only expenditure on bare maintenance was possible.

Currency, Banks, Weights and Measures.

17. The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of this Colony. Local Treasury notes of the value of 10*s*. and 5*s*. are also in circulation. Gold and notes of the United States pass current.

The Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have each a branch bank in the Colony, and they each have a five-dollar note circulation.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Imports.

18. The value of the imports and exports amounted to £446,387, as compared with £983,417 in the previous year. The imports and exports were respectively £528,044 and £455,413 in 1920 as against £217,507 and £228,882 in 1921. These figures show the slump that occurred in the trade of the Colony in the latter year.

The origin of the imports was as under:—

	£	£
United Kingdom	66,348	
Canada	47,790	
Newfoundland	2,145	
India	2,210	
Other British Countries	9,115	
		127,608
United States of America	68,968	
Other Foreign Countries	13,831	
		82,799
Parcels Post		7,100
		£217,507

The imports from the United Kingdom were chiefly manufactured fabrics, machinery and implements. The United States had the lead, however, in cotton piece-goods with a supply of 493,428 yards, value £11,878, as compared with 96,149 yards, value £5,438, from the United Kingdom. Notwithstanding the preferential abatement of duty on British goods, it seems that the United States can compete with a cheap class of manufacture that meets local requirements. The principal imports from Canada were wheaten flour, value £27,981, fish of all kinds, dried and pickled, £9,468, matches £1,132, butter £945, and cement £854. India supplied rice to the value of £2,132.

The imports from the United States included 5,501 tons of bituminous coal, value £16,523, apparel, cotton fabrics, and haberdashery £13,430, bags and bagging £3,678, unmanufactured

tobacco £2,117, motor cars and parts £2,266, oils, edible, £5,059, illuminating £4,021, other various goods £21,874.

Trinidad supplied the bulk of the motor spirit imported, 12,343 gallons, value £1,622, as against 2,825 gallons, value £328, from the United States.

Canada is now participating largely in the supply of goods that in pre-war days were obtained from the United States. All wheaten flour now comes from Canada, and the imports of manufactured articles show an increase.

The imports from foreign countries, apart from the United States, were chiefly obtained from France £5,087, Holland £1,383, Chile £2,825, and Venezuela £1,153. Goods of the value of £102 were imported from Germany.

EXPORTS.

19. The total exports, including the produce of the Colony and imported goods exported, were as under:—

	£	£
To the United Kingdom	64,825	
Canada	7,051	
Other Parts of British Empire ...	20,829	
		92,705
United States of America	70,675	
Other Foreign Countries	769	
		71,444
Bunker coal...		64,000
Ships' stores		733
Total		£228,882

Of these exports, £138,731 represented the produce of the Colony, and £90,151 imported goods exported. The destination of these exports is shown as follows:—

	Produce of the Colony.		Imports exported.	
	£		£	
United Kingdom	50,825		14,000	
Canada	6,979		72	
Other Parts of British Empire	9,850		10,979	
		67,654		25,051
United States of America ...	70,475		200	
Other Foreign Countries ...	602		167	
		71,077		367
Bunker coal				64,000
Ships' stores				733
Totals		£138,731		£90,151

Specie in silver coin was exported to the value of £17,000: to the United Kingdom £14,000, and to Antigua £3,000.

The figures below show the quantities and values of the principal produce of the Colony exported in 1921 as compared with 1920.

	1921.		1920.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	cwt.	£	cwt.	£
Cocoa	12,365	25,211	8,966	43,944
Coconuts	171,660	900	327,240	2,114
	lb.		lb.	
Cotton, raw	5,599	623	4,345	717
Honey	29,526	473	61,086	2,119
Hides and skins	695	122	4,983	1,188
	brls.		brls.	
Limes, fresh	1,858	1,775	808	780
	gal.		gal.	
Lime products	37,054	9,831	29,024	10,531
Molasses and syrup ...	103,676	5,325	199,366	28,159
	cwt.		cwt.	
Sugar	64,760	80,820	80,548	146,316

These figures show the general reduction in 1921 of the market values of all the Colony's produce.

Shipping.

20. No report on St. Lucia would be complete without special reference to Port Castries as a coaling station. The harbour is almost land-locked, is a mile in length, and available for all classes of vessels. The harbour is well lighted. On one side of the entrance is a flashing light visible 12 miles, and on the other side is an occulting light visible 12 miles, and there are also leading lights into the harbour. A concrete wharf, 650 ft. in length with a minimum depth of 27½ ft., provides accommodation for easy coaling. Steamers lie alongside and are bunkered by native labour at an average rate of 150 tons an hour or with greater celerity when required. Fresh water is also supplied to shipping from hydrants on the wharf.

Ten years ago the tonnage of shipping entered and cleared amounted to 3,490,042 tons, and Port Castries ranked thirteenth in the list of principal shipping ports in the Dominions and Colonies. In no single port in Australia or New Zealand or in the West Indies did the tonnage equal that of Port Castries, and was only exceeded in ports in Canada at Victoria, B.C. In recent years the shipping has declined, and in 1921 a marked drop occurred. Only 177 steamers called, of which 54 took bunker coal.

The following figures give the shipping entered and cleared in 1921:—

	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam vessels ...	177	385,384	177	385,384	354	770,768
Sailing ,, ...	325	9,933	326	10,010	651	19,943
	502	395,317	503	395,394	1,005	790,711

The port was visited by six warships: H.M.S. " Cambrian " and the United States mine-laying squadron of five vessels, of which U.S.S. " San Francisco " was the flagship.

Steamship Services.

21. Steamers calling regularly at St. Lucia are the Royal Mail steamers subsidized by Canada for service between Canada and the West Indies, the Furness Withy steamers known as the Quebec Line, the Raporel Line running between New York and the West Indies, and the inter-colonial French steamer connecting at Martinique with the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

These steamers afford frequent communication with Trinidad and Barbados, where transatlantic connections can be obtained.

Freight from the United Kingdom and Europe is dropped at Barbados and conveyed to St. Lucia on sailing schooners that constantly ply between the two islands. Steamers of the Harrison Line call at irregular intervals for the Colony's exports to the United Kingdom.

Agriculture and Natural Resources.

22. Only a small portion of St. Lucia is at present under cultivation. Extensive areas of Crown lands still exist in forest, and a good deal of land is not fit for cultivation. Selected parts are sold out on easy terms to applicants, but there is not sufficient population for all the arable land. The island is, however, well favoured for agricultural development. There are suitable soils for all kinds of tropical economic plants, and agriculture is not therefore restricted by the adaptability of the land to any single or particular kind of cultivation. There are excellent lands in the valleys for sugar-cane. Cocoa grows well in certain localities. Lands in many parts are well suited for lime cultivation, and coconuts thrive admirably around the sea coast. Cotton is also grown to some small extent, but has never been seriously taken up. The principal staples are sugar, cocoa and limes. The four sugar usines should be capable of producing some 15,000 to 20,000 tons, but with the capital and labour available the average total output does not exceed 5,000 tons, and in 1921 the exports fell to 3,238 tons. Besides the usines, there are many small sugar estates. With the sudden fall in market prices in 1921, the industry met with a severe collapse from which it will take some time to recover. A considerable quantity of fancy syrup and molasses is also produced. It is estimated that 4,450 acres are in sugar cultivation.

There are several cocoa estates that do well, and many petty proprietors possess small holdings, but St. Lucia is not a cocoa island, and not much extension of this product appears to be practicable. When a few years back prices for lime products

became attractive, cocoa in some parts was abandoned for lime growing, and attention is now only paid to cocoa on established estates. The cocoa market also collapsed in 1921. Prices that had reached as high as 128*s*. per cwt. in 1920 fell as low as 40*s*. per cwt. in 1921. The lands in cocoa cultivation are estimated at 6,000 acres, but this acreage does not include small scattered holdings.

Lime cultivation is a new industry in St. Lucia and has made rapid development. Several planters have established lime estates and have erected factories for concentrating the raw juice, and the Government has provided a factory for the benefit of small growers. With any encouragement in prices this industry would be extensively increased, as the soil appears to be specially favourable. The present area in cultivation is estimated at 2,500 acres.

Great hopes are placed on coconuts, and this cultivation is being rapidly extended. In a few years coconuts and copra will figure largely in the Colony's exports.

There are four rum distilleries which produced 51,385 proof-gallons. The local consumption was 45,362 proof-gallons, yielding an excise duty of £11,341. Only 63 proof-gallons were exported.

Bay-oil is also manufactured. There were three distilleries in operation. The bay-leaf tree is plentiful in the island, and the outlook for this minor industry is encouraging.

Bee-keeping is carried on to some extent but does not seem to increase.

The forests contain an abundant supply of native wood suitable for building purposes, and hard wood of various kinds for furniture and decorative work. Very little wood is now imported. Native wood is used for the construction of nearly all buildings.

There is plenty of room in the island for further enterprise, and the door is open to settlers with moderate capital. Banana plantations might be established, and a certain amount of stock breeding is possible.

23. The Agricultural Department has done very useful work for the Colony, and was instrumental in promoting the development of the lime industry. The Botanic station at Reunion has afforded great help by the distribution of economic plants. The grounds of the station are beautifully laid out with specimen and ornamental plants, and would not be out of place in a corner of Kew.

The establishment of the West Indian Agricultural College in Trinidad will make a landmark in agriculture, and will supply the means locally that have been long necessary for obtaining technical training and scientific knowledge in tropical agriculture.

EDUCATION, NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS.

Primary Education.

24. There are 51 primary schools; 26 for infants (ages 4 to 10), 22 for juveniles (ages 8 to 16), and 3 for infants and juveniles combined. All these schools are denominational, 44 being Roman

Catholic, 4 Anglican and 3 Wesleyan. All receive grants-in-aid from public funds.

The number of pupils on the rolls on 31st December, 1921, was 6,603; the average attendance for the year was 4,589. The Government grant for primary schools for 1921 was £4,665, and the voluntary contributions amounted to £1,442, including estimated rental value of school-houses.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14, but local conditions do not render it expedient to be exacting in the enforcement of the law.

There are two drawbacks to the progress of elementary education. The first is the inadequacy of the pay of teachers to attract men of the right class to take up teaching as a profession, and the second is the want of an institution for the systematic training of teachers. When the Colony can afford to supply these wants all other difficulties in the betterment of education in the primary schools will disappear.

Secondary Education.

25. There are two secondary schools, one for boys and one for girls. St. Mary's College, the school for boys, is maintained by the Roman Catholic Church assisted by a grant from public funds of £400 per annum. There are seventeen scholarships for boys from the elementary schools given by the Government. The number on the roll at 31st December, 1921, was 105, and the average attendance for the year was 100.

The girls' school is administered by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and receives a Government grant of £175 per annum. 130 girls were on the roll at 31st December, 1921, and the average attendance for the year was 115.

Both schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations held in July. Six boys and two girls obtained Senior Certificates. Nineteen boys and eight girls obtained Junior Certificates, including five with honours.

St. Lucia Scholarship.

26. An annual scholarship known as the St. Lucia Scholarship was established in 1918, of the value of £175, tenable at any University or College in Europe or Canada, or any Agricultural, Scientific or Technical College or Institution in Europe, Canada or the United States, approved by the Governor in Council for a period of not less than three years and not more than five years according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned by the Governor in Council. The Scholarship is awarded on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. Up to 1921 three scholarships had been awarded.

Newspapers and Publications.

27. There is only one newspaper "The Voice of St. Lucia," published bi-weekly. An official gazette confined exclusively to Government notices and publications is issued by the Government every alternate Saturday, and special gazettes are published at other times when necessary.

The Government also publishes an Annual Blue Book giving general statistical information of the Colony.

LOCAL FORCES AND POLICE.

Local Forces.

28. The Police Force is practically the only local armed body. The Volunteer Force, formerly efficient and popular, has since the War become moribund, and exists now only on paper. Some of the men are still willing to practice rifle shooting on the range, but no inducement in the near future will cause any revival of interest in a volunteer movement.

29. The Police Force is composed of three European ex-Army officers and 70 non-commissioned officers and men, all natives of St. Lucia or of other West Indian Colonies. The men are trained in rifle exercises and go through an annual musketry course, and there is a maxim-gun section. Besides the headquarters station in Castries, eleven district stations are located in different parts of the island, but for purposes of economy two were closed during the year. A number of rural constables are enrolled to assist the police in country districts.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

30. Opportunities for mail communication with the United Kingdom, Europe and New York are frequent, but not on regular scheduled dates. Mails from the United Kingdom and Europe are usually landed by transatlantic steamers calling at Barbados, and are conveyed from thence to the Colony by the first inter-colonial steamer or by schooner, and similarly mails from the Colony are sent to Barbados to connect with steamers proceeding from there to Europe.

An inland postal service is maintained between Castries and all the district towns and villages.

Telegraphic communication is provided by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

The Admiralty Wireless Station has been transferred to the local Government, and will be operated by the Government for shipping and commercial business.

There is a Government telephone system extending to all parts of the island with ten exchanges and 204 connections.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATION.

31. The means of communication in the island have greatly improved in recent years. With the completion of the Castries-Dennery road it is now possible to drive by motor car from Castries across the island to Dennery on the east coast, and from thence round the southern end of the island to Soufriere on the west coast, a distance of 55 miles. This road facilitates easy touch with important parts of the island and with large plantations that were formerly difficult to reach from Castries, and gives improved access for agricultural development in the interior.

The Government maintains 125 miles of main road, 127 miles of byways and 77 of unclassified roads, a total of 331 miles, of which 95 are suitable for motor car traffic.

A passenger bus service runs bi-weekly between Castries and Dennery.

Communication with the west or leeward parts was maintained by the Government motor launch of 50 tons which plied daily except on Sundays and Wednesdays between Castries and Soufriere, proceeding twice a week as far as Vieuxfort at the extreme southern end of the island.

The luxury of a motor car is now an ordinary method of travel where less than ten years ago only a tedious journey on horseback was possible. There are about 80 motor cars and motor lorries in the Colony, and motor cars are available for hire.

MEDICAL.

32. The Medical Staff comprised a Resident Surgeon in charge of the Victoria Hospital and six district officers, one of whom is Health Officer and has special charge of all sanitation activities. The staff was strengthened during the year by the new appointment of a Chief Medical Officer. The presence of such an officer with time at his disposal to exercise general supervision and to advise the Government should prove of great use in directing measures for the improvement of health conditions in the Colony. The Chief Medical Officer represented St. Lucia at the Medical Conference held in British Guiana in the middle of the year.

Owing to the low salaries provided, difficulty was experienced in obtaining the services of medical men to fill vacancies. It has been recognized that when the Colony's finances will permit, the emoluments of the Medical Officers must be increased.

The International Health Commission continued their operations during the year over a considerable area of the Colony. If effective sanitation can be maintained, this philanthropic campaign should prove a lasting benefit to the health of the labouring classes.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

33. The Victoria Hospital or principal hospital is located within half a mile of Castries.

The staff consists of a Resident Surgeon in charge with a European Nurse Matron assisted by a good class of native nurses.

The number of patients admitted during the year was 1,575—males 653, and females 922. Of these, 1,006 were discharged cured, 133 relieved, and 111 died. The mortality-rate is always large for the reason that cases are frequently sent to hospital in a moribund and dying condition; 327 surgical operations were performed. The Chief Medical Officer reports that the list of operations "shows a wide range in variety and required considerable skill and knowledge for their successful performance," the percentage cured being almost 80 per cent. and the mortality about 4 per cent., which doubtless would have been lower had some of these cases been sent in earlier.

The institution has a good reputation, and persons of the best class needing surgical or medical treatment seek admission.

There are two district hospitals and a casualty ward at Soufriere, but for economical necessity are used only for cases of accident or emergency.

The Lunatic Asylum is a large building formerly the military ordnance store at Toc and taken over by the Government and converted to its present use. The institution contained a daily average of 37·6 male inmates and 54·5 females. Two were discharged cured and 16 died.

The Pauper, Yaws and Leper Asylums are located in the Soufriere district, and are under the supervision of the Medical Officer in charge of that district and a Visiting Advisory Committee. The buildings have a creditable appearance, and the institutions are well maintained. There were 97 inmates in the Pauper Asylum at the close of the year, the daily average was 68 males and 28·9 females. Ten were discharged during the year, and 28 died. The daily average in the yaws and leper divisions was 18·7. No deaths occurred, and nine patients were discharged cured.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

34. The year was one of great financial depression. The cessation of work for a time on some of the sugar factories, the slump in the coaling business, the fall in the price of all the Colony's products, and the general curtailment of employment with no encouraging outlook caused much anxiety, but at no time did any gloom prevail. It was felt that the depression would not last, and that in course of time conditions would improve. The Colony fortunately possesses an abundant native food supply of fish, vegetables and fruit that served the wants of the poorer classes who might otherwise have suffered privation had they been obliged to depend on the purchase of imported foodstuffs.

Visit of the Hon. E. L. Wood.

35. Perhaps encroachment on the record for 1922 may be permitted to refer here to the visit of the Hon. E. L. Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, as the writer of this report was at the time in charge of the Government of the Colony. Mr. Wood, accompanied by the Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. R. A. Wiseman of the Colonial Office, landed from H.M.S. " Valerian " on 8th January in the afternoon, and was met on the wharf by the Acting Administrator and Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, principal officials and leading residents, and proceeded to Government House where they were entertained during their visit to the Colony. On the following day, Mr. Wood received a deputation from the Representative Government Association, and gave interviews to residents who called to see him on various public matters. In the afternoon he attended a public meeting on Columbus Square where he was presented with several addresses, and made a speech that was received with acclamation by the large assembled audience. At a garden party at Government House later that afternoon, the visitors had the opportunity of meeting the local society. On the following day Mr. Wood received a deputation of Medical Officers, and then went with his party by motor launch to the town of Soufriere where, on landing, he was presented with an address and made a speech in reply. The party then proceeded to the Volcanic Crater and were taken by guides to see the boiling cauldrons. Returning to Castries there was an official dinner and ball at Government House, and in the early morning of the 11th the party embarked on H.M.S. " Valerian " for St. Vincent.

To the great majority of the inhabitants, Mr. Wood's visit was viewed only in the sense that he was a person of great importance, and that some unknown benefit to the people might be expected to result from his visit, but to the educated portion of the community the real object of the mission was well understood, and satisfaction was felt that the Secretary of State had sent out a representative of Mr. Wood's standing to acquire on the spot personal knowledge of conditions in the Colony.

Mr. Wood and his party will be remembered for their urbanity to all with whom they came in contact, and their visit will be spoken of hereafter as a great epoch in the political history of the Colony.

E. D. LABORDE,
Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,
16th August, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1106	Seychelles	1920
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921–1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad	1921
1136	British Honduras	"
1137	Ceylon	"
1138	Swaziland	"
1139	Hongkong	"
1140	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

LE 0 21

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1168.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1922.

For Report for 1921 see No. 1124.

LONDON:
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; York Street, Manchester;
1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 120, George Street,
Edinburgh.

1923.

Price 6*d*. net.

No. 1168.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1922.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.—Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British Island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad, and between the parallels of 12°30′ and 11°58′ North Latitude and 61°20′ and 61°35′ West Longitude. The Island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is 125 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forest to their summits, intersect the Island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the Island, 1,740 feet above sea level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.—The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May, when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade, or drops below 70°, and these occasions occur so rarely that they are specially recorded in the meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1922 was 90°, on 31st October and 3rd November, and the lowest 68° on 11th March. The mean of maximum temperatures was 83° and the mean of minimum 73°.

The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 in.; in the mountainous centre it approaches 140 in. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1922 was 66·35 in. Over the past 30 years the average has been 75·23 in. yearly.

Historical.—Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–6, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion against the British rule broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Trade conditions during the year remained depressed, caused chiefly by a short crop of the Colony's principal product, cocoa, and by low market prices. There are signs that the cultivation has been extended to areas where it can only be profitably grown during periods of high prices. Portions of estates are thus under a permanent cultivation which gives a yield insufficient to cover the marketing of the crop at the present quotations. The net profit on some estates would be increased by eliminating the cultivation altogether on the less fertile sections. This is a policy that does not make a ready appeal to planters, as there is a natural disinclination to uproot existing cultivation of a permanent nature. The late period of high prices has also been the cause of over-capitalisation of estates that have recently changed hands. Many are unable to give an adequate return on the capital expended on purchase. These circumstances retard the restoration of the financial prosperity of the Colony.

The second chief cultivation of the Colony, nutmegs and mace, is fortunately increasing, and prices during the year were good. Enquiries are also being made with a view to establishing the cultivation of bananas, which would grow readily on certain soils that are now unprofitably devoted to cocoa. The successful introduction of this new industry would have the double effect of

(11647) Wt. 13075/782 500 9/23 Harrow G 75/2

providing additional wealth for the Colony, and of materially improving the net returns of estates on which it may be found suitable to substitute it for cocoa where the latter is now unprofitably grown.

The following table shows the altered trade conditions since 1920 :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
1918	£377,332	£702,777
1919	438,110	637,249
1920	620,378	616,499
1921	250,541	272,242
1922	250,413	271,392
	£1,936,774	£2,500,159

The Honourable E. F. L. Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies (now Minister of Education), accompanied by the Honourable W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. R. A. Wiseman, of the Colonial Office, visited the Colony in January in the course of a tour through the West Indies on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. In his report, presented to Parliament by Command Paper, Cmd. 1679, the subjects affecting Grenada include the question of the association of the Windward Islands with Trinidad as a nucleus for a larger Federation of the West Indies, the institution of a partly-elected Legislative Council, and improvement of the Medical Service.

Public Health.—The Colony of Grenada, including the Island of Carriacou, has a comparatively low death-rate, especially among adults, and health conditions are generally good. The death-rate for the year 1922 was 18·8 per 1,000. Intestinal diseases, due to insufficient and improper feeding, are the cause of most of the deaths of children, and although remedial measures are being carried out by the Government and the District Boards, the death-rate among children is high. Of the total deaths 42·6 were of children below the age of five years. Deducting these deaths, the death-rate of adults in proportion to the population above five years of age is considerably reduced, and while not so low as in European countries, compares more favourably with the adult death-rate in temperate zones than the total death-rate indicates.

Diarrhœa and enteritis caused 329 deaths (4·8 per 1,000 of the population), dysentery 83 (1·2 per 1,000), and malaria 83 deaths (1·2 per 1,000).

Water Supplies.—There is a pipe-borne water service in all the parishes of the Island except St. David's, the latter being supplied with numerous protected springs and streams. Certain lands forming the catchment area of the water supply of St. George's have been acquired by the Government in order to prevent pollution. The water supply of the Island of Carriacou is obtained from wells and from rain water stored in cisterns.

III.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The revenue during 1922 amounted to £103,414, and the expenditure to £117,849, resulting in a deficit on the year's working of £14,435. The corresponding figures for the previous years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*	*Deficit.*
	£	£	£	£
1917–18 ...	106,138	109,390	—	3,252
1918–19 ...	110,387	108,252	2,135	—
1919 (9 months)	87,295	107,011	—	19,716
1920	134,128	148,174	—	14,056
1921	97,932	136,969	—	39,037
1922	103,414	117,849	—	14,435

The annual deficits, as shown in the foregoing statement, have exhausted the Colony's surplus, which, in 1914, amounted to £64,153, and there was, at 31st December, 1922, a deficit of £27,724. The assets amount to £101,550 and the liabilities to £129,274. No allowance for depreciation of investments has been taken into account in these figures.

The public debt of the Colony amounts to £223,670, against which there is an accumulated sinking fund of £67,913, while £41,375 of the latest loan issue remains unexpended. This leaves the Colony with a net indebtedness under loan funds of £114,382.

Of the issue of Government Currency Notes of the denominations of 2*s*. 6*d*., 5*s*. and 10*s*., made in 1920 to the amount of £12,500, only £10,254 remained in circulation at 31st December, the 2*s*. 6*d*. notes having been withdrawn, and some dilapidated notes of the higher denominations destroyed as being unserviceable.

Banks.—Two banks are established in the Colony, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada. A branch of the former exists in Carriacou and there is an agency at Grenville. Both banks conduct a savings bank department in addition to their other business.

The authorised note circulation in the Colony of the Colonial Bank was £25,000, and of the Royal Bank of Canada $100,000. The actual amount of their notes in circulation at the end of the year was approximately £30,000.

Gold coins have disappeared, the principal medium of monetary exchange, in addition to notes, being silver, which is legal tender to any amount.

Savings Bank.—The rate of interest on deposits in the Government Savings Bank was raised from 3 to 4 per cent. as from 1st March, 1922. This resulted in increasing the number of depositors, who numbered 1,685 at the end of 1922 as compared with 1,404 a year previously, while the deposits increased from £14,995 to £15,609. A steady decline in the number of depositors

and in the amount of deposits had been in evidence for several years, originating with the introduction of savings departments by the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada. The interest rates of these banks remain at 3 per cent.

Imports and Exports.—The total trade of the Colony during the year was £521,805. Imports of merchandise amounted to £250,413 and exports to £271,392. Of the latter the domestic exports were £260,308.

The preference of 33⅓ per cent. on all goods of Empire origin or manufacture, as arranged under the Agreement signed at Ottawa in 1920, has had the effect of enabling the United Kingdom during the past two years to regain the premier position in respect of imports. The value of imports from the United Kingdom was £72,902, from the United States of America £64,180, and from Canada £58,079, the percentages of the total imports being 29·1, 25·6, and 23·2 respectively.

In some classes of manufactured goods, in spite of the substantial preference of 33⅓ per cent. given to the United Kingdom, the United States of America still competes successfully with the former country. The principal commodities in this repect, and the relative values of importations from the two countries, are the following: cotton piece goods, United States of America £20,907, United Kingdom £12,040; boots and shoes, United States of America £2,484, United Kingdom £1,402; hats and bonnets, United States of America £1,019, United Kingdom £666; painters' colours and materials, United States of America, £285, United Kingdom £114; perfumery, United States of America £381, United Kingdom £29.

As in addition to the preference there is still an adverse exchange rate against the New York Market, it is difficult to account for the foregoing except by the conclusion that the prices of the articles manufactured in the United Kingdom are still too high for the local demand.

The importations from Canada consist principally of flour, oats, butter and fish, the trade in the first-mentioned article being now practically controlled by Canada. Importations of manufactured goods from Canada, although still of small value, are steadily increasing.

Of the total exports, £143,966, or 53 per cent., went to the United Kingdom, £81,571, or 30 per cent., to the United States of America, and £23,081, or 8·5 per cent., to Canada.

The principal exports consisted of cocoa (value £167,056), nutmegs (value £59,959), mace (value £17,056), and cotton (value £7,217).

Most of the cocoa went to the United Kingdom, of the value of £116,520, the United States of America taking £23,064, and Canada £18,907. For nutmegs and mace, however, the United States of America was by far the Colony's best market, nutmegs to the value of £46,952 being sent there, as compared with £9,651

to the United Kingdom and £3,341 to Canada. The corresponding figures for mace were £8,251, £8,177 and £637 respectively. The whole of the cotton went to the United Kingdom.

Agriculture.—The crop of cocoa for the crop year ending 30th September, 1922, was an unusually short one, the number of bags (averaging 180 lb.) exported in the period being 40,772. In the previous year the number was 53,333 and in 1920 was 76,686. The price continued low, and, together with the short crop, created considerable depression.

Nutmegs bore remarkably well, and the prices were good, as were also the prices for mace. The good returns from these crops proved a boon to the community.

The cultivation of cotton is confined to Carriacou, and is of the Marie Galante variety.

Land.—Grenada has a large number of small peasant owners of land, the lots being generally under five acres. The number of separate holdings of land may be seen from the following :—

Number of lots.

Total taxable acreage	2½ acres and under	Over 2½–5 acres	Over 5–7 acres	Over 7–10 acres	Over 10–20 acres	Over 20–100 acres	Over 100 acres	Total
75,377	8,756	1,362	378	200	237	181	138	11,252

There are no Crown Lands for sale, the lands remaining in the possession of the Crown being reserved in forest, for preservation of the rainfall. The extent of the Government Forest Reserve is 2,652 acres.

Industries.—With the exception of the manufacture of sugar and rum there are no industries of any importance whatever in the Island. Sugar is made to a very small extent and the Colony imports most of its supplies of that commodity. Enough rum is made to supply the local market, which is protected by a heavy countervailing duty on imported rum amounting to a protection of 4*s.* per proof gallon. There are fourteen distilleries, the total rum made during the year being 45,733 proof gallons.

An ice factory is established in St. George's with the aid of a Government subsidy.

A small whaling industry was started a few years ago at Point Saline, on the southern coast. Three whales were caught in 1920 and one in 1921. Operations ceased temporarily in 1922, but have since been successfully resumed. Three sailing boats are employed, each manned by a crew of six men. The whales are of the humpback species (*Megaptera nodosa*).

V.—LEGISLATION.

Nineteen Ordinances were passed during the year, the principal of which were the following :—

No. 2.—The Customs Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, effecting a general increase in the rates of duty on imported goods.

No. 3.—The Harbour and Cargo Duties Ordinance, imposing duties on ships entering the harbour and on cargoes discharged or loaded.

No. 4.—The Savings Bank Amendment Ordinance, increasing the rate of interest on deposits in the Government Savings Bank from three to four per cent.

No. 9.—The Income Tax Amendment Ordinance, increasing the rates of tax.

No. 10.—The Courts (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, empowering the Court to defer the sale of lands under any judgment or order.

No. 15.—The Fertilisers Supply Ordinance, authorising the Government to provide for the purchase and sale of fertilisers to planters under certain conditions.

VI.—EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Primary.—The number of schools at the close of the year was 58, of which ten were Government Schools. The 48 Grant-in-Aid Schools comprised 17 Roman Catholic, 14 Anglican, five Wesleyan, and two Presbyterian Schools.

The number of pupils on the roll was 10,396, and the average attendance was 3,954. The contribution by Government in aid of primary education amounted to £8,001, giving a cost of £2 0*s*. 6*d*. per head of average attendance.

Secondary.—Secondary Education is provided for at the Government Boys' School, the St. Joseph's Convent School for Girls, and the Anglican Girls' High School. Each of the latter two schools receives an annual Government Grant of £186.

An external scholarship of the value of £175 (temporarily increased to £210) and tenable for five years at an approved university is provided annually by the Government.

VIII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The Island is well supplied with main roads and byways, there being 146 miles of the former and 305 miles of the latter.

A Government mail and passenger motor service is run between St. George's and Sauteurs and supplies the eastern side of the Island. Mails and passengers on the western side are conveyed by motor launch, to which a subsidy is given. A serviceable main road on the western side is also available for traffic.

Post Offices are also established in the principal centres of each parish, and there are numerous small postal stations throughout the Colony.

The telephone service is under Government control, and is efficiently run at a very moderate cost. The number of instruments in use is 517. There are six telephone exchanges, 165 miles of direct wire, and 765 miles of wire connecting subscribers and exchanges.

There is no inland telegraph service, and no wireless installation. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company supplies the means of external telegraphic communication and furnishes a daily press news bulletin.

Shipping.—The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers plying between Canada and the West Indies call fortnightly on the up and down journeys. A direct service to New York is maintained, Grenada being the first port of call on the Furness-Withy Steamer Line from New York to Grenada and Trinidad. Cargo steamers of the Harrison Line, carrying also a few passengers, and plying between the United Kingdom and the West Indies, also visit the Colony at frequent intervals.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Colonial Secretary.

23*rd July*, 1923.

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	,,
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	,,
1137	Ceylon	,,
1138	Swaziland	,,
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	,,
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate (April–December)	,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 and 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1169.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1922.

(For Report for 1921 see No. 1141.)

LONDON:
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; York Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 120 George Street,
Edinburgh.

1923.

Price 6*d*. net.

No. 1169.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1922.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year was estimated at £88,684. The amount actually received totalled £64,885, or £23,799 below the estimate. This reduction of receipts below anticipations, due in great measure to the continued restriction in trade, affected principally Customs Duties, which fell by £9,322; Excise Duty on rum, £1,740; Income Tax, £10,399; Stamp Duty, £1,403; and Fees of Court, £1,289. On the other hand, Retail Spirit Licences yielded £2,833 more than estimated.

The expenditure for the year was estimated at £94,121. The amount actually expended totalled £91,012, or £3,109 below the estimate, mainly due to savings being made under the heads: Public Works Recurrent, £1,514; Hospital and Asylums, £1,516; and Port and Marine, £932.

The figures, for both revenue and expenditure, include the estimated grant of £1,934 by the Rockefeller Foundation International Health Commission for the campaign against ankylostomiasis; the amount actually received on this account was £1,476, and the expenditure £1,771.

The accounts for the year closed with a deficit of £42,176.

Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets of the Colony at 31st December amounted to £34,441 and the liabilities to £68,567, the net excess of liabilities over assets being £34,126.

Public Debt.

At the close of the year the Public Debt stood at £151,630, and the Sinking Funds towards its redemption at £40,875.

Currency, Banks, Weights and Measures.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony. Local Currency Notes of the value of 5s. and 10s. are also in circulation, and gold of the United States of America and the notes of that country and of Canada are passed at their exchange value.

The Colonial Bank of London and the Royal Bank of Canada have each a branch in the Colony, and each issues its own notes. Both of these banks have Savings Bank branches, but information as to their operations is not available.

At the close of the year the Government Savings Bank had 1,238 depositors. The amount lodged during the year totalled £4,577, and the amount withdrawn £5,644, the amount remaining on deposit at the end of the year being £14,448.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Imports.

The total value of the imports was £189,000, or £28,507 less than in the previous year.

The classification in order of country of origin was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	38,314
Other British Countries	50,590
Foreign Countries	92,938
Parcel Post	7,158

The value of the importations from Canada was £32,891, and from Newfoundland £7,278. The importations from both the United Kingdom and Canada were largely below those of the previous year in value; on the other hand, the value of imports from the United States rose from £68,968 in 1921 to £80,717 in 1922, coal accounting for £14,759, cotton goods and ribbons for £8,430, cinematograph films for £12,840, edible oil for £4,653, and tobacco for £1,760.

Exports.

The following table shows the value of the principal exports in the last two years :—

	Value in 1921. £	Value in 1922. £
Cocoa	25,211	27,660
Limes and Lime products ...	11,606	6,937
Coconuts	900	421
Honey	473	290
Sugar	80,820	67,523
Fancy Syrup and Molasses ...	5,325	8,108
Hides and skins	122	396
	124,457	111,335
Bunker coal	64,003	27,553
Total ...	188,460	138,888

(11798) Wt. 14037/852 500 10/23 Harrow G 75/2

The total value of the exports was £175,479, as compared with £228,882 in the previous year, and was distributed as follows :—

	£
To the United Kingdom	85,251
Other Parts of the Empire	39,890
Foreign Countries	22,327
Bunker coal	27,553
Ships' stores	458
Total ...	175,479

SHIPPING.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of the vessels that entered at and cleared from Port Castries during the year :—

	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam vessels ...	197	415,611	197	415,611	394	831,222
Sailing ,, ...	323	9,971	327	10,110	650	20,081
	520	425,582	524	425,721	1,044	851,303

In the previous year the total number of vessels was 1,005, with a tonnage of 790,711; there thus being a slight increase during the year under report in the number of vessels making use of the port.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Four Central Sugar Factories—Cul de Sac, Roseau, Dennery and Vieux Fort—were working during the year. Notwithstanding that the price of sugar remained about the same as that of the previous year, local conditions, particularly as regards labour, were more satisfactory, thus enabling more work to be done at the factories, and resulting in a better output. In addition to the sugar consumed in the Island, the quantity exported amounted to 4,016 tons, as compared with 3,238 tons in 1921. The output of the rum distilleries also showed an increase, 54,484 proof gallons being manufactured, as against 51,385 gallons in 1921.

The cocoa exported showed a slight gain over the previous year, rising from 12,364 cwt. to 14,579 cwt. Prices abroad were somewhat better and ranged from 52s. to 60s. per cwt.

The market for lime juice continued depressed, and in the case of fields distant from factories the crop was allowed to remain ungathered. The amount actually reaped, calculated in barrels of the fruit, was largely in excess of that of the previous year, the figures for 1921 being 45,975 barrels, and for 1922 51,490 barrels. The exporting of green limes continued until late in the year, and exceeded the quantity exported in 1921 by 3,127 barrels.

There were four Bay Oil distilleries in operation during the year—one in the Laborie district, two in the Dennery district, and one in the Castries district. Four hundred and eighty-six gallons of Bay Oil, valued at £1,221, were exported. Besides the quantity of Bay Rum used locally, 5,133 gallons, valued at £1,342, were despatched abroad. The industry should gradually become an important one.

Bee-keeping somewhat revived, and, although still not very profitable owing to low prices and high charges for freight, etc., 22,948 lb. were exported, in addition to a large amount consumed in the Island.

EDUCATION, NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 49 primary schools, in which education is free and compulsory. These schools are denominational, 42 being Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, and 3 Wesleyan. They are classified as juvenile (for children aged 8–16) and infant (for children aged 4–10). There are 21 of the former, 24 of the latter, and 4 in which the two classes are combined.

Grants-in-aid are made to the school managers from public funds, mainly for the payment of the salaries of teachers. The administration of the grants is in the charge of the Inspector of Schools, a Government officer. For 1922 the total grants amounted to £4,650, and the average attendance to 4,799.

Although education is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14, not more than one-half of the children of school age attend school. The schools are inadequately staffed, their equipment is generally poor, and the prevalence of the French " patois " adds immeasurably to the difficulties of the teachers.

In the primary schools English, reading, writing and arithmetic are taught, together with the elements of grammar, geography and hygiene. In the upper classes the boys are taught elementary agricultural science, both practical and theoretical, and the girls needlework and domestic economy. In the three " R.'s " the results are generally very good. A child who has passed through a primary school can write a good hand, read well, and is familiar with the elementary processes of arithmetic. In the other subjects the results are not so good—the inability of the pupil to express himself clearly in English being the chief hindrance to progress.

Except the Roman Catholic Sisters, the teachers are all natives of the Colony or of neighbouring Colonies. Few of them have had any training beyond that received in school as pupil teachers. Facilities for the training of teachers and higher rates of pay—to attract a better class to the profession—are urgently needed.

Secondary Education.

Secondary education is supplied by two institutions in Castries: for boys by St. Mary's College, for girls by St. Joseph's Convent School. These schools receive grants-in-aid from public funds, the former £400 per annum, and the latter £175 per annum. Each school had an average attendance in 1922 of just over 100. The course of instruction is designed to prepare pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations and the London University Matriculation Examination, in both of which pupils have attained considerable success.

St. Lucia Scholarship.

An annual scholarship, known as the St. Lucia Scholarship, was established in 1918, of the value of £175, tenable at any University or College in Europe or Canada, or any Agricultural, Scientific or Technical College or Institution in Europe, Canada or the United States, approved by the Governor in Council, for a period of not less than three years and not more than five years, according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned by the Governor in Council. The Scholarship is awarded, on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination, to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. Up to 1922 four Scholarships had been awarded.

Newspapers and Publications.

There is only one newspaper, "The Voice of St. Lucia," published bi-weekly. An official gazette, confined exclusively to Government notices and publications, is issued by the Government on every alternate Saturday, special gazettes being published at other times when necessary.

The Government publishes also an annual Blue Book, giving general statistical information of the Colony.

POLICE AND PRISONS.

The strength of the Police Force at the close of the year totalled 67 of all ranks. Except for the Chief, the Inspector and the Sub-Inspector, who are Europeans, the men are all natives of the West Indies. A number of rural constables are also enrolled to assist the police in the country districts.

The men of the regular force are instructed in rifle, physical and musketry exercises, and there are Maxim and Lewis gun sections.

The headquarters of the force is in Castries, with sub-stations, numbering nine, in various towns and villages.

There is only one prison in the Colony—the Royal Gaol in Castries. The number of prisoners admitted during the year was 320, an increase of 51 above the number in 1921. The daily average number in custody was 62·51.

A large amount of work is carried on in the prison workshops, the whole of the clothing for the prisoners, uniforms for warders, police, harbour department and asylum attendants being made, and boots made and repaired. The carpenter's shop supplied 248 coffins for the burial of paupers, and the prison bakery made 86,163 pounds of bread for the Institutions, the approximate saving to the Colony from this latter source over the current normal market rate being £550.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

Opportunities for mail communication with Europe and America are frequent but irregular, except in the case of Canada, with which country and the other West Indian Colonies a regular fortnightly service is maintained by the steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

The revenue of the Post Office was £1,762, and the expenditure £1,128, the net gain to the Treasury thus being £634.

The number of letters and postcards despatched abroad was 85,210, and the number received 98,855; the number of parcels despatched was 806, whilst the number received was 4,896, the latter figure being over 1,000 above the number received in the previous year.

The money orders issued on places abroad numbered 2,103 for £2,973; those paid in the Colony numbered 885 for £2,459. The British postal orders issued numbered 1,366 for £649, the orders paid being 735 for £367.

An island postal service is in operation between Castries and all the district towns and villages. The total number of postal packets dealt with by the inland offices was 95,724.

Telegraph communication with abroad is provided by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, and a Wireless Telegraph Station is maintained and operated by the Government. There is a Government telephone system throughout the Island, with 9 exchanges and 206 connections.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

The road system of the Island is being improved as rapidly as means permit, and there is now maintained by the Government 125 miles of main road, 130 miles of by-ways, and 84 miles of unclassified roads, a total of 339 miles, of which 126 miles are suitable for motor traffic.

Passenger motor bus services run between Castries and Dennery on the east coast, and between Soufriere and Vieux Fort, the two towns on the west coast.

There is regular communication between Castries and Soufriere, as well as the intermediate villages, by a Government motor launch of 50 tons, which runs daily, except on Sundays and Wednesdays, and proceeds twice a week to Vieux Fort, at the southern extremity of the Island.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The total population at the 31st December is estimated by the Registrar to have been 53,221, made up of 24,399 males and 28,822 females. These figures represent a population of 228 to the square mile.

There were 2,080 births during the year, 1,041 being males and 1,039 females; the birth-rate for the Island was 39·0 per thousand of the population. Deaths numbered 1,384, giving a rate of 26 per thousand.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

The principal hospital, the Victoria, is situated within half a mile of Castries. It is in charge of a Resident Surgeon, who has under him a European Matron and a full staff of dispensers and nurses. There were 1,571 patients admitted during the year, the daily average number under treatment being 76·3. The surgical operations carried out numbered 421. There is a wing attached to the hospital known as the "Baron Ward," in which patients of the wealthier class may receive medical and surgical treatment. Extensive use is made of the ward, and during the year the fees received from persons treated therein amounted to £200.

Twenty-six patients were admitted to the Lunatic Asylum at La Toc, also near Castries, the daily average number in confinement being 90·2. One inmate was discharged as cured and ten died.

Asylums for paupers and for persons suffering from yaws and leprosy are located in the Soufriere district under the supervision of the Medical Officer of that district and a Visiting Advisory Committee. Thirty-seven persons were admitted to the pauper asylum; the number being maintained at the close of the year was 87, and the daily average 93.

At the Yaws Asylum 7 patients were admitted and 10 discharged. The treatment by Kharsivan at the outdoor dispensaries throughout the Colony of persons suffering from the disease has proved so successful that it is hoped in the near future to close this hospital entirely.

There were 15 patients in the Leper Asylum at the commencement of the year, and 3 were admitted. There were 3 deaths and no discharges.

At Dennery, Soufriere and Vieux Fort there are small Casualty Hospitals under the charge of the respective District Medical Officers, which are used for accident and emergency cases. Fourteen patients were admitted during the year to these hospitals.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year was one in which it was only possible to "mark time," as the depression in trade and industry experienced in the previous year continued to make itself felt during 1922. The

financial condition of the Colony called for the exercise of vigilance in every direction, and all expenditure, other than for absolutely essential purposes, had to be rigorously curtailed.

The visit to St. Lucia from the 8th to the 11th January, 1922, of the Hon. E. L. Wood, M.P. (then Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies), has been dealt with in the Annual Report for 1921, and no further reference thereto need be made here beyond remarking that his report on his tour, which was received during the course of the year, evoked a great amount of interest and discussion.

The Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, Sir George B. Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G., was in residence in the Colony from the 26th August to the 26th September.

The Administrator, Lieut.-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., returned from leave and resumed duty on the 31st August.

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	,,
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	,,
1137	Ceylon	,,
1138	Swaziland	,,
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	,,
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate (April–December)	,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 and 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,
1168	Grenada	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1177.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1922.

(For Report for 1921 see No. 1128.)

LONDON:
PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and 28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; York Street, Manchester; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 120 George Street, Edinburgh.

1923.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1177.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1922.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of nine miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
RECEIVED
NOV 27 1923

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The general health of the Colony throughout the year was good. The birth-rate was 34·67 per 1,000 and the death-rate 21·6 per 1,000. There was a mild epidemic of measles during the last six months of the year, but no deaths were recorded and few complications ensued.

Infantile diarrhœa continued to be prevalent, with a death-rate of 11 per cent. of cases treated.

The campaign against yaws by intramuscular injection of Novarsenobillon was pressed vigorously with very satisfactory results. During the year 4,604 cases—over 10 per cent. of the population—were treated, and of these over 78 per cent. were returned as cured.

The sanitation of the island must still be considered as primitive.

The prosperity of St. Vincent is wholly dependent upon agriculture. The trade of the Colony continued to suffer greatly from the slump in prices of tropical products which characterized the previous year.

A Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce was formed early in the year with a membership of eight, which rose in the course of the year to twenty-four. It is hoped that the Chamber will act as a useful medium for enabling the Government to obtain reliable information and advice upon the economic conditions and requirements of the Colony.

The outstanding event of the year 1922 was the visit of the Honourable E. Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mr. Wood was accompanied by the Honourable W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. R. A. Wiseman, of the Colonial Office, the object of the mission being to investigate economic and administrative conditions throughout the West Indies, and in particular to enquire into the growing claim for a measure of representative government.

The mission spent two days in St. Vincent and *inter alia* discussed with leading bodies of citizens and deputations the position of the arrowroot industry, the question of erecting small sugar factories, the question of agricultural banks, educational reform, etc.

His Excellency the Governor was resident in the Colony from the 28th September to the 26th October.

His Honour R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G., Administrator, was absent from the Colony on leave from the 11th May till the 25th September, during which period the Government was administered by the Honourable W. C. Hutchinson, Colonial Treasurer.

Mr. Lobb left the Colony finally on the 9th November on well earned promotion to the post of Colonial Secretary, British Guiana, and the Government for the remainder of the year was administered by the Honourable W. C. Hutchinson.

12056 Wt. 15979/964 500 10/23 Harrow G.75,2

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, with an average rainfall of 4·04 inches per month, and the wet season from June to December, with an average of 8·22 inches per month. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 76·2° F. to 80·8°F. The highest was in September and the lowest in January. Meteorological records for 1922 show that the mean monthly temperature was 79·0° F.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 79·74 inches, as compared with 85·96 inches in 1921. Rain fell on 299 days, and the greatest fall for one day was 3·27 inches on the 16th October.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30·175 inches on April 18th to 29·859 inches on the 16th November.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1922, was :—

	£	s.	d.
Net Surplus at 1st January, 1922 ..	8,555	9	6
Revenue in 1922	49,289	10	2
	£57,844	19	8
Expenditure in 1922	46,710	18	11
Net Surplus at 31st December, 1922 ...	£11,134	0	9

Expenditure on the reconstruction of the Windward Highway from loan funds hitherto incorrectly included in the Colony's expenditure (the unspent balance of the loan being included in the surplus from year to year) has been excluded from the above figures. At the beginning of the year there was a sum of £1,042 18*s*. 6*d*. in hand on this account, of which £139 18*s*. 4*d*. was expended, leaving a balance of £903 0*s*. 2*d*. at the close of the year.

The net local revenue and expenditure in the last three years were :—

	Local Revenue. £	Expenditure against Local Revenue. £
1920	58,221	52,302
1921	53,806	56,221
1922	49,289	46,711

The principal items of revenue in the last three years were :—

	1920.	1921.	1922.
	£	£	£
Import Duties	21,744	16,163	18,511
Export Duties	4,233	2,987	2,142
Excise Duty on Rum ...	4,637	4,947	5,327
Land and House Tax ...	7,697	5,442	6,459
Income Tax	2,630	5,193	1,736

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to the general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

Public Debt.

The public debt at 31st December, 1922, was £11,900, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the Town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £3,869 on the 31st December, 1922, of which £3,207 was in respect of Government Loans, and £662 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £958 on the 31st December, 1922. On that date there had been received from planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £1,360, of which £1,248 was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Currency.

British and American gold, five dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447, according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1922, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 46,220 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	1921.	1922.
Births	1,763	1,681
Males	896	848
Females	867	833
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	38·92	36·37
Deaths	1,058	985
Death-rate per 1,000	23·36	21·31
Marriages	97	86
Marriage-rate per 1,000	2·14	1·86

Illegitimate births numbered 1,196, or 71·1 per cent. of the total number of all births.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1921 and 1922 were :—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £	Total Trade. £
1921	144,543	137,718	282,261
1922	128,586	109,190	237,776

Produce of the Colony to the value of £96,831 was exported in 1922 as against £130,739 in 1921.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1921. £	1922. £
United Kingdom	39,058	30,279
Canada	36,869	33,436
British West Indies	8,811	6,816
India	1,673	520
Newfoundland	6,339	5,795
Other British Colonies	3,778	4,181
United States of America	37,385	35,312
France	324	597
Denmark	11	15
Holland	582	617
Foreign West Indies	792	153
Germany	111	597
Other countries	8,810	10,268
	£144,543	£128,586

The decreases in the values of imports and exports were due to the general depression in trade and in reduction in values, the latter being particularly applicable to the exports.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1921.	1922.
United Kingdom	27·02	23·54
United States of America	25·86	27·46
Canada	25·51	26·02
All other countries	21·60	22·98

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, Drink and Tobacco	51,415
Articles mainly manufactured	54,058
Articles mainly unmanufactured	14,288
Miscellaneous and unclassified	8,825
	£128,586

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1921 and 1922 were as follows :—

	1921. £	1922. £
United Kingdom	85,280	51,777
Canada	11,300	11,013
British West Indies	32,056	31,929
British Guiana	1,674	1,305
Other countries	429	807
	£130,739	£96,831

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1921. £	1922. £
Arrowroot	21,216	26,141
Cotton—		
Sea Island	70,532	31,750
Marie Galante	89	205
Seed Cotton, Marie Galante	592	622
Cocoa	2,259	2,040
Sugar—		
Crystallised	3,364	1,264
Muscovado	150	—
Syrup and Molasses	9,878	9,862
Cassava Starch	1,666	1,482
Copra	1,358	2,435
Peanuts	4,474	6,214
Animals	4,663	1,091
Cotton-seed Oil	299	396
Whale Oil	625	505
Vegetables, fresh	4,595	3,168
Peas	1,472	1,659

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery continued to buy seed cotton on profit-sharing terms.

No corn was purchased owing to the absence of a market.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1920–21 and 1921–22 :—

	1920–21. lb.	1921–22. lb.
Sea Island seed cotton	78,236	63,574
Marie Galante	—	27,727

Only first grade white Sea Island cotton and first grade Marie Galante were purchased.

Cotton.—Owing to favourable weather conditions and in the absence of cotton stainers in cotton fields until the season was well advanced and to consequent diminution in loss of bolls due to Phytophora, and on account of a remarkable absence of loss from internal boll disease, the cotton season was perhaps one of the most successful ones for the past ten years.

During the year the area planted was 4,745 acres, an increase of 747 acres on that planted in the previous year, of which 3,562 acres were planted with Sea Island cotton and 1,183 with Marie Galante.

Cotton-seed is used extensively as a fertilizer.

Sea Island cotton amounting to 328,799 lb., of the value of £31,750, was exported during the year, as against 502,398 lb., of the value of £70,532, in 1921.

The export of Marie Galante was 8,196 lb., value £205, as against 2,380 lb., value £89, in 1921.

Marie Galante seed-cotton to the amount of 74,614 lb., value £622, was exported in 1922, as against 134,809 lb., value £592, in 1921.

Sugar.—The sugar-cane industry continued to be an important one.

Crystallized—150,027 lb., value £1,264, was exported in 1922, as against 349,440 lb., value £3,364, in 1921.

Syrup and Molasses.—134,786 gallons, of the value of £9,862, were exported in 1922, as against 117,157 gallons, of the value of £9,878, in the previous year.

Rum.—20,711 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing a decrease of 11,284 proof gallons on the previous year. Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 696 proof gallons, as compared with 507 proof gallons in 1921.

Arrowroot.—There was no fixing of prices in the London market by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association during the year 1922. The position as regards this commodity improved somewhat and acreage was consequently increased. 2,692,130 lb., of the value of £26,141, was exported, as compared with 2,093,358 lb., of the value of £21,216, in 1921.

Peanuts.—466,820 lb., value £6,214, were exported, as against 306,648 lb., value £4,474, in 1921.

Copra.—The exports of copra have increased very considerably during the last few years.

In 1920, 22,644 lb. were exported.
,, 1921, 89,005 ,, ,,
,, 1922, 222,593 ,, ,,

It is estimated that if nothing untoward occurs for the next few years the area of the island in bearing coconut trees will be increased annually by at least 200 acres.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies in the Colony. There was a considerable decrease in the amount of money loaned in 1922, £1,086, as compared with £5,369 in 1921. A number of the Societies failed to repay in 1922 debts contracted in the previous year. The causes of this were possibly the damage done to houses and crops by the hurricane of September, 1921, and secondly, the fall in price of various commodities, which hit the small peasant proprietors very hard.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 371, of 181,655 tons; and 371 cleared, of 174,415 tons. Three vessels were registered, of 26 tons total. Two vessels locally registered, of 52 tons, were lost during the year.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to Primary Education during the years 1921 and 1922 :—

	1921.	1922.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	3,855	4,213
Average attendance	2,039	2,317
Government Grant-in-aid	£2,241	£2,523
Cost per head in average attendances	£1 2*s.* 0*d.*	£1 1*s.* 9*d.*

Nine of the twenty-seven regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other eighteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £112.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a Secondary School for the education of boys—the Grammar School, and one for girls—the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1921 and 1922 was 62 and 70 boys, and 43 and 44 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the Primary Schools.

An Island Scholarship has been established under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, to be awarded biennially, and to be tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

Provision has been made for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—HOSPITALS.

The following hospital accommodation is provided: Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 89 beds (including four beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, four beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, six beds.

IX.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years:—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st Decr., including interest capitalized.
		£	£	£
1921	895	4,064	4,520	16,516
1922	826	1,857	3,968	14,821

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £415.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st December, 1922, amounted to £17,944. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values, investments could not be realized with advantage. Interest at 3 per cent. is paid on deposits.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank, with headquarters in England, with a paid-up capital of £900,000. There is also a savings bank department attached to the branch.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana. The Harrison and the Canadian Merchant Marine

Lines of steamers also call with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the Cash on Delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with seventeen district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the island by motor car, by motor boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at St. Vincent, and a subsidy of £300 per annum is paid to the Company, in return for which daily news bulletins are furnished, and the Colony participates in the system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 185 services and 172 miles of line in use.

R. WALTER,
Administrator.

Government House,
St. Vincent,

28th August, 1923.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1142	Ashanti	1921
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	,,
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate (April-December)	,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 and 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,
1168	Grenada	,,
1169	St. Lucia	,,
1170	Leeward Islands	1921–1922
1171	Fiji	1922
1172	Ceylon	,,
1173	Gibraltar	,,
1174	British Guiana	,,
1175	Barbados	1922–1923
1176	Basutoland	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1221.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1923.

For Report for 1922 see No. 1168.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1924.

Price 6*d*. net.

No. 1221.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1923.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.—Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British Island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad, and between the parallels of 12°30′ and 11°58′ North Latitude and 61°20′ and 61°35′ West Longitude. The Island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but including Carriacou, an Island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the Island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the Island, 1,740 feet above sea level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.—The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May, when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade, or drops below 70°, and these occasions occur so rarely that they are specially recorded in the meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1923 was 90° on 31st October, and the lowest 67° on 10th February. The mean of maximum temperatures was 84° and the mean of minimum 73°.

The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 in.; in the mountainous centre it approaches 140 in. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1923 was 55·72 in. Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 74·38 in. yearly.

Historical.—Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–6 influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion against the British rule broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Depressed conditions of trade and agriculture continued throughout the year. The low price of cocoa was still further lowered, falling to the record low price of 42*s*. per cwt. As this is still the main agricultural industry of the Colony, the decreased export value of the crop had an adverse effect on trade generally. The cultivation of nutmegs is steadily increasing, and prices are improving. Other subsidiary industries are cotton and lime juice. The crops were normal, but the value of cotton exported rose from £9,020 to £15,397, the whole value of exports only amounted to £257,728, lower than the value of imports, which were £285,063.

A visit from a representative of the United Fruit Company caused a stimulation of interest in banana cultivation. The investigation of the possibilities of the industry has not resulted in a definite conclusion, but sufficient publicity has been given to it to encourage planters to continue their efforts to be ready for its introduction. The soil is suitable, and, so far as known, there is no disease of bananas in the Island. Owing to so much land being under permanent crops the area available for bananas will at first be restricted but would, without doubt, rapidly expand if the cultivation proved profitable.

(15701) Wt. 13433/921 500 10/24 Harrow G.94

There are indications that the lowest level in the cycle of trade depression was sounded last year, and prospects are much more satisfactory at present. At the time of writing the price of nutmegs has touched an extraordinarily high figure, and has led to extended circulation of money. Interest is being taken in reviving the sugar industry, and the establishment of a whaling factory at Grenada is also being looked forward to.

Public Health.—The death-rate last year of 16·6 is the lowest recorded in the annals of the Colony. The Registrar-General remarks as follows on this point:—"The low death-rate has coincided with a year of deficient rainfall, the latter having been 55·72 at Richmond Hill in St. George's, as compared with the average of 74·38 for the past thirty years. An examination of death-rate in relation to volume of rainfall over the past twenty years does not reveal any striking relativity between the two. As a rule a low rate of rainfall is supposed to accompany a decrease in the death-rate, but this is not invariably the case. A prolonged dry season followed by a short spell of heavy rains often leads to an outbreak of dysentery, diarrhœa and enteritis, and thus while the annual rainfall may be low a corresponding reduction in the death-rate does not always follow. Last year there was no distinct spell of dry season, nor of heavy rainfall at any time, the latter being well distributed over each month. It is this equable distribution of rainfall throughout the year that has contributed in a great degree to the low mortality." The number of deaths from dysentery decreased from 83 to 33, and from diarrhœa and enteritis from 329 to 283. Deaths from malaria were also fewer, being 74 as compared with 83 in the previous year.

Water Supplies.—All the parishes of the Island have a pipe-borne supply with the exception of St. David's, which is well provided with numerous protected springs and streams. In the Dependency of Carriacou the water is obtained from wells and from rain water stored in cisterns.

III.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £103,823 and the expenditure was £113,095, leaving a debit balance on the year of £9,272. The revenue and expenditure for each of the past five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*	*Deficit.*
	£	£	£	£
1919 (9 months)	87,295	107,011	—	19,716
1920	134,128	148,174	—	14,056
1921	97,932	136,969	—	39,037
1922	103,414	117,849	—	14,435
1923	103,823	113,095	—	9,272

The total current deficit on 31st December, 1923, was £36,996.

The Colony has a public debt of £223,670, but a portion of the latest loan issue remains unexpended to the amount of £41,338. Sinking funds for redemption of the debt amount to £73,703.

The Government Currency Notes have been withdrawn, and only notes of a value of £560 remain in circulation.

Banks.—There are two banks in the Colony, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada. The former has a branch at Carriacou and has also an agency at Grenville. Savings bank business also is transacted by both banks.

The authorised note circulation of the two banks was £25,000 and $100,000 respectively, but the actual amount in circulation does not exceed £30,000.

Silver is legal tender to any amount, and no gold is in circulation.

Savings Bank.—A savings bank is conducted by the Government, interest being allowed at 4 per cent. The number of depositors at 31st December, 1923, was the same as at the end of the previous year, namely, 1,685. The amount at the credit of depositors increased from £15,609 to £20,120.

IV.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE.

Agriculture and Industry.

The total trade was £542,791, imports being £285,063 and exports £257,728.

Owing to the very high adverse exchange rate affecting goods from the United States of America, importations from that country fell from £64,146 to £39,276, while importations from the United Kingdom increased from £72,882 to £128,947. Canada supplied goods to the value of £58,571, as compared with £58,079 in 1922.

The percentages of imports from these countries are :—United Kingdom 45·2, Canada 20·5, and United States of America 13·7.

The exports fell in value from £271,392 to £257,728. The United Kingdom took the greatest porportion, £137,152 or 53·2 per cent., as compared with £143,966 and 53·0 per cent. in 1922. The exports to the United States of America and Canada were £77,602 (30·1 per cent.) and £23,171 (8·9 per cent.) respectively as compared with £81,571 (30 per cent.) and £23,018 (8·5 per cent.) respectively for the previous year.

Cocoa went principally to the United Kingdom as usual, the value being £101,341 ; the values of this product exported to the United States of America and Canada being £27,096 and £19,028 respectively. These figures show a decrease in the case of the United Kingdom of £15,179, and increases of £4,032 to the United States of America and £121 to Canada. There was revival of export of cocoa to the Continent of Europe, the exports to France being of the value of £4,529, as compared with £1,050 in 1922, and to Holland £2,000, as compared with £1,000.

Shipments of cocoa to Australia have been made in the last two years, the quantity last year being 743 cwt. of the value of £1,383.

The greater part of the nutmeg and mace crop went to the United States of America, the remainder being exported to the United Kingdom and Canada.

All the cotton was exported to the United Kingdom, and the cotton seed to Barbados.

Agriculture.—Adverse weather conditions retarded the crop of cocoa, and the crop for the year ended 30th September, 1923, was the second lowest on record. The anticipations of planters as to the result of fertilisers supplied through the Government were not realised, and the crop fell short of 50,000 bags (180 lb.), the actual being 49,623 bags.

The nutmeg crop on the contrary was the highest recorded, being 2,764,160 lb., as compared with 2,047,248 lb. in the preceding year. Prices were good, as were also those for mace, and the estates are extending their cultivation wherever practicable.

The sugar crop is reported to have been comparatively short, but considerable planting has taken place and should lead to good crops in 1925.

A good crop of cotton was reaped, and favourable prices were realised. No extension has taken place in the cultivation of limes and coconuts.

An experiment was undertaken with a view to making industrial alcohol from cocoa juice. A satisfactory yield of spirits was obtained, but the practical difficulty in the way of commercial success lies in the difficulty and expense of obtaining a sufficient quantity of juice from so many scattered cocoa estates.

Land.—The taxable acreage of the Colony is given as 75,377 acres. The small owners of property number over 11,000, mostly in lots below three acres in extent. Estates over 100 acres in area number 138.

The Crown Lands remaining in the possession of the Crown consist almost entirely of mountainous areas which have been preserved as Forest or Rain Reserves. There are no Crown Lands for sale.

Industries.—Efforts have been recently made to revive the sugar industry, and the Government has offered encouragement by agreeing to continue for a period of years a high rate of duty on imported sugar provided that a central factory of substantial extent is erected. The area available for cane cultivation is somewhat limited owing to the existence of other and permanent cultivation. There appears to be no reason why sufficient sugar should not be produced to meet at least the local demand, and make the Colony independent of supplies from neighbouring islands. Rum is protected from outside competition by a

protective duty to the extent of 4*s*. per gallon. There were eleven distilleries at work last year, the production being 31,768 gallons. This is insufficient for local supplies.

An Ice Factory, subsidised by the Government, is established at St. George's.

There is a likelihood of an extension of the whaling industry, negotiations regarding which are still under consideration.

V.—LEGISLATION.

The principal of the nineteen Ordinances passed during the year were the following :—

No. 14.—The Tenants Compensation Ordinance repealing the former Ordinance of the same title and introducing more practical procedure.

No. 16. The Supreme Court (Articled Clerks) Ordinance, which raises the standard of qualification of candidates.

No. 18.—The Income Tax Ordinance introducing legislation in accordance with a Model Ordinance for the West Indies and increasing the rates of Tax.

VI.—EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Primary.—There were 56 primary schools supported by public funds, ten being Government schools and 46 Grant-in-Aid schools. Of the latter 27 were Roman Catholic, 13 Anglican, 4 Wesleyan and 2 Presbyterian schools.

The number of pupils on the Rolls was 10,671, and the average attendance was 6,614.

The annual cost of primary education is practically borne entirely by Government funds, the amount of which last year was £7,807. The cost per head of average attendance was £1 3*s*. 9*d*.

Secondary.—A Government Boys' School is maintained by the Government, and grants of £186 each are given to the St. Joseph's Convent School for Girls and the Church of England High School for Girls.

The External Scholarship was continued last year, at a value of £200 per annum, tenable up to five years.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There are 114 miles of main roads and 305 miles of byways intersecting all parts of the Colony. The roads and byways are in good condition and are suitable for motor traffic, although the gradients in many instances are stiff.

A mail and passenger motor service is established by the Government between St. George's and Sauteurs via the eastern side of the Island and a private service over the same route has also

been started. There is a good serviceable road on the western side between St. George's and Sauteurs, and also a subsidised mail and passenger motor launch service.

There are sub-post offices in each of the principal towns, and numerous postal stations throughout the Colony.

Telephone.—A fair telephone service, run by the Government at moderate rental rates, links up all districts in the Colony, there being six telephone exchanges and 502 instruments in use. The number of telephone instruments per 100 of the population is just under 1 per cent. In St. George's the percentage is 4. There are 159 miles of direct wire, and 763½ miles of wire connecting subscribers and exchanges.

There is no inland telegraph service. Arrangements are being made for the installation of a wireless station to connect with Barbados, as a part of a new cable and wireless service to replace the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

Shipping.—Steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company call fortnightly on a service to and from Canada.

Communication with New York is maintained by the Furness-Withy Line, at intervals of about 10 days. The Harrison line of steamers make calls at frequent but irregular intervals for cargo and passengers for Great Britain.

HERBERT FERGUSON,

Colonial Secretary.

26th *July*, 1924.

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1188	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1922
1189	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1922–1923
1190	Jamaica	1922
1191	Seychelles	"
1192	Bahamas	1922–1923
1193	Somaliland	1922
1194	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1922–1923
1195	Leeward Islands	"
1196	Turks and Caicos Islands	1922
1197	Nigeria	1923
1198	Weihaiwei	"
1199	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1922–1923
1200	Ashanti	"
1201	Gambia	1923
1202	Bahamas	1923–1924
1203	Hongkong	1922
1204	Nyasaland	1923
1205	Cayman Islands	1922
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	"
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	"
1215	British Honduras	"
1216	New Hebrides	"
1217	Gibraltar	"
1218	Jamaica	"
1219	Sierra Leone	"
1220	Uganda	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

ishing company, inc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1223.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1923.

(For Report for 1922 see No. 1177)

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1924.

Price 6d. net.

No. 1223.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1923.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of nine miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The general health of the Colony throughout the year was good. The birth-rate was 41·99 per 1,000 and the death-rate 22·21 per 1,000. A mild type of influenza was prevalent generally throughout the year. The Colony escaped altogether the visitation of alastrim which has caused so much distress in some of the neighbouring islands. Infantile diarrhœa was more prevalent than in 1922 and the number of deaths from this cause, 138, shows an increase of 26 as compared with the previous year. The case mortality was 8 per cent., as compared with 13 per cent. in 1922. It is noteworthy that children's diarrhœa is worse during the rainy months, while the case mortality rate is greater during the dry months.

The campaign against yaws by intramuscular injection of Novarsenobillon continued to be pressed vigorously with very satisfactory results. During the year, 3,492 cases, some 7 per cent. of the population, were treated, and of these, 79 per cent. were returned as cured.

Like many other things, the sanitation of the island is primitive.

The prosperity of the Colony is wholly dependent upon agriculture. Trade improved very considerably, the value of the imports showing an increase on the previous year of £10,000 and the value of the exports an increase of no less than £22,000. The export of Sea-Island cotton was a record one and the prices obtained for arrowroot showed a marked improvement on the previous year, ranging in the neighbourhood of 6*d.* per lb.

Exports of syrup and copra showed marked increases on 1922.

The Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce, formed early in 1922, continued to function throughout the year and its views were sought from time to time on various subjects of commercial and agricultural importance.

Towards the end of the year the Government, acting on the suggestion of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, invited two of the leading engineers of Barbados to report on the cost of establishing a sugar factory and the type of factory required. This question, which has been the subject of considerable discussion, is not yet finally settled.

In view of the Colony's participation in the British Empire Exhibition, the Legislature, realizing the importance of the Exhibition as a means of advertising the principal products of the Colony, voted the sum of £400. A committee was formed in June, with His Honour the Chief Justice, Mr. J. S. Rae, as Chairman, and the Agricultural Superintendent, Mr. T. Jackson, as Secretary, and having among its members the Honourable L. L. Punnett, M.E.C., M.L.C., the Honourable J. E. Sprott, M.L.C., the Honourable W. M. Grant, M.L.C., the Honourable A. M. Fraser, M.L.C., and other leading members of the

(16061) Wt. 16181/1095 500 11/24 Harrow G.94

community. The committee was very actively occupied in deciding on and preparing suitable exhibits.

The dreaded, but not unexpected, Pink Boll worm disease of cotton made its appearance towards the end of the year, having, it is surmised, made its way here from Barbados. The disease has been the subject of careful and anxious investigation and it is to be hoped that with the co-operation of the planters the legislation and regulations enacted will enable the Colony to emerge successfully from this trial.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir George Haddon-Smith, was unable to visit the Colony during the year and he finally relinquished the government of the Windward Islands in November after nine years of arduous and anxious service unbroken by leave.

For the first four months of 1923 the government of St. Vincent was administered by the Treasurer, the Honourable W. C. Hutchinson, who received, during the year, the well-earned distinction of the Imperial Service Order. Mr. R. Walter, C.M.G., arrived on the 1st May and assumed the government from that date.

Various changes in the staff occurred during the year, the principal being the appointment of a new Chief Justice (Mr. J. S. Rae) in June, and the promotion of Mr. C. Cox, Magistrate, Second District, to Dominica as Crown Attorney in September.

It would not be fitting to close this general account without reference to the revival of the cricket tournament between the Islands of Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, which took place at St. Vincent in September after a lapse of many years. The tournament was a great success in every way, and it is to be hoped that it will continue in the future and help these little islands to know and appreciate each other better.

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, with an average rainfall of 4·04 inches per month, and the wet season from June to December, with an average of 8·22 inches per month. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 76·3° F. to 80·4° F. The highest was in October and the lowest in January. Meteorological records for 1923 show that the mean monthly temperature was 82·9° F., as against 79·0° F. in 1922.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 69·39 inches, as compared with 79·74 inches in 1922. Rain fell on 307 days, and the greatest fall for one day was 2·75 inches on the 7th November.

The rainfall at the Botanic Gardens, only a mile away from the Experimental Station, but some 200 feet higher up, was 79·50. The average at these gardens for the last ten years was 93·38 inches, so that the rainfall during 1923 was some 13 inches below the average.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30·166 inches on the 5th February to 29·835 inches on the 23rd October.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1923, was :—

	£
Net Surplus at 1st January, 1923	11,134
Revenue in 1923	52,031
	£63,165
Expenditure in 1923	47,883
Net Surplus at 31st December, 1923	£15,282

Expenditure from Loan Funds on the reconstruction of the Windward Highway amounted to £511.

The net local revenue and expenditure in the last three years were :—

	Local Revenue. £	Expenditure against Local Revenue. £
1921	53,806	56,221
1922	49,289	46,711
1923	52,031	47,883

The principal items of revenue in the last three years were :—

	1921. £	1922. £	1923. £
Import Duties	16,163	18,511	19,499
Export Duties	2,987	2,142	3,073
Excise Duty on Rum ...	4,947	5,327	5,430
Land and House Tax ...	5,442	6,459	5,892
Income Tax	5,193	1,736	2,044

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up from donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to the general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

Public Debt.

The public debt at 31st December, 1923, was £11,100, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the Town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £4,500 on the 31st December, 1923, of which £3,749 was in respect of Government Loans, and £751 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

The balance due to the Imperial Treasury at 31st December, 1923, payable in January, 1924, on the Hurricane Loan to planters was £154. The sum of £554 was at that date held invested by the Crown Agents on this account, and the Colony will thus benefit to the extent of £400 from the operation of this loan.

Currency.

British and American gold, five dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447, according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1923, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 46,744 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	1922.	1923.
Births	1,681	1,963
Males	848	1,000
Females	833	963
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	36·37	41·99
Deaths	985	1,038
Death-rate per 1,000	21·31	22·21
Marriages	86	88
Marriage-rate per 1,000	1·86	1·88

Illegitimate births numbered 1,455, or 74·1 per cent. of the total number of all births.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1922 and 1923 were :—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £	Total Trade. £
1922	128,586	109,190	237,776
1923	138,677	131,371	270,048

Produce of the Colony to the value of £128,788 was exported in 1923, as against £96,831 in 1922.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1922. £	1923. £
United Kingdom	30,279	41,147
Canada	33,436	40,862
British West Indies	6,816	7,736
India	520	1,080
Newfoundland	5,795	2,018
Other British Colonies	4,181	4,866
United States of America	35,312	28,943
France	597	1,226
Denmark	15	8
Holland	617	486
Foreign West Indies	153	15
Germany	597	1,057
Other countries	10,268	9,233
	£128,586	£138,677

The increases in the values of imports and exports were due to the general improvement in trade and in increases in values and quantities exported, the latter being particularly applicable to the exports of arrowroot and syrup.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1922.	1923.
United Kingdom	23·54	29·67
United States of America	27·46	20·87
Canada	26·02	29·46
All other countries	22·98	20·00

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, Drink and Tobacco	52,712
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	59,323
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	19,016
Miscellaneous and unclassified	7,626
	£138,677

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1922 and 1923 were as follows :—

	1922. £	1923. £
United Kingdom	51,777	73,003
Canada	11,013	19,223
British West Indies	31,929	32,429
British Guiana	1,305	1,541
Other countries	807	2,592
	£96,831	£128,788

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1922. £	1923. £
Arrowroot	26,141	31,829
Cotton—		
Sea-Island	31,750	47,292
Marie Galante	205	217
Seed Cotton, Marie Galante	622	421
Cocoa	2,040	1,755
Sugar—		
Crystallised	1,264	1,863
Syrup and Molasses	9,862	18,711
Cassava Starch	1,482	3,700
Copra	2,435	2,959
Peanuts	6,214	5,988
Animals	1,091	5,884
Cotton-seed Oil	396	300
Whale Oil	505	90
Vegetables, fresh	3,168	3,216
Peas	1,659	1,595

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery continued to buy seed cotton on profit-sharing terms.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1921–22 and 1922–23 :—

	1921–22. lb.	1922–23. lb.
Sea-Island seed cotton	63,574	162,321
Marie Galante	27,727	9,003

Corn was purchased on the co-operative system to the following extent during the season 1922–23 :—

Shelled corn	110,083 lb.
Cob corn	79,288 lb.

Cotton.—The cotton season 1922–23, in spite of severe insect attacks, was most successful, something between 130 and 140 lb. of lint per acre being obtained. This excellent result was due partly to a good season and partly to the presence of a minimum number of cotton stainers until quite late in the season. The export of Sea-Island cotton during 1923 constitutes a record.

During the year the area planted was 4,515 acres, a decrease of 230 acres on that planted in the previous year, of which 3,387 acres were planted with Sea-Island cotton and 1,128 with Marie Galante.

Cotton-seed is used extensively as a fertiliser.

Sea-Island cotton amounting to 585,143 lb., of the value of £47,292, was exported during the year, as against 328,799 lb., of the value of £31,750, in 1922.

The export of Marie Galante was 5,084 lb., value £217, as against 8,196 lb., value £205, in 1922.

Marie Galante seed-cotton to the amount of 67,301 lb., value £421, was exported in 1923, as against 74,614 lb., value £622, in 1922.

Sugar.—The sugar-cane industry continued to be an important one.

Crystallised—145,944 lb., value £1,863, were exported in 1923, as against 150,027 lb., value £1,264, in 1922.

Syrup and Molasses.—275,932 gallons, of the value of £18,711, were exported in 1923, as against 134,786 gallons, of the value of £9,862, in the previous year.

Rum.—17,527 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing a decrease of 3,184 proof gallons on the previous year. Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 961 proof gallons, as compared with 696 proof gallons in 1922.

Arrowroot.—There was no fixing of prices in the London market by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association during the year 1923. The position as regards this commodity improved very considerably, the market price being about 5·5*d.* per lb. 2,177,183 lb., of the value of £31,829, were exported, as compared with 2,692,130 lb., of the value of £26,141, in 1922.

Peanuts.—492,972 lb., value £5,988, were exported, as against 466,820 lb., value £6,214, in 1922.

Copra.—The exports of copra have increased very considerably during the last few years.

In 1920, 22,644 lb. were exported.
,, 1921, 89,005 ,, ,,
,, 1922, 222,593 ,, ,,
,, 1923, 356,626 ,, ,,

It is estimated that if nothing untoward occurs for the next few years the area of the island in bearing coconut trees will be increased annually by at least 200 acres. No coconuts were exported.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Co-operative Societies in the Colony. There was a decrease in the amount of money loaned in 1923, £1,330, as compared with £1,986 in 1922. A few Societies failed to repay in 1923 debts contracted in the previous year or even earlier, but on the whole, with the exception of two or three Societies, there is evidence to show that a vigorous attempt was made to pay off outstanding loans.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 370, of 183,729 tons; and 371 cleared, of 180,026 tons. Four vessels were registered, of 199 tons total. One vessel locally registered, of 31 tons, was lost during the year.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to Primary Education during the years 1922 and 1923 :—

	1922.	1923.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	4,213	4,314
Average attendance	2,317	2,472
Government Grant-in-Aid	£2,523	£2,469
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 1*s.* 9*d.*	£1 0*s.* 0*d.*

Nine of the twenty-seven regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other eighteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were eight other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £112.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a Secondary School for the education of boys—the Grammar School, and one for girls—the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1922 and 1923 was 70 and 79 boys, and 44 and 49 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the Primary Schools.

An Island Scholarship has been established under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, to be awarded biennially, and to be tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

The first Island Scholar to be appointed, Mr. P. E. McI. Clarke, left the Colony in September to study medicine at King's College, London.

Provision has been made for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—HOSPITALS.

The following hospital accommodation is provided: Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 86 beds (including four beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, four beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, four beds.

IX.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years:—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance to credit of depositors at 31st Decr., including interest capitalized.
		£	£	£
1922	826	1,857	3,968	14,821
1923	776	2,528	4,177	13,535

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £363.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st December, 1923, amounted to £17,944. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values, investments could not be realized with advantage. Interest at 3 per cent. is paid on deposits.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank, with headquarters in England, with a paid-up capital of £900,000. There is also a savings bank department attached to the branch.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana. The Harrison, the Canadian Merchant Marine and the Columbia Lines of Steamers also call at uncertain intervals with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the Cash on Delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with seventeen district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the island by motor car, by motor boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at St. Vincent, and a subsidy of £300 per annum is paid to the Company, in return for which daily news bulletins are furnished, and the Colony participates in the system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 186 services and 197 miles of line in use.

R. WALTER,
Administrator.

Government House,
St. Vincent,
27th August, 1924.

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1192	Bahamas	1922–1923
1193	Somaliland	1922
1194	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1922–1923
1195	Leeward Islands	,,
1196	Turks and Caicos Islands	1922
1197	Nigeria	1923
1198	Weihaiwei	,,
1199	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1922–1923
1200	Ashanti	,,
1201	Gambia	1923
1202	Bahamas	1923–1924
1203	Hongkong	1922
1204	Nyasaland	1923
1205	Cayman Islands	1922
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	,,
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	,,
1215	British Honduras	,,
1216	New Hebrides	,,
1217	Gibraltar	,,
1218	Jamaica	,,
1219	Sierra Leone	,,
1220	Uganda	,,
1221	Grenada	,,
1222	British Guiana	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1240.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1923.

(For Report for 1922 see No. 1169).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses.
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1925.

Price 6d. Net.

JV33
.G7 A4

No. 1240.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1923.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

Though uncertain, it is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Christopher Columbus on 18th June, 1502. Some doubt, however, is thrown upon this belief by a French tradition to the effect that its discovery was made by French shipwrecked seamen in December of a later year, who named the Island St. Alouziel or St. Alousie.

The largest of the Windward Islands, St. Lucia is 27 miles in extreme length and 14 miles in greatest breadth, its area being estimated at 233 square miles. It is situated in latitude 14° north and longitude 62° west, with Martinique in view about 20 miles to the north and St. Vincent about 25 miles to the south. On a clear day the historic Diamond Rock, or "H.M.S. Diamond Rock," can clearly be seen off the coast of Martinique. At its northern extremity lies Pigeon Island, famous for Rodney's Fort and Look-out, from whence the movements of the French fleet under de Grasse were observed prior to its total defeat by Admiral Rodney off the coast of Dominica in 1782. Pigeon Island was later used as a military station, but for a number of years has been abandoned for that purpose. The village of Gros Islet and the bay of that name are opposite Pigeon Island.

Rat Island, lying off the coast between Vigie and Choc, is fitted as a quarantine station. Fortunately, it is more often in demand as a holiday resort.

Vigie promontory forms the northern boundary of Castries harbour. On its highest point is a lighthouse and the signal station of the port. There are numerous War Department buildings at Vigie now much sought after and rented as private residences.

Government House, the official residence of the Administrator, is a commodious building beautifully situated on a spur of the Morne some 500 ft. above sea-level, and commanding unrivalled views of the surrounding scenery.

On the summit of Morne Fortuné, which rises 800 ft. above Castries, there is further extensive barrack accommodation, and this also is to some extent rented as private residences. Castries harbour, on the north-west end of the island, possesses excellent natural advantages. Ships drawing up to 27½ ft. of water can anchor with safety upon its sheltered waters. It is

on record that in 1899 the United States of America Squadron, comprising three battleships, two cruisers, and two second-class cruisers, and also one Dutch warship were safely berthed in the harbour without interfering with the regular business of the port, ten steamers having called during their stay, seven of which coaled. The town of Castries is built upon what is for the most part reclaimed land at the northern end of the harbour. It is well laid out and possesses good wharves for shipping. Nowhere in the West Indies can ships lie alongside so safely and be coaled and watered with such convenience and speed.

The important sugar plantations and factories of Cul de Sac and Roseau are some miles south of Castries. Each possesses a sheltered bay from which crops may be shipped.

Marigot harbour, the villages of Anse-la-Raye and Canaries are on the western coast. The picturesque town of Soufriere nestles at the feet of the two Pitons. These imposing cone-shaped mountains rise sheer out of the water, the greater to the height of 2,619 ft., the lesser to the height of 2,461 ft.

A most interesting volcanic crater is to be found two miles from the town of Soufriere and about 800 ft. above sea-level. There are a number of perpetually active boiling cauldrons of black water and mud from which issue large quantities of steam : around the sides there is a quantity of sulphurous and iron deposits. There are two furnished houses close by which are frequently used as health resorts. Hot sulphurous baths may be had at the bath house there, and lower down the valley at " Diamond." The first baths were established as far back as 1784 by Baron de Laborie near Soufriere for the use of invalids.

Further down the coast are the villages of Choiseul, Laborie, and Vieuxfort. The last mentioned is situated at the southern extremity of the island and possesses an extensive sugar plantation and factory. Cape Moule a Chique, on the highest point of which, 733 ft. above sea-level, there is a lighthouse fitted with a modern flash-light visible 40 miles out to sea, is the most southerly point.

On the east, or windward, coast are the villages of Micoud and Dennery, the latter having a large sugar estate and factory just outside its boundaries. Marquis and Dauphin lie to the north of Dennery. Marquis valley is a well-managed and fertile pasture; unfortunately, at present it lacks suitable road communication with Castries. It is claimed that the Empress Josephine was born near Dauphin, and was afterwards baptised at Martinique.

The expected completion in 1924 of a new, first-class and up-to-date hotel, situated in an unrivalled position 300 ft. above Castries, should prove an attraction to tourists From its pleasant surroundings excursions may be made by road and sea to the numerous points of historic and scenic interest in which the Colony abounds.

(16975) Wt.24087/1695 500 2/25 Harrow G94

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Taken generally, the health of the Colony was good during the year. Owing to an epidemic of alastrim in Dominica and Martinique very rigorous quarantine regulations were enforced. The disease made its appearance here, but thanks to unceasing vigilance and inspection it did not reach the proportions of an epidemic. The people generally willingly assisted in the vaccination campaign that was instituted, and 80 per cent. of the whole population of over 53,000 were vaccinated or re-vaccinated, the outbreak being limited to 18 cases. No deaths from the disease were recorded. The hookworm eradication campaign continued in operation during 1923. An area in the neighbourhood of Castries was chosen for re-survey and satisfactory results were obtained. In this connection the question of sanitation is of vital importance, and in this respect 1923 was productive of good results though the most constant and careful supervision was necessary.

The Chief Medical Officer is responsible for the general supervision of matters of health and sanitation in the Colony.

Victoria Hospital, the principal hospital, is situated within half a mile of Castries. A Resident Surgeon is in charge, and he is assisted by a staff consisting of a European matron with local nurses and dispensers. There is a ward with six rooms assigned to paying patients of which extensive use is made.

This institution has a good reputation, and patients speak highly of the skill and attention of the staff.

There are three small district casualty hospitals close to the principal local dispensaries of Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and Dennery.

The Pauper and Leper Asylums are situated in the Soufriere district, and are supervised by the Medical Officer of the district and a Visiting Advisory Committee.

The treatment of yaws has been successfully carried forward. The yaws hospital was finally closed for the purpose in September, 1923, a striking testimony to the efficacy of the dispensary treatment of yaws by injections of arseno-benzol compounds.

On 31st December, 1922, the resident population of the Colony was estimated to have been 24,399 males and 28,822 females, making a total of 53,221. On 31st December, 1923, this figure had increased to 53,847 (males 24,764 and females 29,083). The natural increase during the year was 717, but departures from the Colony exceeded arrivals by 91, so that the net addition was only 626.

The number of inhabitants to the square mile was 231.

Births during the year numbered 2,067, 1,092 males and 975 females. The number of deaths recorded was 1,350, 657 males and 693 females. The birth-rate was 35·8, and the death-rate 22·5 per 1,000 of the population. Illegitimate births numbered 1,310, or 633·7 per 1,000 of the total births.

No deaths from snake-bite were returned. The danger from venomous reptiles is much exaggerated. The most dangerous snake, the fer-de-lance, is being gradually exterminated through the introduction of the mongoose and the advance of cultivation. In addition, the Government pays 6d. for every serpent head brought to the various police stations and this helps considerably in the process of extirpation. They are never met with in or near the towns.

There is good river and sea fishing. At certain times of the year shooting can be obtained.

The prosperity of the Colony is mainly dependent upon agriculture. In this respect there was improvement in the price received for sugar during the year, but cocoa continued to feel the slump which commenced in 1921.

Extensive banana cultivation has been started and should prove of great benefit to the Colony.

There is an abundant supply of fruit, vegetables and fish, which forms the staple food of the population.

Coaling, for which there are exceptional facilities, still affords considerable, though irregular, occupation for a number of labourers in and around Castries.

The foundation stone of the Carnegie Public Library was laid on 15th May, and building operations commenced.

"Poppy Day" was observed this year for the first time in St. Lucia, and resulted in a sum of £75 being collected for Earl Haig's Fund for Disabled Soldiers.

H.M.S. "Valerian" visited the Colony in December.

The construction of public tennis courts in the Botanic Gardens was commenced.

His Excellency Sir George Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, proceeded on leave in November prior to retirement, and Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., Administrator, acted as Governor from the 2nd of that month. The latter officer acted as Governor from the 16th to the 25th March also, while Sir George Haddon-Smith was in Trinidad.

III.—FINANCIAL.

The local revenue received during the year amounted to £77,077, or £13,668 more than in the previous year. The expenditure, however, exceeded the revenue by £11,896, being £88,973, or only £268 less than in 1922. It is expected that economies which have been effected will reduce expenditure considerably during the present year, while improving trade conditions should increase the revenue by some £6,000 in 1924. Charges on account of public debt and for advances by the Crown Agents and Colonial Bank are a heavy drain on the Colony's resources. The accounts for the year closed with a deficit of £54,072, or an increase of £11,896 over the deficit at the end

of 1922, the net excess of liabilities over assets being £45,368. The public debt of the Colony stood at £147,529, and the accumulated sinking fund for its redemption £44,118 on the 31st December, 1923.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10s. and 5s. are in circulation, as well as the notes of the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries. Each of these banks has savings banks, and there is, in addition, a Government Savings Bank, all of which do a fair amount of business, the latter's balance at close of year being £13,657.

The imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

The value of imports in 1923 was £249,589, an increase of £60,589 over 1922. Exports increased by £27,753 from £175,479 in 1922 to £203,232 in the year under review. Both of these returns are, however, much less than during the war years, a fact which is in some measure due to the higher prices of living in those days. Sugar cane, limes, coconut products and cocoa are the chief exports.

Bunker coal shipped in 1923 was valued at £50,762, and though better by some £21,170 than in 1922 was far short of the average for the previous twenty years. With the increase in the number of oil-bunkering vessels it is more than doubtful if the coal trade here will ever return to its former dimensions, and it would be to the interest of the firms which control that trade here to see the necessity for venturing into the oil-bunkering business, as the excellent water and land facilities make Port Castries an ideal harbour for such work. If they are unwilling to do so there would be an opportunity for outside capital to come in and develop what might prove to be a lucrative trade.

IV.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

Unfavourable weather was accountable for a decrease in the sugar output for 1923. Better prices were, however, received for the product during the year.

The quantity of rum made at local distilleries also shows a decrease.

Cocoa, extensively grown throughout the Colony, remained low and depressed, prices ranging from 36s. to 51s. per cwt.

The price of concentrated lime juice continued low for the greater part of the year. The gathering of limes, consequently, was indifferently carried out. Export suffered accordingly. Large quantities of green limes, however, were exported.

The coconut crop is increasing yearly, a number of planters have realised the value of extending this crop. Exports of coconuts and copra for 1923 show a satisfactory increase.

Nutmegs (and mace) though not very extensively grown prove a satisfactory export crop.

Logwood, cedar, roofing shingles, charcoal, and firewood were exported in substantial quantity.

Some progress is being made in the planting of tobacco, camphor, African oil palm and sisal hemp. There is room for much development in these directions.

Bay-rum is now an important minor industry, the factories showing an encouraging increase of 75 per cent. in the exported product in addition to the bay-rum utilised locally.

Increased interest has been shown in the cultivation of Sea Island cotton. There are considerable areas suitable for this crop which so far are free from "pink bollworm."

Beekeeping is carried on and is improving. The mixing of wild bees and the consequent lowering effect this has on production has to be dealt with. The export of honey and wax for 1923 shows a marked advance.

Extensive banana cultivation, a new and important industry, has been started and should prove of great value to the Colony. Already labour has benefited considerably, approximately 400 men and women being employed regularly during 1923 in clearing hillside and forest.

An endeavour is being made to arouse interest in castor-oil production, and the establishment by private enterprise in 1924 of a coconut and castor-oil mill will, it is hoped, stimulate the interest of growers.

The teaching of agriculture in the primary schools, where treated seriously by the pupils, should prove of great benefit to the Colony in the future if the theory and practice as now being taught is put to practical use on leaving school.

The working of Agricultural Credit Societies during 1923 was most unsatisfactory. The advances are, almost without exception, used to pay off interest on heavily mortgaged properties and not for the extension and improvement of cultivation as intended. These societies are now being dissolved as rapidly as advances are re-paid.

Cattle, sheep, and horses are of poor quality and, when finances permit, the introduction of fresh stock is urgently needed.

High freights and uncertain and expensive inter-island communication tend to restrict the small-holder from sending perishable goods to the ready markets in other islands, and hinder the free exchange of products between the nearer islands.

Grants of approximately 38 allotments of Crown Lands of from 5–10 acres in extent and one of 137 acres were made in 1923. There is still a considerable area of Crown Lands available for disposal which is most suitable for planting. To a prospective

planter possessed of small capital, industry and initiative there are good prospects, a life in a pleasant climate and educational facilities for children.

V.—EDUCATION.

Primary education is free and compulsory. There are 49 denominational schools. Although education is compulsory between the ages of 6–14 years little more than half the children of school age attend. The teaching is greatly hampered by the prevalence of French "patois."

Grants-in-aid are made to these schools, mainly for the payment of teachers' salaries. The Inspector of Schools, a Government officer, is in charge of the administration of the grants.

Except for the Roman Catholic Sisters, the teachers are all natives of the Colony or neighbouring Colonies. Facilities for training of teachers or higher rates of pay to attract more highly-qualified teachers are urgently needed.

English, reading, writing, arithmetic, the elements of grammar, geography and hygiene are taught. In the upper classes boys are taught elementary agricultural science, both practical and theoretical, and the girls needlework and domestic economy. The results generally are good.

Secondary education is supplied by St. Mary's College for boys, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, both situated in Castries. These schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations and the London University Matriculation Examination. Pupils have attained considerable success in these examinations. An annual scholarship of £175 per annum, known as the St. Lucia Scholarship, was established in 1918. The scholarship is awarded on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. A choice of Universities, or of Agricultural, Scientific or Technical Colleges or Institutions in Europe, Canada or the United States approved by the Governor in Council is permitted. The scholarship is tenable for not less than three and not more than five years according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned. Up to 1923 five scholarships have been awarded.

VI.—CLIMATE.

The climate of St. Lucia, always very much maligned, is generally healthy. Every sanitary precaution is taken, and the health of the island compares favourably with any of the West Indian Colonies. There are two seasons, the dry season usually beginning in January and ending in May, and the wet season lasting from June to December. The climate is singularly mild. On the hillsides around Castries, where many of the best residences are located, it is pleasantly cool. On the Morne Fortuné a delightful breeze is almost invariably to be found.

The mean temperature varies from 70° to 72° during the cool season, when it sometimes goes as low as 65° at night. During the hot season 90° has been recorded. The temperature records obtained from the Meteorological Station at Reunion show a mean noon temperature of 80° in the shade and a mean night temperature of 72·4°. The range of temperature was 24° (91°—67°).

The mercurial mean pressure gives an average of 30·02.

The rainfall for 1923 was 71·57 in. at the Botanic Station, Castries.

Thunderstorms are not frequent and accidents from lightning rare.

Slight earthquake shocks are occasionally felt.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The road system of the island, owing to lack of funds, has perforce to advance slowly. There are now maintained by the Government 125 miles of main roads, 130 miles of byways, and 84 miles unclassified roads, of which 126 miles are suitable for, and much used by, motor traffic.

Passenger motor bus services are regularly maintained between Castries and Dennery and Vieuxfort and Soufriere.

The Government 50-ton motor launch supplies a regular service between Castries, Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and the villages of Anse-la-Raye, Canaries and Laborie.

There is a telephone system throughout the Colony, the nine exchanges being connected by 94 miles of trunk lines, giving 206 connections over 283 miles of wire.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular fortnightly steamer service to Canada and other West Indian Colonies, and (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the French mail steamer. There are other and frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America, and direct to Europe.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the West India and Panama Company, and there is also a Government Wireless Telegraph Station. Reconstruction of both these systems is expected in 1924.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	"
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	"
1215	British Honduras	"
1216	New Hebrides	"
1217	Gibraltar	"
1218	Jamaica	"
1219	Sierra Leone	"
1220	Uganda	"
1221	Grenada	"
1222	British Guiana	"
1223	St. Vincent	"
1224	St. Helena	"
1225	Barbados	1923–1924
1226	Somaliland	1923
1227	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	"
1228	Hongkong	"
1229	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1923–1924
1230	Colonial Survey Committee Report	1914–1923
1231	Cayman Islands	1923
1232	Leeward Islands	1923–1924
1233	Federated Malay States	1923
1234	Mauritius	"
1235	Straits Settlements	"
1236	Seychelles	"
1237	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1923–1924
1238	State of Brunei	1923
1239	Unfederated Malay States	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1263.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1924.

For Reports for 1922 and 1923 see Nos. 1168 and 1221 (Price 6d. each).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1925.

Price 6d. net.

No. 1263.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1924.

I. Introduction.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad, and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North Latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West Longitude. The Island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the Island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the Island, 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

CLIMATE.

The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade or drops below 70°, and these occasions occur so rarely that they are specially recorded in meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1924 was 89° on

several days, and the lowest 68° on 22nd February. The mean of maximum temperatures was 84° and the mean of minimum 74°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 in.; in the mountainous centre it approaches 140 in. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1924 was 81·51 in. Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 74·83 in.

Historical.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–6, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II. General.

An interesting event falls to be recorded in the visit to the Colony on 10th March of the Acting Governor, Lieut.-Colonel Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., by U.S.N. flying boat (through the courtesy of Commodore Gherardi, U.S.N.), the first occasion on which one has landed in Grenada. The journey from and return to St. Lucia between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., with a visit to St. Vincent *en route*, and about 4½ hours spent on shore in the two islands, opens up possibilities of improved means of communication between the numerous small Colonies in the West Indies.

Owing to the recurrence of annual deficits, which had continued for several years, and had more than exhausted the Colony's surplus assets, readjustment of revenue and expenditure required to be undertaken. By retrenchment and amalgamation of offices whenever possible and cessation of various activities, Government expenditure was reduced to a point which made it possible to balance the budget by a slight addition to taxation.

An improvement in market prices of nutmegs and mace, which set in early in the year, continued in the succeeding months, and considerably relieved the financial stringency from

(19652) Wt. 13122/1016 500 10/25 Harrow G.94/29 A*

which the Colony was suffering. As compared with the previous year the value of the nutmeg crop increased from £55,017 to £95,321, or by £40,304, and that of mace from £18,641 to £24,874, or by £6,233. These two products, amounting together in value to £120,195, now account for 35 per cent. of the Colony's total value of exports. A decade ago the value of the products was £36,820. The advanced prices were not only maintained at the end of the year, but had increased, and are now at a figure far above anything ever experienced since the cultivation of spices in Grenada was started.

The Colony's main produce still remains cocoa, the exported crop of which in 1924 was recorded at the value of £201,547, being an increase of £45,664 over the value in the preceding year. This increase in total value is accounted for more by an increase in quantity rather than price, although it is true that the price per cwt., which was as low as 48*s*. at the beginning of the year, and continued so for the greater part of the year, suddenly rose to 65*s*. and upwards in December. The improvement in the price of cocoa, coupled with an early crop as the result of favourable weather conditions, has, nevertheless, been an additional factor in the decidedly improved trade conditions existing towards the end of the year.

These changes in the relative importance of cocoa and spices led the Government towards the end of the year to adjust the incidence of taxation on these crops. Cocoa for long had borne the brunt of the heavy export taxation which had been enforced as a war-time measure, and had been continued on account of the Colony's indebtedness.

The export duty on nutmegs and mace was placed on graduated scales, rising and falling according to market prices, and sufficient additional revenue was obtained to allow of export duty on cocoa being reduced by 6*d*. per cwt. A further adjustment and substantial reduction of taxation of cocoa and on other commodities is needed, but can only be accomplished when the deficit of the Colony is cleared off and the annual debt charges are reduced.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., arrived in the Colony on 26th July, and assumed the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands; the administration of the local Government since the departure of Sir George B. Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G., on 31st October, 1923, having been undertaken by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Herbert Ferguson, C.B.E., and that of the Government of the Windward Islands by the Administrator of St. Lucia, Lieut.-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G.

Vital Statistics and Public Health.

The estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1924, was 68,957.

The density of the population was 518·47 per square mile.

The births numbered 2,197 and the deaths 1,156. The birth-rate was 31·86 and the death-rate 16·8 per 1,000.

The death-rate compares very favourably with that in other West Indian Colonies.

Infantile Mortality.

The death-rate per 100 births of infants dying under one year was 11·10. In the previous year the rate was 8·67. The rate in England and Wales for 1922 was 7·7.

Through the efforts of Lady James, an Infant Welfare Centre was established in St. George's towards the end of the year and a crêche has now been opened.

The principal causes of deaths, with the figures for the two previous years for comparison, are as under :—

	1924.	*1923.*	*1922.*
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	296	283	329
Malaria	108	74	83
Enteric Fever	22	23	24
Dysentery	34	33	83
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	52	41	37
Syphilis	16	10	15

Water Supplies.

All the parishes of the Island have a pipe-borne supply with the exception of St. David's, which is well provided with numerous protected springs and streams. In the Dependency of Carriacou the water is obtained from wells and from rain-water stored in cisterns.

III. Government Finance.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to £117,453, and the expenditure was £106,003, there being thus a surplus on the year amounting to £11,450. This is the first surplus recorded for several years.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.* £	*Expenditure.* £	*Surplus.* £	*Deficit.* £
1920	134,128	148,175	—	14,047
1921	97,932	136,969	—	39,037
1922	103,414	117,849	—	14,435
1923	103,823	113,095	—	9,272
1924	117,453	106,003	11,450	—

The Colony has no surplus assets. The total current deficit, which at 31st December, 1923, was £36,996, was reduced at the end of 1924 to £25,546.

The Public Debt of the Colony amounts to £223,670, against which there are Sinking Funds for redemption amounting to £79,826. There is, further, a sum of £41,338 unexpended of the Loan Issue of £100,000 raised in 1917.

Banks.

The Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada are established in the Colony. The former has an agency in Grenville, but the branch at Carriacou, which was carried on for a few years, has now been discontinued.

Both banks transact savings bank business.

The authorised note circulation of the two banks was £25,000 and $100,000 respectively. The actual amount in circulation was reported to be £30,000.

Silver is legal tender without limit. There is no gold in circulation.

Savings Bank.

The Government Savings Bank continued its rate of interest at 4 per cent. There was an increase in the number of depositors from 1,685 to 1,702, and the amount at the credit of depositors increased from £20,120 to £25,430.

IV. Annual Progress of Trade.

The value of imports for the calendar year 1924 was £272,291, and of exports £350,806, the total trade being £623,097.

Imports.

The principal articles imported were the following :—

		Increase or decrease over 1923.	
	Value.	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
	£	£	£
Flour	40,014	5,272	—
Cotton piece-goods	36,858	—	36,578
Sugar, unrefined ...	13,914	4,727	—
Fish, dried, etc. ...	11,474	1,807	—
Oil, kerosene ...	8,512	1,126	—
Rice	7,954	329	—
Boots and shoes ...	6,068	2,421	—
Motor spirit ...	5,334	1,327	—
Cotton goods, other types	5,198	—	1,715
Lumber, undressed	4,991	2,325	—
Soap, common ...	4,806	—	1,227

The explanation of the striking decrease in cotton piece-goods in 1924 is that in 1923 the depleted stocks of importing firms were renewed, but on account of bad trade there were large quantities on hand at the beginning of 1924.

The following table shows the direction of trade for the years 1923 and 1924 :—

	1923. £	*Percentage of total.*	*1924.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	128,947	45·3	83,600	30·7
United States of America ...	39,276	13·8	56,696	20·8
Canada	58,571	20·6	69,658	25·6
Other British Possessions ...	43,195	15·1	50,852	18·7
Other foreign countries ...	14,727	5·2	11,485	4·2
	£284,716	100%	£272,291	100%

The decrease in trade from the United Kingdom from 45·3 to 30·7 per cent. occurred mainly under cotton piece-goods (from £73,436 in 1923 to £36,858 in 1924).

EXPORTS.

The value of exports for the year amounted to £350,806, of which £344,879 represented the value of local products and £5,927 of re-exports.

The quantity and value of the principal local products exported were as follows :—

	Cwts.	£
Cocoa, raw	85,394 ...	201,547
Cotton, raw	2,842 ...	15,180
Cotton-seed	7,030 ...	2,755
Spices :—		
Nutmegs	19,369 ...	95,321
Mace	3,234 ...	24,874

The direction of the export trade was as follows :—

	1923. £	*Percentage of total.*	*1924.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	137,052	54·4	161,012	46·7
United States of America ...	77,602	30·8	151,784	44·0
Canada	23,171	9·2	13,691	4·0
Other British Possessions ...	7,444	3·0	10,808	3·1
Other foreign countries ...	6,529	2·6	7,584	2·2
	£251,798	100%	£344,879	100%

The bulk of the cocoa goes to the United Kingdom, which took 47,739 cwts. in 1924, the United States of America taking 28,365 cwts.

Of nutmegs, exportation to the United States of America amounted in quantity to 13,429 cwts., and to the United Kingdom 5,130 cwts.

The bulk of the mace also goes to the United States of America, which took 2,063 cwts., while exports to the United Kingdom were 998 cwts.

All the cotton exported, 2,842 cwts., went to the United Kingdom.

Agriculture.

The rains which set in towards the end of May restored the excellent condition of permanent cultivation of cocoa and nutmegs. The cocoa crop year begins on 1st October, and from that date onwards until the end of the year a large and early crop was reaped. For the crop year ended 30th September, 1924, however, the volume was small, the number of bags exported being only 47,064 (of 180 lb. each). The largest crop recorded by the Agricultural Department was that of the year ended 30th September, 1917, when 77,275 bags were exported. The decrease in volume in the past few years has been caused mainly by a hurricane in 1921, adverse weather conditions, and low market prices, the latter feature having led to abandonment of some cultivation on lands not naturally suited to cocoa, and on which it could only profitably be grown when market prices were high.

The nutmeg crop for the year ended 30th September, 1924, was 19,343 cwts., as compared with 24,680 cwts. in the previous twelve months.

The quantity of mace exported was 3,234 cwts., as compared with 3,088 cwts. in the preceding year.

Canes are grown to a very small extent, but the Agricultural Department report that cane cultivation has been very much extended in the southern portion of the Island, and the result should be seen in a larger crop in 1925.

Almost all of the cotton is produced in Carriacou, although lately several acres have been planted in Grenada. Pink Boll Worm made its appearance in Carriacou and Grenada during the year, and the usual steps under legislative authority have been taken for its control. The crop exported in 1924 was 2,842 cwts., as compared with 2,950 cwts. in 1923. The value was £15,180, as compared with £12,904.

Land.

There are no Crown Lands for sale. Such lands as remain in the possession of the Crown consist almost entirely of mountainous areas which have been preserved as forest or rain reserves.

There is a very large number of individual owners of land in the Colony, as will be seen from the following table :—

Number of Owners of Land at 31st December, 1924.

2½ acres and under.	*Over 2½ and not exceeding 5 acres.*	*Over 5 and not exceeding 7 acres.*	*Over 7 and not exceeding 100 acres.*	*Over 10 and not exceeding 100 acres.*	*Total.*	*Over 100 acres.*
12,135	1,559	350	209	411	14,664	142

INDUSTRIES.

A whaling industry on modern lines, which was foreshadowed in last year's Report, was successfully started during the year, as the result of a visit to the Colony of Captain Otto Sverdrup, the well-known Arctic explorer and whaler, who was satisfied that a sufficient number of whales was present in adjacent waters to justify the formation of a company to conduct whaling operations with up-to-date appliances. The company is a Norwegian one, with headquarters at Oslo. The whaling station is situated on Glover Island, off the south-west corner of the Colony. Two whale-catchers arrived in December, and whaling commenced in January of the present year. The whaling season lasts from January to May and further reference to this industry will appear in the report pertaining to the year 1925.

Efforts to establish new agricultural industries have steadily been made, for the danger of having "one's eggs all in one basket" has been pointedly illustrated by the widespread hardships caused by the slump in the price of cocoa, on which crop the Colony has relied in the past to far too great an extent. Both bananas and pine-apples have offered possibilities of successful cultivation. In the case of the former, the taking up and planting of land in bananas in the neighbouring Colony of St. Lucia by a company connected with the marketing of the fruit in England, and interested also in shipping, has made the prospect of a banana industry in Grenada more promising and encouraging than would otherwise have been the case. It is to be hoped that the rise in the price of cocoa—which has since fallen again—will not result in making owners of cocoa estates indifferent to the chance of establishing a profitable and safe new industry. Some land is also available for the cultivation of pine-apples, and enquiries are being made regarding the methods adopted in other places both as to cultivation and canning of the fruit for exportation.

No further development has taken place in connection with the projected establishment of an improved factory for the manufacture of sugar.

The production of rum fell to 25,077 proof gallons on account of the reduced area under cane as the result of unfavourable weather conditions. There were 11 distilleries at work during the year. There is an ice factory, subsidized by Government, in St. George's.

V. Legislation.

Twenty-two Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the principal were :—

No. 4.—Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance, to provide for increased rates of duty.

No. 7.—Cotton Plant Protection Ordinance, legalising measures necessary to restrict Pink Boll Worm disease of cotton.

No. 15.—Whale Fishery Ordinance, controlling the operations of whaling.

No. 19.—Venereal Diseases Ordinance, repealing original Ordinances.

No. 20.—Seditious Publications Ordinance, repealing original Ordinance.

No. 21.—Pensions Amendment Ordinance, providing for gratuities and reduced pensions in lieu of normal pensions.

VI. Educational Progress.

Primary.

There are 58 primary schools—10 being Government schools and 48 grant-in-aid schools, the latter number being made up as follows :—27 Roman Catholic, 14 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, and 2 Presbyterian.

The recurrent annual cost of primary education is practically borne entirely by Government funds, the contribution by Government being £6,739 out of a total expenditure of £6,754.

The number of pupils on the roll was 10,704, and the average attendance 6,438, the percentage of average attendance to the number on roll being 60·1. The cost per head of average attendance was £1 1*s*. Changes in the law and regulations were made during the year with a view to simplifying the procedure of classification and grading of schools, and effecting more control over the estimates of expenditure.

Secondary.

Progress at the Government Boys' School in St. George's was satisfactorily maintained, and at the Cambridge School Certification examination the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	*Passed.*	*Honours.*	*Distinction.*
School certificate	9	8	3	4
Junior	11	7	1	1

The number of pupils at the School was 68.

For secondary education of girls there is the St. Joseph's Convent School and the Church of England High School, each of which receives an annual grant from the Government amounting to £186.

The External Scholarship has now been discontinued.

VII. Communications.

The Colony, although its configuration is mountainous and irregular, is well furnished with roads in every part, there being approximately 114 miles of main roads and about 305 miles of by-ways. The gradients in many instances are stiff, but all the main roads and almost all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic.

The Government runs a mail and passenger motor-bus service between St. George's and Sauteurs, via the eastern side of the Island, passing through St. David's and Grenville. There is also a private motor-bus service between St. George's and Sauteurs. On the western side of the Island there is a good motor road from St. George's through Gouyave and Victoria to Sauteurs. A private motor-bus service plies between Gouyave and St. George's. There is also a subsidized motor-boat service on the western coast, running daily to and from St. George's and Sauteurs, with a weekly call at Carriacou.

Postal business is conducted at the head office in St. George's and at sub-offices in each of the principal towns, while there are several postal stations throughout the Colony.

TELEGRAPHS.

There is no inland telegraph service. The Colony is connected to neighbouring Colonies by the cable system of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, and a wireless station was last year erected and is operated by the Pacific Cable Board via Barbados.

TELEPHONES.

A telephone service has long been established in the Colony, and at very moderate rental rates gives a linking-up service through the entire Island with no trunk line charges. There are telephone exchanges in all the principal towns, and 533 instruments are in use. The number of telephone instruments per 100 of the population in St. George's is four, and the percentage in the entire Island is approximately one. There are 159 miles of direct wire, and 781 miles connecting subscribers and exchanges.

SHIPPING.

Direct communication with the United Kingdom is maintained by the steamers of the Harrison Line, their passenger steamers calling about once a month, and their cargo steamers at frequent but irregular intervals.

Communication between the British West Indian Islands and with Canada is provided fortnightly by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's service.

There is a direct service to New York by the Furness Withy Line at intervals of about 10 days, the journey occupying 7 days.

HERBERT FERGUSON,

Administrator.

8th June, 1925.

COLONIAL OFFICE ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes for the Colonial Office the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40*s*. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1923–24, No. 1252 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
BAHAMAS, 1924, No. 1241 .. .. 6*d*.
BARBADOS, 1923–24, No. 1225 .. .. 1*s*
BASUTOLAND, 1924, No. 1244 .. .. 9*d*.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1923–24, No. 1210 .. .. 9*d*.
BERMUDA, 1923, No. 1247 .. .. 6*d*.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1923, No. 1222 .. 9*d*.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1923, No. 1215 9*d*.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1922–23, No. 1189 .. 3*d*.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1924, No. 1250 .. 1*s*.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1924, No. 1262 .. .. 6*d*.
CEYLON, 1923, No. 1243 .. .. .. 5*s*.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT for the period April 1st, 1914, to March 31st, 1923, No. 1230 .. .. 2*s*. 6*d*
CYPRUS, 1924, No. 1253 .. .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1923, No. 1242 9*d*.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1924, No. 1256 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
FIJI, 1924, No. 1259 .. .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
GAMBIA, 1924, No. 1249 .. .. .. 6*d*.
GIBRALTAR, 1923, No. 1217 .. .. 6*d*.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1246 .. .. 6*d*.
GOLD COAST, 1923–24, No. 1255 .. 2*s* 3*d*.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1923–24, No. 1229 .. .. 9*d*.
GRENADA, 1923, No. 1221 .. .. 6*d*.
HONG KONG, 1923, No. 1228 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
JAMAICA, 1923, No. 1218 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1923, No. 1227 .. .. 1*s*.
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1232 1*s*.
MAURITIUS, 1923, No. 1234 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
NEW HEBRIDES, 1923, No. 1216 .. 6*d*.
NIGERIA, 1924, No. 1245 .. .. .. 1*s*.
NYASALAND, 1924, No. 1257 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. HELENA, 1924, No. 1251 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. LUCIA, 1923, No. 1240 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. VINCENT, 1923, No. 1223 .. .. 6*d*.
SEYCHELLES, 1923, No. 1236 .. .. 6*d*.
SIERRA LEONE, 1923, No. 1219 .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
SOMALILAND, 1923, No. 1226 .. .. 6*d*.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1923, No. 1235 .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
SWAZILAND, 1924, No. 1261 .. .. 6*d*.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1925–24, No. 1237 .. .. 3*d*.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1924, No. 1260 1*s*. 6*d*.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1924, No. 1258 .. .. 6*d*.
UGANDA, 1923, No. 1220 .. .. .. 6*d*.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1923, No. 1239 .. .. 5*s*. 3*d*.
WEI-HAI-WEI, 1924, No. 1248 .. .. 6*d*.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1254 .. .. 6*d*.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1924 (Colonial, No. 16) .. .. 2*s*. 9*d*.
IRAQ, 1924 (Colonial, No. 13) .. .. 7*s*.
PALESTINE, 1924 (Colonial, No. 12) .. .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
TANGANYIKA, 1924 (Colonial, No. 11) .. .. 3*s*.
TOGOLAND, 1924 (Colonial, No. 14) .. .. 3*s*.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920–25 .. .. .. 2*s*.

All prices are net. Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow. (3)

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1267.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1924.

For Reports for 1922 and 1923 see Nos. 1177 and 1223 (Price 6d. each).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1925.

Price 6d. net.

No. 1267.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1924.

I.—Geographical and Historical.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of nine miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—General Observations.

The year 1924 may properly be regarded from every point of view as a very prosperous one in the history of the Colony. The Revenue £60,893 was the highest on record, exceeding the Expenditure by over £7,000, and exceeding the Revenue of 1923 by £8,860. This was due largely to the marked improvement in trade which was reflected in the Customs returns, the total trade of the Colony amounting to £310,890, as against £270,048 in 1923. The yield from the new Income Tax Law brought into operation early in the year exceeded the amount estimated by nearly £2,000.

The surplus balance of the Colony, which amounted to £15,282 at the beginning of the year, increased to £22,288 at the close of the year, and it was possible to set aside £11,000 as a Reserve Fund to be invested in good liquid securities, thus fulfilling a cardinal requirement in the case of a small Colony like St. Vincent, which is subject to periods of severe economic depression from time to time.

The Colony is wholly dependent for its prosperity upon agriculture, and it is satisfactory to note from the export returns of the produce of the Island that the export of arrowroot (valued at about 4*d*. per lb.) showed a considerable increase on that for 1923, the export of cassava starch (valued at about 2½*d*. per lb.) was about double that of the average export for the last ten years, while the export of Sea Island cotton, 520,369 lb., the first quality of which was valued at 2*s*. per lb., though slightly below the record year 1923 was well above the average export for the last ten years. This is a matter of congratulation in view of the alarm caused in 1923 by the appearance of the dreaded Pink Boll worm, and shows that, thanks to the careful carrying out of the legislation and regulations framed to meet the outbreak, the disease has been kept under control. For this the Agricultural Department of the Colony deserve the greatest credit.

A marked feature of the agricultural life of this Island is the increasing attention paid to copra. For the year 1924, 645,973 lb. valued at £5,430 were exported, as against 356,626 lb. valued at £2,959 in 1923. Since 1918 the export of copra has increased by leaps and bounds. In that year, 7,104 lb. of a value of £189 were exported.

As regards syrup, another bumper year may be recorded. The quantity shipped amounted to 261,127 gallons, value £15,758. This has not been exceeded for many years, except during 1923 when 275,932 gallons, value £18,711, were exported.

The Colony duly participated in the Wembley Exhibition, and various specimens of its staple products were sent for the purpose and arranged under the able supervision of its

(19696) Wt. 13690/1039 500 10/25 Harrow G.94/29 A 2

representative, Mr. Ernest Brown, to whom, together with the local Committee under the Chairmanship of His Honour Mr. Justice Rae, and to the Agricultural Superintendent, Mr. Jackson, the thanks of the Colony are due for the very successful show made by this little island. The Arrowroot Growers and Exporters Association co-operated loyally and generously, and planters lent valuable assistance. A small brochure was prepared for distribution at the Exhibition giving details of the principal industries of the Colony, and it is hoped that this will assist in educating the British public in the knowledge that Colonial products are the best, and in advertising the existence of St. Vincent with its excellent arrowroot, Sea Island cotton, and syrup.

The general health of the Island throughout the year was good. The total population at 31st December was 47,591. The birth-rate for the year was 37·72 per 1,000, and the death-rate 16·49. The death-rate shows a considerable decrease as compared with 1923, when it was 22·21, and is the lowest for the last three years. Thirty cases of enteric occurred with 10 deaths, as against 26 cases with 6 deaths in 1923, 19 of the cases occurring in the Windward district.

Infantile mortality showed a considerable decrease as compared with 1923, deaths of children under one year (excluding still-births) numbering 169, as against 237 in 1923, and the mortality rate per 1,000 births 99, as against 128. It is noteworthy that illegitimate births amounted to over 75 per cent. of all the births, and that out of 93 still-births 79 were illegitimate.

The campaign against yaws was continued with success, a total of 2,377 cases being treated of which 1,813 were cured.

A residence was built for the District Medical Officer residing at Chateaubelair—a long-felt need—and various sanitary improvements were effected in the smaller towns, but the Colony is still in need of a qualified Chief Sanitary Officer to train and supervise the work of the sanitary inspectors.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., paid a short visit to the Island in H.M.S. *Valerian* in October. Lieutenant-Colonel Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., who had been administering the Government of the Windward Islands for the first seven months of the year, paid a flying visit to the Island on 10th March in an American seaplane, whose arrival created extraordinary interest and excitement among all classes. The seaplane had flown from St. Lucia to St. Vincent in the morning, and after a few hours here continued her flight to Grenada and thence back to St. Lucia. This opens out a vista of untold possibilities in the near future.

Various changes in the Staff occurred during the year, the most noteworthy being the appointment of an Inspector of Schools, which abolishes the unscientific combination involved in a headmaster of a big grammar school being at the same time an inspector of primary schools, the appointment of a new Magistrate for the Second District, Mr. J. A. L. Reed, and the appointment of a new Attorney-General, Mr. N. H. Turton.

The outstanding event of the year was the inauguration of the New Constitution, introducing the elective principle in the Legislative Council, and abolishing the former practice of nomination. The Letters Patent were read and proclaimed publicly at the Court House on 1st December amidst great popular rejoicing, and it was felt that a new landmark had been passed in the political evolution of the Colony.

This short record would not be complete without reference to the loss of two well-known figures in the life of the Island, Mr. W. C. Hutchinson, I.S.O., late Colonial Treasurer, and Miss Annie Mackie, M.B.E. Mr. Hutchinson was a conscientious and hard-working official, who had only just retired on pension when he was called to his long rest, and Miss Mackie had done long and devoted work in the interests of the poor. Their places will be hard to fill.

III.—Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet season from June to December. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 78·1° F. to 81·8° F. The highest was in September and the lowest in January. Meteorological records for 1924 show that the mean monthly temperature was 80·2° F., as against 82·9° F. in 1923.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 ft. above sea-level, was 85·07 in., as compared with 69·39 in. in 1923. Rain fell on 277 days, and the greatest fall for one day was 3·63 in. on the 29th July.

The rainfall at the Botanic Gardens, only a mile away from the Experimental Station, but some 200 ft. higher up, was 90·49 in. The average at these gardens for the last 31 years was 102·59 in., so that the rainfall during 1924 was some 12 in. below the average.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30·175 in. on the 23rd May to 29·859 in. on the 16th October.

IV.—Financial.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1924, was :—

	£	£
Net Surplus at 1st January, 1924		15,282
Revenue in 1924		60,893
		76,175
Expenditure in 1924	53,887	
Transferred to Reserve Fund ...	11,000	
		64,887
Net Surplus at 31st December, 1924 ...		£11,288

Expenditure from Loan Funds on the reconstruction of the Windward highway amounted to £387.

The net local revenue and expenditure in the last three years were :—

	Local Revenue.	*Expenditure against Local Revenue.*
	£	£
1922	49,289	46,711
1923	52,031	47,883
1924	60,893	53,887

The principal items of revenue in the last three years were :—

	1922	*1923*	*1924*
	£	£	£
Import Duties... ...	18,511	19,499	25,869
Export Duties	2,142	3,073	3,032
Excise Duty on Rum...	5,327	5,430	2,938
Land and House Tax...	6,459	5,892	5,882
Income Tax	1,736	2,044	3,947
Liquor Trade Duty ...	2,338	2,470	2,934
Postage Stamps ...	1,708	1,588	2,334

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up from donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to the general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor. This amount, together with the £11,000 transferred to Reserve Fund, offers excellent security for the Colony, both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt at 31st December, 1924, was £10,850, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The

accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £5,023 on the 31st December, 1924, of which £4,163 was in respect of Government Loans, and £860 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

The balance of £154 due to the Imperial Treasury at 31st December, 1923, payable in January, 1924, on the Hurricane Loan to planters was duly paid off. As the sum of £554 was at that date held invested by the Crown Agents on this account, the Colony benefited to the extent of £400 from the operation of this Loan.

CURRENCY.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—Vital Statistics.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447 according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1924, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 47,591 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths and marriages in the past two years :—

	1923	*1924*
Births	1,963	1,795
Males	1,000	936
Females	963	859
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ...	41·99	37·72
Deaths	1,038	785
Death-rate per 1,000	22·21	16·49
Marriages	88	114
Marriage-rate per 1,000 ...	1·88	2·39

Illegitimate births numbered 1,363, or 75·9 per cent. of the total number of all births.

Still-births were 93, of which 79 were illegitimate.

VI.—Annual Progress of Trade, Agriculture and Industries.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total values of imports and exports in 1923 and 1924 were :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1923	138,677	131,371	270,048
1924	160,028	150,862	310,890

Produce of the Colony to the value of £150,811 was exported in 1924, as against £128,788 in 1923.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1923	*1924*
	£	£
United Kingdom	41,147	51,834
Canada	40,862	40,686
British West Indies... ...	7,736	12,641
India	1,080	869
Newfoundland	2,018	3,142
Other British Colonies ...	4,866	6,125
United States of America ...	28,943	33,983
France	1,226	1,264
Denmark	8	543
Holland	486	553
Foreign West Indies... ...	15	69
Germany	1,057	1,335
Other countries	9,233	6,984
	£138,677	£160,028

The increases in the values of imports and exports were due to the general improvement in trade and in increases in values and quantities exported, the latter being particularly applicable to the exports of arrowroot, cotton, cassava starch, and copra.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1923	*1924*
United Kingdom...	29·67	32·39
United States of America ...	20·87	21·24
Canada	29·46	25·42
All other countries	20·00	20·95

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, drink and tobacco...	60,842
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	74,080
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	18,104
Miscellaneous and unclassified	7,002
	£160,028

EXPORTS.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1923 and 1924 were as follows :—

	1923	*1924*
	£	£
United Kingdom	73,003	84,501
Canada	19,223	18,368
British West Indies	32,429	39,121
British Guiana	1,541	1,101
United States of America ...	2,480	6,931
Other countries	112	789
	£128,788	£150,811

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1923	*1924*
	£	£
Arrowroot	31,829	51,361
Cotton :—		
Sea Island	47,292	50,218
Marie Galante	217	58
Seed Cotton, Marie Galante	421	534
Cocoa	1,755	1,820
Sugar :—		
Crystallised	1,863	280
Syrup and Molasses ...	18,711	15,758
Cassava Starch	3,700	6,838
Copra	2,959	5,430
Peanuts	5,988	4,439
Animals	5,884	2,559
Cotton Seed	2	2,216
Cotton-seed Oil	300	467
Whale Oil	90	476
Vegetables, fresh	3,216	2,550
Peas	1,595	984
Corn	1,326	752

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

The Government Cotton Ginnery continued to buy seed cotton on profit-sharing terms, but confined its activities to Sea Island cotton only.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1922–23 and 1923–24 :—

	1922–23	*1923–24*
	lb.	*lb.*
Sea Island seed cotton ...	162,321	123,330
Marie Galante	9,003	—

Corn was purchased on the co-operative system to the following extent during the season 1923–24 :—

	lb.
Shelled corn	29,200
Cob corn	4,416

Cotton.—The 1924–25 cotton season was very successful despite the Pink Boll Worm and other pests. The area planted was 4,563 acres—3,294 acres of Sea Island and 1,269 acres of Marie Galante—as compared with 4,515 acres—3,387 acres of Sea Island and 1,128 acres of Marie Galante—in the previous season. The yield from Sea Island cotton during the season under review was at the rate of 136 lb. of lint per acre; for the 1923–24 season it was 140 lb. per acre; and for the 1922–23 season 161 lb. per acre, while the average yield for the 10 years preceding 1922–23 was 89 lb. per acre.

Cotton seed is used extensively as a fertiliser.

Sea Island cotton amounting to 520,369 lb., of the value of £50,218, was exported during the year, as against 585,143 lb., of the value of £47,292, in 1923.

The export of Marie Galante was 1,540 lb., value £58, as against 5,084 lb., value £217, in 1923.

Marie Galante seed cotton to the amount of 32,030 lb., value £534, was exported in 1924, as against 67,301 lb., value £421, in 1923.

Sugar.—The sugar-cane industry continued to be an important one.

The export of crystallised sugar showed a marked decline as compared with 1923, the figures being :—

1923	145,944 lb., value	£1,863
1924	22,400 lb., value	£280

Syrup and Molasses.—261,127 gallons, of the value of £15,758, were exported in 1924, as against 275,932 gallons, of the value of £18,711, in the previous year.

Rum.—15,385 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing a decrease of 2,141 proof gallons on the previous year. Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 14,706 proof gallons, as compared with 961 proof gallons in 1923.

Arrowroot.—There was no fixing of prices in the London market by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association during the year 1924. The position as regards this commodity remained satisfactory, the market price being about 4*d.* per lb. 2,952,535 lb., of the value of £51,361, were exported, as compared with 2,177,183 lb., of the value of £31,829, in 1923.

Peanuts.—322,153 lb., value £4,439, were exported, as against 492,972 lb., value £5,988, in 1923.

Copra.—The exports of copra have increased very considerably during the last few years.

In 1920,	22,644	lb.	were	exported.
,, 1921,	89,005	,,	,,	,,
,, 1922,	222,593	,,	,,	,,
,, 1923,	356,626	,,	,,	,,
,, 1924,	645,973	,,	,,	,,

It is estimated that if nothing untoward occurs for the next few years the area of the Island in bearing coconut trees will be increased annually by at least 200 acres. Only a small number of coconuts was exported.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the Colony. The amount of money loaned in 1924 was £1,381, as compared with £1,330 in 1923. A few Societies failed to repay in 1924 debts contracted in earlier years, but on the whole, with the exception of two or three Societies, there is evidence to show that a vigorous attempt was made to pay off outstanding loans.

SHIPPING.

The number of vessels entered was 381, of 236,346 tons; and 381 cleared, of 240,088 tons. One vessel of 8 tons was registered during the year.

VII.—Education.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1923 and 1924 :—

	1923	*1924*
Number of schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	4,314	4,945
Average attendance	2,472	2,639
Government Grant-in-aid ...	£2,469	£2,794
Cost per head in average attendance	£1	£1 1*s*. 2*d*.

Nine of the twenty-seven regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other eighteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were eight other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £112.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School, and one for girls —the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1924 was

74 boys and 41 girls, as compared with 79 boys and 49 girls in 1923. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

There is an Island Scholarship awarded biennially under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

The first Island Scholar to be appointed, Mr. P. E. McI. Clarke, left the Colony in September, 1923, to study medicine at King's College, London. Satisfactory reports have been received as to his progress in his studies.

A second scholar, Mr. A. B. Brereton, was appointed in 1924, and will shortly leave to take up his medical studies at Edinburgh University.

Provision exists for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—Hospitals.

The following hospital accommodation is provided :—Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 86 beds (including 4 beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, 4 beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, 4 beds.

IX.—Banks.

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	*Number of depositors at 31st December.*	*Amount of Deposits.*	*Amount of withdrawals.*	*Balance to credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalized.*
		£	£	£
1923 ...	776	2,528	4,177	13,535
1924 ...	732	2,598	2,548	13,954

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £369.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st December, 1924, amounted to £12,849. Interest at 3 per cent. is paid on deposits.

COLONIAL BANK.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank, with headquarters in England, with a paid-up capital of £900,000. There is also a savings bank department attached to the branch.

X.—Communications.

EXTERNAL.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana. The Harrison, the Canadian Merchant Marine, and the Columbian Lines of steamers also call at uncertain intervals with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States.

INTERNAL.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money-order and parcels business (including the cash on delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with seventeen district offices. Mails are sent to the Windward side of the Island by motor-car, by motor-boat to the Leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintained their station at St. Vincent, and furnished daily news bulletins throughout the year. The subsidy of £300 per annum to the Company ceased on the 30th September on the expiry of the contract with them.

The erection of the wireless station for the new telegraph system authorized by the West Indian Islands (Telegraph) Act, 1924, of the Imperial Parliament had not been started at the close of the year.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 189 services and 197 miles of line in use.

R. WALTER,

Administrator.

Government House,

St. Vincent.

22*nd August*, 1925.

COLONIAL OFFICE ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes for the Colonial Office the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40*s*. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1923–24, No. 1252 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
BAHAMAS, 1924, No. 1241 .. .. 6*d*.
BARBADOS, 1923–24, No. 1225 .. .. 1*s*.
BASUTOLAND, 1924, No. 1244 .. .. 9*d*.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1923–24, No. 1210 .. .. 9*d*.
BERMUDA, 1923, No. 1247 .. .. 6*d*.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1923, No. 1222 .. 9*d*.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1923, No. 1215 9*d*.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1922–23, No. 1189 .. 3*d*.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1924, No. 1250 .. 1*s*.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1924, No. 1262 .. .. 6*d*.
CEYLON, 1923, No. 1243 .. .. .. 5*s*.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT for the period April 1st, 1914, to March 31st, 1923, No. 1230 .. .. 2*s*. 6*d*.
CYPRUS, 1924, No. 1253 .. .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1923, No. 1242 9*d*.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1924, No. 1256 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
FIJI, 1924, No. 1259 .. .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
GAMBIA, 1924, No. 1249 .. .. .. 6*d*.
GIBRALTAR, 1924, No. 1266 .. .. 6*d*.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1246 .. .. 6*d*.
GOLD COAST, 1923–24, No. 1255 .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1923–24, No. 1229 .. .. 9*d*.
GRENADA, 1924, No. 1263 .. .. 6*d*.
HONGKONG, 1923, No. 1228 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
JAMAICA, 1923, No. 1218 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1923, No. 1227 .. .. 1*s*.
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1232 1*s*.
MAURITIUS, 1923, No. 1234 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
NEW HEBRIDES, 1923, No. 1216 .. 6*d*.
NIGERIA, 1924, No. 1245 .. .. .. 1*s*.
NYASALAND, 1924, No. 1257 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. HELENA, 1924, No. 1251 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. LUCIA, 1923, No. 1240 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. VINCENT, 1923, No. 1223 .. .. 6*d*.
SEYCHELLES, 1923, No. 1236 .. .. 6*d*.
SIERRA LEONE, 1923, No. 1219 .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
SOMALILAND, 1923, No. 1226 .. .. 6*d*.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1924, No. 1264 .. .. 2*s*.
SWAZILAND, 1924, No. 1261 .. .. 6*d*.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1923–24, No. 1237 .. .. 3*d*.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1924, No. 1260 1*s*. 6*d*.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1924, No. 1258 .. .. 6*d*.
UGANDA, 1923, No. 1220 .. .. .. 6*d*.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1924, No. 1265 .. .. 6*s*.
WEI HAI WEI, 1924, No. 1248 .. .. 6*d*.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1254 .. .. 6*d*.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1924 (Colonial, No. 16) .. .. 2*s*. 9*d*.
IRAQ, April 1923–Dec. 1924 (Colonial, No. 13) .. .. 7*s*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1924 (Colonial, No. 12) .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1924. Appendices to the Report (Colonial No. 17) .. .. 1*s*.
TANGANYIKA, 1924 (Colonial, No. 11) .. .. 3*s*.
TOGOLAND, 1924 (Colonial, No. 14) .. .. 3*s*.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920–25 (Colonial No. 15) .. 2*s*.

All prices are net. Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1268.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1924.

For Reports for 1922 and 1923 see Nos. 1169 and 1240 (Price 6d. each).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1925.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1268.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1924.

Situation and Area.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 50′ North and longitude 60° 58′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 24 miles in length and 12 at its greatest breadth; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233·29 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the Island and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The Port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufrière, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufrière Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 ft. in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 ft. in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufrière gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a half miles south-east of that town.

History.

It is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Columbus, during his fourth voyage, on the 15th June, 1502. There is, however, a tradition amongst the French that it was discovered on the 13th December of a later year by some ship-wrecked French seamen who named it St. Alouziel or St. Alousie after the martyred virgin saint of that name, whose feast is commemorated on that date.

The Island was then inhabited by the Caribs and they remained in undisturbed possession for another century.

In 1605, sixty-seven persons proceeding to Guiana by the English ship "Olive Blossom" were forced by famine to land in the Island and they remained "to take their fortune in the fruitful isle." They were not able to stay longer than a month, however, when, reduced to nineteen by wars with the Caribs, they left in an open boat and reached the mainland of South America in sore distress. This is the first recorded instance of a landing by Englishmen in the Island.

In 1626 a Commission was granted by Cardinal Richelieu to MM. d'Enambuc and du Rossay to establish a French Colony "in the islands of St. Christopher and Barbados and in the surrounding territories," which presumably included St. Lucia, and in 1627 the Island was granted by the King of England, along with all the Caribbee Islands, to the Earl of Carlisle, who appointed Lord Willoughby of Parham to be Governor of Barbados and the other Caribbee Islands. In 1635 it appears to have been granted by the King of France to MM. de l'Olive and Duplessis.

In 1638 Captain Judlee of St. Kitts (acting in the name of Lord Willoughby) and three or four hundred men took possession of the Island and attempted to effect a settlement in it, but in 1640 these early colonists were massacred and expelled by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the Island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who sold it in 1650 to MM. Honel and du Parquet for the equivalent of £1,600. The Caribs made repeated attempts to expel the French but failed and finally in 1660 they concluded a treaty of peace with the latter.

In 1663, Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia and took possession of it. The English continued in occupation until the Peace of Breda in 1667 when the Island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France and made a dependency of Martinique.

Throughout the eighteenth century recurrent struggles took place between the English and the French for possession of the Island, the more important occurring in the latter half of the century. In 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monkton but was returned to France by the treaty of Paris in the following year. In 1778 it again surrendered to the British, who remained in occupation until 1783 when, by the Peace of Versailles, St. Lucia was once more restored to France. It was from Pigeon Island, off the north-western coast of St. Lucia, during the period of this occupancy, that Rodney sighted the French fleet of 36 sail of the line under the Comte de Grasse prior to giving them battle and defeating them in the memorable naval action of the 12th April, 1782.

(19703) Wt. 13701/1043 500 10/25 Harrow G 94/29

The Island was again taken by the British in 1794 but they were forced by the French Republican party in the Island, aided by insurgent slaves under " Citoyen " Victor Hughes, the Civil Commissary of Guadeloupe, to evacuate it in the following year. In 1796, after an obstinate and sanguinary struggle, that party laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war to a force 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie supported by a squadron under the command of Sir Hugh Christian. Sir John Moore, the subsequent hero of Corunna, took part in this operation as Brigadier-General Moore, and remained in the Island as Governor thereafter. The British retained possession of the Island until 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on the 22nd June, 1803, since which it has continued under British rule. As a result of the operations of 1778, 1796 and 1803 no fewer than thirteen British regiments have " St. Lucia " inscribed on their colours.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands. The temperature varies between 70° in the cool season, from December to May, to 90° in the remainder of the year. On Morne Fortuné, just above Government House, where a portion of the former garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60° and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

The temperature records during 1924 show a mean noon temperature of 84·50° in the shade and a mean night temperature of 72°, the range of temperature being 27° (92°–65°). The rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year was 82·88 inches, being 2·25 inches above the average for 25 years. The mean barometric pressure was 29·66.

General Observations.

Trade conditions during the year remained depressed. The price of cocoa, one of the principal products, was at such a low figure as to cause many peasant proprietors tc abandon their cultivations. Increased yields were, however, obtained from improved methods of cultivating sugar-cane, and the exports of molasses and syrup rose considerably. Large areas of coconuts are coming into bearing and cultivation is now well established. The banana industry made further progress and should be of considerable benefit to the Colony. The bay rum industry continues to progress and " St. Lucia Bay Rum " now has the active patronage of the well-known firm of Harrods. An oil mill has been started in Castries and coconut oil of excellent quality has been produced. While the value of bunker coal exported

during the year exceeded the value in the previous year, the trade has not recovered to any appreciable extent, but it is hoped that improvement will take place in the future although it is not likely that the coaling industry will regain its pre-war premier position.

St. Lucia is essentially an agricultural Colony and it is to agriculture that it must look in the future to a greater extent than has been the case in the past. Happily this is being done, and more attention paid to improved methods of cultivation and selection of crop plants. Attention is being given to the improvement of the roads and at present there are 126 miles suitable for motor traffic a large portion of which passes through varied and magnificent scenery.

A comfortable hotel has been established and by judicious advertising there is no reason why the Colony should not become a winter resort for visitors from Europe and North America.

During the year, four British, one French and three United States warships, and one United States flying boat visited Port Castries. Through the courtesy of Commodore Gherardi, U.S.N., in placing the Flying Boat P.N.7 at his disposal the Officer then Administering the Government, Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., was able to visit the three islands of the Windward Group in one day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., being sworn in as Acting Governor at Grenada and St. Vincent and spending 4½ hours on shore in those islands.

On the 18th June the Vigie Dry Dock was brought into use for the first time when the coastal motor launch "**Hewanorra**" was docked.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., arrived in the Colony on H.M.S. "Valerian" on the 3rd October, and subscribed to the oaths as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

On the 1st December the new Letters Patent and the Proclamation bringing them into force were read in the Royal Court House before a large and representative assemblage.

On the same day the Pacific Cable Board took over the wireless station on the Morne from the local Government and commenced their service in the Colony.

The new Public Library was opened that afternoon. The building is situated on Columbus Square and was generously provided by the Carnegie Trustees at a cost of £2,500 and erected by Mr. L. E. Lawrence according to plans prepared by him. It is an attractive and substantial building.

Vital Statistics and Public Health.

The estimated population at 31st December, 1924, was 54,304.

The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 35·7 per 1,000 of the total population, and the death-rate (excluding still-births) 21·4 per 1,000 of the population—1·1 per 1,000 less than in 1923. The infant mortality rate for 1924 was 132·5 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 134·5 in 1923, the primary cause of death being intestinal diseases due to worms and improper feeding.

The principal causes of death in order of frequency were as follows :—

	No. of deaths.
Intestinal parasites	116
Senile decay	96
Malaria	86
Tuberculosis	75
Pneumonia	61
Syphilis	55
Infant debility	34

The year was a comparatively healthy one, no epidemic having occurred.

The intensive treatment of Hookworm disease was continued by the Rockefeller International Health Board during the year.

Hospitals and Asylums.

The following hospital accommodation is provided :—

Victoria Hospital	116 beds.
Soufriére Casualty Hospital	8 ,,
Vieuxfort Casualty Hospital	8 ,,
Dennery Casualty Hospital	7 ,,
Pauper Asylum (for infirm and incurable patients)	98 ,,
Leper Asylum	30 ,,
Lunatic Asylum	100 ,,

Finance.

The revenue for the year 1924 amounted to £71,595 and the expenditure to £88,186, the result being a deficit on the year's transactions of £16,591. The corresponding figures for the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.* £	*Expenditure.* £	*Surplus.* £	*Deficit.* £
1920 ...	98,139	93,160	4,979	—
1921 ...	72,226	101,148	—	28,922
1922 ...	63,409	89,241	—	25,832
1923 ...	77,077	88,972	—	11,895
1924 ...	71,595	88,186	—	16,591

The annual deficits shown above have exhausted the Colony's surplus, which at the end of March, 1914, stood at £25,567, and there was at the 31st December, 1924, a deficit of £70,662.

The Public Debt of the Colony stood at £143,529, against which there is an accumulated Sinking Fund of £47,720.

Currency and Banking.

British currency and United States gold are legal tender. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government and by the public; the coin in circulation is almost exclusively British silver and bronze and there is no limit to silver as legal tender.

In 1920 an Ordinance was brought into force providing for the issue of Government currency notes of the value of five shillings and ten shillings. The total value of such notes in circulation at the 31st December, 1924, amounted to £6,549.

The Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada are established in the Colony. Both banks conduct a savings bank department in addition to the ordinary banking business. The notes of both banks, with Government currency notes and British silver and bronze coin, form the principal medium of monetary exchange.

The number of depositors in the Government Savings Bank at the end of the year was 716, and the amount to credit £13,721, showing a steady decline since the establishment by the two local banks of a savings bank department. The corresponding figures for 1920 were 1,322 depositors with a credit balance of £19,476. The rate of interest is 3 per cent., which is the same as that of the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports (including bunker coal) was £234,647, and of exports (including bunker coal) £233,965. The value of bunker coal imported was £31,721 as compared with £51,570 in 1923, while the exports totalled £51,042 as compared with £50,762 in the previous year.

Imports from the United Kingdom totalled £55,920, and from other parts of the British Empire £65,101, while the total from foreign countries was £105,370; parcels post being responsible for the remaining £8,256.

Of the imports from foreign countries those from the United States of America show a value of £92,009, of which the principal items were bunker coal £31,721 and cinema films £12,550.

Of British countries, Canada shows a total of £41,472, and it is satisfactory to observe that the bulk of the trade hitherto done with the United States of America is now going to Canada.

Of the total exports, commodities valued at £103,473 went to the United Kingdom, £50,658 to other parts of the British

Empire, and £28,051 to foreign countries, while the exports of bunker coal totalled £51,042. Ships' stores with the decline in the shipping trade amounted to £741 only.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 992 of a total tonnage of 966,113 tons. Of this total 440 were steam vessels and 552 sailing.

The following summary of ships entered and cleared is given :

	Number.	*Tonnage.*
British steamers entered	148	360,090
British steamers cleared	148	360,090
British sailing vessels entered ...	270	8,981
British sailing vessels cleared ...	268	9,010
Total British ...	834	738,171
Foreign steamers entered	72	113,738
Foreign steamers cleared	72	113,738
Foreign sailing vessels entered ...	7	233
Foreign sailing vessels cleared ...	7	233
Total foreign ...	158	227,942
Total number and tons	992	966,113

Agriculture.

The staple agricultural products are sugar with its by-products molasses, syrup and rum; cocoa, logwood, coconuts, limes, bay oil, bay rum, and fruit.

There are four well-equipped central sugar factories and a number of small sugar mills. 71,760 cwt. of vacuum pan sugar were exported and 9,940 cwt. of muscovado. The export of molasses and syrup is on the increase and the quantity exported in 1924 exceeded that in the three previous years. Owing to low prices the export of cocoa fell off. The export of bay rum increased from 8,057 gallons in 1923 to 13,230 gallons in 1924, and promises well for the future. The cultivation of bananas has been extended and is progressing favourably.

Crown Lands.

The Crown owns a considerable area of land, which may be purchased at a nominal rate of £1 per acre up to 50 acres and 10*s*. per acre above 50 acres, payable in four equal annual instalments. During the year, 1,605 allotments of 100 acres and under were made, of which 1,208 were for areas under 10 acres. One allotment of over 1,000 acres was made.

Legislation.

Nineteen Ordinances were passed during the year, the most important being :—

No. 1.—Fixing the conditions under which natives of this Colony and other British West Indians may be engaged by foreign ships.

No. 4.—Amending the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1921, in respect of the fees payable for licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

No. 8.—The Income Tax Ordinance, imposing a tax on incomes and regulating the collection thereof on the lines of a model Ordinance recommended by an Inter-departmental Committee and approved by the Secretary of State.

No. 13.—Regulating the payment of wages to daily labourers.

No. 19.—Providing for the registration in the Colony of Letters Patent granted in the United Kingdom.

Education.

There were 49 primary schools at the end of the year, viz. : 21 juvenile, 24 infant and 4 combined.

The number of pupils on the roll was 7,611 and the average attendance 5,143, an increase of 315 and 306 respectively over 1923.

The actual expenditure on primary education during the year was £4,630, and the total cost per unit of average attendance £1 3*s*. 11*d*.

Secondary education is provided by St. Mary's College for boys and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls. The numbers on the roll at the end of the year were 97 and 135 respectively and the average attendance 92 and 100. St. Mary's College receives a Government grant of £400 per annum and St. Joseph's Convent School £175 per annum. Both schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations and the London University Matriculation Examination.

There is an external annual scholarship of the value of £175 per annum awarded on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination to candidates having the necessary requisite local and residential qualifications. The scholarship is tenable for not less than three and not more than five years according to the course of study sanctioned.

Communications.

The roads of the Colony are in fair condition but owing to financial depression progress in improvement is slow. There are now maintained by the Government 125 miles of main roads, 140 miles of byways, and 74 miles of unclassified roads. 126 miles are suitable for motor traffic.

Motor-bus services are maintained between Castries and Dennery and between Vieuxfort and Soufriére.

A 50-ton motor launch plies between Castries and Vieuxfort calling at the villages of Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, Choiseul and Laborie and the town of Soufriére, taking passengers and cargo.

There are nine telephone exchanges connected by 94 miles of trunk lines, with 213 subscribers over 303 miles of wire.

External communication is maintained by a regular fortnightly steamer service to and from Canada and the other West Indian islands, and by a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique. There are also frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and the United States of America, and direct to Europe. The steamers of Messrs. Furness, Withy & Co., call regularly on their way from and to New York via the northern islands.

Telegraphic communication was maintained throughout the year by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Ltd., and on 1st December, 1924, the Pacific Cable Board took over from the Government the wireless station on the Morne, thereby commencing their service in this Colony. On the same date the Government subsidy to the West India and Panama Company ceased.

G. D. MACKIE,
Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,

20th August, 1925.

COLONIAL OFFICE ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes for the Colonial Office the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40*s*. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1923–24, No. 1252 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
BAHAMAS, 1924, No. 1241 .. .. 6*d*.
BARBADOS, 1923–24, No. 1225 .. .. 1*s*.
BASUTOLAND, 1924, No. 1244 .. .. 9*d*.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1923–24, No. 1210 .. .. 9*d*.
BERMUDA, 1923, No. 1247 .. .. 6*d*.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1923, No. 1222 .. 9*d*.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1923, No. 1215. 9*d*.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1922–23, No. 1189 .. 3*d*.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1924, No. 1250 .. 1*s*.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1924, No. 1262 .. .. 6*d*.
CEYLON, 1923, No. 1243 .. .. .. 5*s*.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT for the period April 1st 1914, to March 31st, 1923, No. 1230 .. .. 2*s*. 6*d*.
CYPRUS, 1924, No. 1253 .. .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1923, No. 1242. 9*d*.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1924, No. 1256 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
FIJI, 1924, No. 1259 .. .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
GAMBIA, 1924, No. 1249 .. .. .. 6*d*.
GIBRALTAR, 1924, No. 1266 .. .. 6*d*.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1246 .. .. 6*d*.
GOLD COAST, 1923–24, No. 1255 .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1923–24, No. 1229 .. .. 9*d*.
GRENADA, 1924, No. 1263 .. .. 6*d*.
HONG KONG, 1923, No. 1228 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
JAMAICA, 1923, No. 1218 .. .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1923, No. 1227 .. .. 1*s*.
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1232 1*s*.
MAURITIUS, 1923, No. 1234 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
NEW HEBRIDES, 1923, No. 1216 .. 6*d*.
NIGERIA, 1924, No. 1245 .. .. .. 1*s*.
NYASALAND, 1924, No. 1257 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. HELENA, 1924, No. 1251 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. LUCIA, 1923, No. 1240 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. VINCENT, 1923, No. 1223 .. .. 6*d*.
SEYCHELLES, 1923, No. 1236 .. .. 6*d*.
SIERRA LEONE, 1923, No. 1219 .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
SOMALILAND, 1923, No. 1226 .. .. 6*d*.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1924, No. 1264 .. .. 2*s*.
SWAZILAND, 1921, No. 1261 .. .. 6*d*.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1923–24, No. 1237 .. .. 3*d*.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1924, No. 1260. 1*s*. 6*d*.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1924, No. 1258 .. .. 6*d*.
UGANDA, 1923, No. 1220 .. .. .. 6*d*.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1924, No. 1265 .. .. 6*s*.
WEI-HAI-WEI, 1924, No. 1248 .. .. 6*d*.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1254 .. .. 6*d*.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1924 (Colonial, No. 16) .. .. 2*s*. 9*d*.
IRAQ, April 1923–Dec. 1924 (Colonial, No. 13) .. .. 7*s*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1924 (Colonial, No. 12) .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1924. Appendices to the Report (Colonial, No. 17) .. .. 1*s*.
TANGANYIKA, 1924 (Colonial, No. 11) .. .. 3*s*.
TOGOLAND, 1924 (Colonial, No. 14) .. .. 3*s*.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920–25 (Colonial, No. 15) 2*s*.

All prices are net. Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

10 · 2 2 · 2 6

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1303

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1925.

For Reports for 1923 and 1924 see Nos. 1223 and 1267 (Price 6d each).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1926.

Price 6d. net.

No. 1303.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1925.

I.—Geographical and Historical.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of nine miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the Island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the Island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the Island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—General Observations.

It is once more a pleasant duty to record a very prosperous year in the history of the Colony. The Revenue rose to £62,450, exceeding the highest previously recorded—that for 1924—by £1,557. As in 1924, the Revenue reflected a continual improvement in trade as shown by the Customs returns, the total trade for the year amounting to £444,339 as against £310,890 in 1924. The yield from Income Tax, £4,504, showed an increase of over £500 on the previous year, while the Excise duty on rum showed an increase of nearly £3,000 on that for 1924.

The net surplus as on 31st December, 1925, amounted to £20,548, and in addition to this, the Colony possesses a Reserve Fund of £11,000 now fully invested in good liquid securities, while the Public Debt of the Colony only amounts to £10,290 with sinking fund invested to the extent of £5,250.

Such a financial position may assuredly be regarded as extremely satisfactory.

The Expenditure for the year amounted to £53,190, being £697 less than the Expenditure of the previous year.

It is perhaps hardly necessary to reiterate that this Colony, like most of the West Indian Islands, depends entirely for its prosperity upon Agriculture, and in this connection it is interesting to note that the acreage under cotton for the 1925–26 season showed a marked increase of 1,784 acres as against the acreage for the 1924–25 season.

For 1924–25, 3,294 acres were planted with Sea Island cotton, and 1,269 acres with Marie Galante, while for 1925–26, 4,989 acres were planted with Sea Island, and 1,359 with Marie Galante. The number of peasant cultivators of Sea Island cotton increased by 900, a most satisfactory state of affairs. The total amount of lint produced during the season under review was 585,483 lb., a figure which has only once been exceeded, i.e., in 1920–21. The return per acre for the season works out at 119·7 lb., which is well up to the average yield of the last ten years, though below the yield for the last three years. The damage done by the dread pink bollworm showed no increase on that done in the past seasons, and in fact the infestation on the leeward side of the Island was actually less than in the previous season. This points to good work on the part of the Agricultural Superintendent and his staff, and another reason may be that planters on the leeward side clean up their fields more carefully than planters in other parts of the Island.

A total of 473,219 lb. of Sea Island cotton was exported in 1925, value £57,655, as against 520,369 lb. value £50,218 in 1924.

(23623) Wt. 10327/667 500 9/26 Harrow G.94

As regards arrowroot, 3,190,412 lb. were exported, the value as given in the Customs return being £125,078, as against 2,952,535 lb. in 1924 of a value of £51,361. There is some danger of the British market being overstocked with this most valuable foodstuff. The British public require further education as to its inherent excellence both as an article of food and for medicinal purposes.

268,118 gallons of syrup, of the value of £19,672, were exported as against 261,127 gallons, of the value of £15,758, in 1924.

The export of copra showed a very slight increase on that for 1924, but there is little doubt that increasing attention is being given to coconut cultivation. In 1918, 7,104 lb. of a value of £189 were exported, while in 1925, 661,309 lb. of the value of £5,512 were exported.

The Colony again participated in the Wembley Exhibition, with perhaps even more successful results than in 1924, and the thanks of the Colony are again due to their London representative, Mr. Ernest Brown, and the local Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice Rae, and also to the Agricultural Superintendent, Mr. T. P. Jackson, on whose shoulders devolved the principal executive burden in the Colony.

The general health of the Island throughout the year was good.

The total population at 31st December was estimated to be 48,182. The birth-rate for the year was 43·13 per thousand as against 37·72 per thousand in 1924, while the death-rate was 18·18 per thousand as against the very low rate of 16·49 in 1924.

Fifty-six cases of enteric fever, with fifteen deaths, occurred. The disease is practically endemic in certain districts on the windward side, and the heavy mortality is largely due to the fact that cases are not collected or notified very often till some weeks have elapsed, and the patient's chances of recovery are reduced to a minimum through the negligence or ignorance of their relatives.

There were 1,620 cases of infantile diarrhœa, with 72 deaths. Infantile mortality showed an increase on that of 1924; the deaths of children under one year numbering 212 as against 169 in 1924, while the mortality rates per thousand births were 115 as against 99.

It is remarkable that illegitimate births amounted to 73 per cent. of the total number of all births and that out of 105 still-births 89 were illegitimate.

The trained midwives scattered throughout the Island continue to do useful work in visiting the homes of the poor, giving advice, etc.

The campaign against yaws was continued with success, some 1,642 cases being discharged as clinically cured.

The year was marked by the establishment of an Eye Clinic at the Colonial Hospital, run by Dr. D. DeC. Boxill of Barbados. Dr. Boxill and the Colonial Surgeon, Dr. Stanley Branch, deserve the fullest credit for the complete success of this most important work, which has merited the praise of the Secretary of State.

Considerable attention was paid to sanitation, and new latrines were erected in some of the schools, while the drainage of Spring Village, commenced in 1924, was completed, and a survey for preparation of plans and scheme for sewerage system at the Colonial Hospital was put in hand. Considerable improvements were also effected in the Maternity Ward at the Colonial Hospital, which does a most valuable work and may now justly claim to be one of the best of its kind in these Islands.

The principal event of the year, politically, was the opening of the new Legislative Council in May, when an address of loyalty to His Majesty the King was unanimously passed. The Council as now constituted represents the inauguration of the new constitution in accordance with the Royal Order in Council of 21st March, 1924. Elections were held in the various electoral districts but no contests took place, all candidates being returned unopposed. The result was that the new Council consists of practically the same Unofficial Members as the old nominated Council. The absence of any contested elections indicates that the mass of voters were either quite satisfied with the performances of the old nominated Council or too apathetic to bother themselves to trouble to find better representatives!

In this connection it is sad to have to record the death of the Honourable J. E. Sprott, the Senior Unofficial Member of the old Council. He had been nominated by the Government as Nominated Member of the new Council, but he died before he could take his seat under the new constitution. As Editor of the principal local newspaper *The Sentry* he had shown marked political moderation, and as Chairman of the Kingstown Board he had always taken the greatest interest in everything concerning the welfare of the Municipality.

Another important event was the establishment of the new wireless station, operated by the Pacific Cable Board in accordance with the West Indian Islands (Telegraph) Act, 1924, of the Imperial Parliament. The wireless station commenced operations on 1st March, 1925. A site on private land had been acquired by the Government; no site on Crown lands being available that would satisfy the experts who visited the Islands. The site chosen consists of some 3¼ acres at Cane Garden Point, a mile out of Kingstown. The station was erected by the Radio

Communication Company. Much correspondence took place between the owners of the site and the Government before a satisfactory arrangement could be reached as to the price to be paid. Eventually the matter was settled by arbitration on a basis of about £120 per acre. The station has worked very well with a radius of 500 miles.

On Armistice Day, 11th November, 1925, the War Memorial erected by the Government and people of St. Vincent in memory of the St. Vincent men who fell in the Great War was unveiled with suitable ceremonial and solemnity and impressive speeches were delivered in the presence of a vast throng. The Memorial, the total cost of which was £625, consists of a Cornish granite monument surmounted by the bronze figure of a soldier and is simple, dignified and in thorough harmony with its surroundings. A site in the very centre of Kingstown was provided by the Kingstown Board, who will in future be responsible for the safeguarding of this interesting and beautiful Memorial.

A new school was built on Dorsetshire Hill to replace the school blown down by the hurricane of 1898. This school supplies the needs of a wide district, consisting largely of white Barbadians, and it has already more than justified its existence.

Another important and useful public work carried out during the year was the completion of a causeway over the Layou River on the Leeward Highway, a diversion through the Rutland Vale Estate being made to improve the alignment of the road.

Reconstruction work was continued on the Windward Highway, about 1·40 miles being macadamized, and culverts, aprons, etc., provided. The average cost per mile of actual road work in this section was £205. In previous years, the cost of this reconstruction work has been met from loan funds, but owing to the financial position this was not necessary in 1925 and the cost of the work was defrayed from surplus funds.

Very considerable progress was made with telephone reconstruction on the windward side under the direction of Mr. H. Drummond, Supervisor of Telephones, Grenada, and it is hoped that similar improvements will be completed on the leeward side before the present year elapses. A good telephone system is a vital necessity for the economic development of the Island.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., paid a short visit to the Island in December.

Various new appointments were made during the year. Dr. G. H. Steven, Colonial Surgeon, was promoted to British Guiana, and the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Dr. Stanley Branch.

The post of Colonial Engineer was abolished when Major Hampton left the Colony at the conclusion of his three years'

engagement, and the title of the post was altered to Superintendent of Works, Mr. W. E. Dolly, Assistant Superintendent of Works of Grenada, being appointed to the new post.

A new Resident Surgeon, Dr. Slinger, arrived during the year vice Dr. Simpson resigned, and a new Inspector of Schools, Mr. J. E. Blackman, was appointed to take the place of Mr. R. A. N. James resigned.

A Sub-Inspector of Police, Lieutenant G. E. E. Williams, was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sergeant-Major B. deC. Reid.

III.—Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet season from June to December. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 76·5° F. to 81·6° F. The highest was in September, and the lowest in February. Meteorological records for 1925 show that the mean monthly temperature was 79·5° F. as against 80·2° F. in 1924.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea-level, was 90·98 in. as compared with 85·07 in. in 1924. Rain fell on 295 days and the greatest fall for one day was 3·55 on the 15th November.

The rainfall at the Botanic Gardens, only a mile away from the Experimental Station, but some 200 feet higher up, was 87·45 in. The average at these gardens for the last 32 years was 102·12 in., so that the rainfall during 1925 was 14·67 in. below the average.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30·196 in. on the 26th January to 29·904 in. on the 13th and 30th October.

IV.—Financial.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1925, was :—

	£
Net Surplus at 1st January, 1925	11,288
Revenue in 1925	62,450
	73,738
Expenditure in 1925	53,190
Net Surplus at 31st December, 1925 ...	£20,548

The net local revenue and expenditure in the last three years were :—

	Local Revenue.	*Expenditure against Local Revenue.*
	£	£
1923	52,031	47,883
1924	60,893	53,887
1925	62,450	53,190

The principal items of revenue in the last three years were :—

	1923	*1924*	*1925*
	£	£	£
Import Duties... ...	19,499	25,8[illegible]	26,379
Export Duties	3,073	3[illegible]	2,982
Excise Duty on Rum...	5,430	[illegible]8	5,816
Land and House Tax...	5,892	5,882	6,337
Income Tax	2,044	3,947	4,504
Liquor Trade Duty ...	2,470	2,934	2,736
Postage Stamps ...	1,588	2,334	1,732

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up from donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902–3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to the general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor. This amount, together with the Colony's Reserve Fund of £11,000, offers excellent security both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt at 31st December, 1925, was £10,290, of which £1,390 is a loan raised by the town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £5,251 on the 31st December, 1925, of which £4,389 was in respect of Government loans, and £862 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

CURRENCY.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—Vital Statistics.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447 according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1925, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 48,182 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths and marriages in the past two years :—

	1924	*1925*
Births	1,795	1,946
Males	936	1,005
Females	859	941
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ...	37·72	43·13
Deaths	785	876
Death-rate per 1,000	16·49	18·18
Marriages	114	136
Marriage rate per 1,000 ...	2·39	2·82

Illegitimate births numbered 1,425, or 73·2 per cent. of the total number of all births.

Still-births were 105, of which 89 were illegitimate.

VI.—Annual Progress of Trade, Agriculture and Industries.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total values of imports and exports in 1924 and 1925 were :—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £	*Total Trade.* £
1924	160,028	150,862	310,890
1925	211,907	232,432	444,339

Produce of the Colony to the value of £229,941 was exported in 1925, as against £150,811 in 1924.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1924 £	*1925* £
United Kingdom	51,834	75,914
Canada	40,686	46,108
British West Indies... ...	12,641	15,180
India	869	646
Newfoundland	3,142	2,851
Other British Colonies ...	6,125	7,271
United States of America ...	33,983	46,302
France	1,264	1,736
Denmark	543	790
Holland	553	706
Foreign West Indies... ...	69	669
Germany	1,335	1,505
Other countries	6,984	3,547
Unclassified, including Parcel Post	—	8,682
	£160,028	£211,907

The increases in the values of imports and exports were due to the general improvement in trade and in increases in values and quantities exported, the latter being particularly applicable to the exports of arrowroot and cotton.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1924	*1925*
United Kingdom...	32·39	35·82
United States of America ...	21·24	21·85
Canada	25·42	21·76
All other countries	20·95	20·57

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, drink and tobacco...	68,717
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	114,777
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	19,547
Miscellaneous and unclassified	8,866
	£211,907

EXPORTS.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1924 and 1925 were as follows :—

	1924	*1925*
	£	£
United Kingdom	84,501	167,116
Canada	18,368	19,149
British West Indies	39,121	27,744
British Guiana	1,101	1,306
United States of America ...	6,931	14,136
Other countries	789	490
	£150,811	£229,941

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1924	*1925*
	£	£
Arrowroot	51,361	125,078
Cotton :—		
Sea Island	50,218	57,655
Marie Galante	58	464
Seed Cotton, Marie Galante	534	1,047
Cocoa	1,820	2,345

	1924	1925
Sugar :—	£	£
Crystallised	280	—
Syrup and Molasses ...	15,758	19,672
Cassava Starch	6,838	4,160
Copra	5,430	5,512
Peanuts	4,439	3,794
Animals	2,559	3,986
Cotton Seed	2,216	53
Cotton-seed Oil	467	1
Whale Oil	476	38
Vegetables, fresh	2,550	2,581
Peas	984	866
Corn	752	627

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

The Government Cotton Ginnery continued to buy seed cotton on profit-sharing terms, but confined its activities to Sea Island cotton only, as was the case in 1924.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1923–24 and 1924–25 :—

	1923–24	1924–25
	lb.	lb.
Sea Island seed cotton ...	123,330	71,945

Corn was purchased on the co-operative system to the following extent during the season 1924–25 :—

	lb.
Shelled corn	59,603
Cob corn	32,676

Cotton.—The 1925–26 cotton season was very successful despite the pink bollworm and other pests. The total area planted was 6,348 acres—4,989 acres of Sea Island and 1,359 acres of Marie Galante, as compared with 4,563 acres—3,294 acres of Sea Island and 1,269 acres of Marie Galante, in the previous season. The yield from Sea Island cotton during the season under review was at the rate of 120 lb. of lint per acre; for the 1924–25 season it was 136 lb. per acre; and for the 1923–24 season 140 lb. per acre.

Cotton seed is used extensively as a fertiliser.

Sea Island cotton amounting to 473,219 lb., of the value of £57,655, was exported during the year, as against 520,369 lb., of the value of £50,218, in 1924.

The export of Marie Galante was 9,673 lb., value £464, as against 1,540 lb., value £58, in 1924.

Marie Galante seed cotton to the amount of 100,468 lb., value £1,047, was exported in 1925, as against 32,030 lb., value £534, in 1924.

Syrup and Molasses.—268,118 gallons, of the value of £19,672, were exported in 1925, as against 261,127 gallons, of the value of £15,758, in the previous year.

Rum.—26,797 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing an increase of 11,412 proof gallons on the previous year. Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 1,206 proof gallons, as compared with 14,706 proof gallons in 1924.

Arrowroot.—There was no fixing of prices in the London market by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association during the year 1925. The position as regards this commodity remained satisfactory, the market price being about 4d. per pound. 3,190,412 lb., of the value of £125,078, were exported, as compared with 2,952,535 lb., of the value of £51,361, in 1924.

Peanuts.—273,039 lb., value £3,794 were exported, as against 322,153 lb., value £4,439, in 1924.

Copra.—The exports of copra have increased very considerably during the last few years.

In 1920,	22,644 lb.	were	exported.
,, 1921,	89,005 ,,	,,	,,
,, 1922,	222,593 ,,	,,	,,
,, 1923,	356,626 ,,	,,	,,
,, 1924,	645,973 ,,	,,	,,
,, 1925,	661,309 ,,	,,	,,

It is estimated that if nothing untoward occurs for the next few years the area of the Island in bearing coconut trees will be increased annually by at least 200 acres. Only a small number of coconuts was exported.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the Colony; several Societies are however not functioning. The amount of money loaned in 1925 was £1,460, as compared with £1,381 in 1924. A few Societies failed to repay in 1925 debts contracted in earlier years. All loans contracted in 1924 were repaid in 1925.

SHIPPING.

The number of vessels entered was 363, of 212,778 tons: and 358 of 205,996 tons cleared. One vessel of nine tons was registered during the year.

VII.—Education.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1924 and 1925:—

	1924	*1925*
Number of schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	4,945	4,884
Average attendance	2,639	2,648
Government Grant-in-aid ...	£2,794	£2,939
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 1*s*. 2*d*.	£1 2*s*. 2*d*.

Nine of the twenty-seven regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other eighteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were eight other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £112.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School, and one for girls —the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1925 was 74 boys and 43 girls, as compared with 74 boys and 41 girls in 1924. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

There is an Island Scholarship awarded biennially under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

The first Island Scholar to be appointed, Mr. P. E. McI. Clarke, left the Colony in September, 1923, to study medicine at King's College, London. Satisfactory reports have been received as to his progress in his studies.

A second scholar, Mr. A. B. Brereton, was appointed in 1924 and left during the year under review to take up his medical studies at Edinburgh University.

Provision exists for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—Hospitals.

The following hospital accommodation is provided :—Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 86 beds (including 4 beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, 4 beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, 4 beds.

IX.—Banks.

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	*Number of depositors at 31st December.*	*Amount of Deposits.*	*Amount of withdrawals.*	*Balance to credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalized.*
		£	£	£
1924 ...	732	2,598	2,548	13,954
1925 ...	737	2,968	2,665	14,642

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £385.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st December, 1925, amounted to £12,849. Interest at 3 per cent. is paid on deposits.

BARCLAY'S BANK (DOMINION, COLONIAL AND OVERSEAS).

There is a branch of Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), formerly the Colonial Bank, with a Savings Bank department.

X.—Communications.

EXTERNAL.

A regular fortnightly service was maintained in the year under review by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana. The Harrison, the Canadian Merchant Marine, and the Columbian Lines of steamers also call at uncertain intervals with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States. The year 1925 saw the signing of a new agreement between representatives of the West Indies and Canada regarding shipping service and extended preference.

INTERNAL.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money-order and parcels business (including the cash-on-delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with seventeen district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor-car, by motor-boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintained their station at St. Vincent.

The erection of the wireless station for the new telegraph system authorised by the West Indian Islands (Telegraph) Act, 1924, of the Imperial Parliament was undertaken by the Radio Communication Company and the station was opened in March and is in regular operation.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 202 services and 194 miles of line in use. Considerable expenditure was incurred on reconstruction, especially on the windward side, and it is hoped that the whole system will shortly attain far greater efficiency than in the past.

R. WALTER,

Administrator.

Government House,

St. Vincent.

1*st July*, 1926.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40*s*. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1924–25, No. 1289 .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
BAHAMAS, 1925, No. 1285 .. .. 6*d*.
BARBADOS, 1925–26, No. 1301 .. .. 9*d*.
BASUTOLAND, 1925, No. 1294 .. .. 9*d*.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1269.. .. .. .. 9*d*.
BERMUDA, 1924, No. 1279 .. .. 9*d*.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1925, No. 1300 .. 1*s*.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1924, No. 1277. 9*d*.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1290 .. 6*d*.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1925, No. 1293.. 1*s*. 3*d*.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1925, No. 1298 .. .. 3*d*.
CEYLON, 1923, No. 1243 .. .. .. 5*s*.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT, 1925, No. 1286 .. .. 1*s*.
CYPRUS, 1924, No. 1253 .. .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1924, No. 1278. 9*d*.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1924, No. 1256 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
FIJI, 1925, No. 1299 .. .. .. 1*s*.
GAMBIA, 1924, No. 1249 .. .. .. 6*d*.
GIBRALTAR, 1924, No. 1266 .. .. 6*d*.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1246 .. .. 6*d*.
GOLD COAST, 1924–25, No. 1287 .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1924–25, No. 1284 .. .. 1*s*.
GRENADA, 1924, No. 1263 .. .. 6*d*.
HONGKONG, 1924, No. 1288 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
JAMAICA, 1924, No. 1276.. .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1282 .. .. 1*s*.
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1924–25, No. 1283 1*s*.
MAURITIUS, 1924, No. 1281 .. .. 9*d*.
NORTHERN RHODESIA, No. 1292 .. 1*s*.
NEW HEBRIDES, 1924, No. 1273 .. 6*d*.
NIGERIA, 1924, No. 1245.. .. .. 1*s*.
NYASALAND, 1925, No. 1296 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. HELENA, 1925, No. 1297 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. LUCIA, 1924, No. 1268 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. VINCENT, 1924, No. 1267 .. .. 6*d*.
SEYCHELLES, 1924, No. 1272 .. .. 3*d*.
SIERRA LEONE, 1924, No. 1275 .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
SOMALILAND, 1924, No. 1271 .. .. 6*d*.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1924, No. 1264.. .. .. 2*s*.
SWAZILAND, 1924, No. 1261 .. .. 6*d*.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1237.. .. .. .. 3*d*.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1924, No. 1260. 1*s*. 6*d*.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1924, No. 1258.. .. .. 6*d*.
UGANDA, 1924, No. 1280 .. .. .. 6*d*.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1924, No. 1265 .. .. 6*s*.
WEI-HAI-WEI, 1925, No. 1295 .. .. 6*d*.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1254 .. .. 6*d*.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1924 (Colonial, No. 16) .. .. 2*s*. 9*d*.
IRAQ, 1925 (Colonial, No. 21) .. .. 6*s*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1925 (Colonial, No. 20) .. 5*s*. 6*d*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1924. Appendices to the Report (Colonial, No. 17) .. .. 1*s*.
TANGANYIKA, 1925 (Colonial, No. 18).. .. .. 3*s*. 3*d*.
LABOUR IN TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, 1925 (Colonial No. 19) 4*s*.
TOGOLAND, 1924 (Colonial, No. 14) .. .. 3*s*.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920–25 (Colonial, No. 15) 2*s*.

All prices are net. Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1310.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1925.

For Reports for 1923 and 1924 see Nos. 1221 and 1263 (Price 6d. each).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; York Street, Manchester;
1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1926.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1310.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1925.

I. Introduction.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad, and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North Latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West Longitude. The Island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the Island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the Island, 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

CLIMATE.

The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade or drops below 70°, and these occasions occur so rarely that they are specially recorded in meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1925 was 89° on

several days, and the lowest 68° on 6th February. The mean of maximum temperatures was 87° and the mean of minimum 70°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches; in the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1925 was 64·68 inches. Over the past thirty years the average at St. George's has been 74·37 inches.

Historical.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II. General.

The year 1925 was one of the most prosperous in the history of Grenada. All the principal crops were greater in volume than in the previous year, and the increases in quantities fortunately occurred in a period of greatly enhanced prices. Especially was this so in the case of the nutmeg crop, and its derivative mace. As compared with past average prices, the additional profit to cultivators of nutmegs has amounted to about £117,000, and in the case of mace to nearly £33,000.

So substantial has been the rise in value of these two products that they now challenge cocoa for the premier position in the scale of exports, their combined export value for the calendar year 1925 being £185,467, while the value of cocoa, which for so long a period far exceeded the total of all other exports, was £197,231. Ten years ago cocoa accounted for 85 per cent. of the exports according to value, and nutmegs and mace came second, representing 10 per cent. The percentages in 1925 were 45·4 and 42·7 respectively.

(23979) Wt. 12312/809 500 10/26 Harrow G.94 A*

Cocoa is still by far the largest cultivation in quantity, and it is satisfactory to be able to record that the market price improved to an average of about 60*s*. per cwt., as against a low value of 48*s*. at the beginning of 1924.

The price of cotton has also been high and the crop a good one.

The beneficial effects of these improved conditions were widespread, for Grenada is a land of numerous small proprietors. The increased circulation of money brought prosperity to every part, and small country shopkeepers as well as large stores enjoyed the benefits. A considerable portion of the sudden wealth was quickly expended on luxuries such as motor-cars, and in improved standard of living, but many proprietors have also prudently reduced some of the heavy mortgages which still burden their holdings.

The change in the economic conditions also naturally improved the finances of the Government by increased yields of revenue, especially under the heads of import and export duties, income tax, and taxation on motor-cars and spirits.

On 1st April, 1925, was held the first meeting of the Legislative Council under its new form of constitution, which provides on the unofficial side for three Nominated and five Elected members, the officials consisting of seven members in addition to the Governor as President. The elections were held in the month of February in the five divisions into which the Colony is divided for the purpose. Contests took place in only two of the divisions, three candidates competing in the St. Patrick's Carriacou division, and two in that of St. Andrew's. The total number of electors on the Register in the Districts in which contests took place is 1,235; of these 944 or 76·4 per cent. recorded their votes. The number of electors in the remaining districts is 924, making a total of 2,159 for the whole Colony.

A new whaling industry which was established with a base for its factory on Glover's Island, adjacent to the south-west extremity of Grenada, commenced operations in January and continued until the end of the season, in April. All the whales caught, with the exception of two, were of the humpback variety. The two others were reported to be the Bryde whale, which has not hitherto been known to frequent these waters. Further reference to the whaling operations is made under the head "Industries."

A wireless station was established at St. George's and is worked by the Pacific Cable Board. An improvement in press news and in news of movements of steamers has resulted.

Following on this the Government made arrangements for a subsidiary wireless station in Carriacou, which was opened early in the present year. It has proved of great benefit to business firms and to the community in that Island.

Public Health and Vital Statistics.

The medical institutions were greatly improved during the year. At the Colony Hospital electric light was installed at a cost of about £600, the expenditure being defrayed from the grant from the British Red Cross Society. A new mortuary and laundry were built. At the St. Andrew's Hospital the isolation block was screened and repaired, and the equipment improved. Better drainage and sewerage disposal were effected at the Richmond Hill institutions. A clearance of the Belmont swamp near the town of St. George's has resulted in a notable decrease in insect pests.

Under the new Public Health Ordinance, which was passed towards the end of the year, the sanitation of the towns, including the scavenging of streets, will be taken over by a Central Sanitary Authority for the Colony. The appointment of a trained Chief Sanitary Inspector is provided for. Among other measures it is intended to establish District Casualty Stations under the charge of adequately-trained nurses.

This new Ordinance came into force on the 1st March of this year.

Vital Statistics.—The estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1925, was 70,184. The density of the population was 528 per square mile.

The births numbered 2,354 and the deaths 1,162. The birth-rate was 33·54 and the death-rate 16·5 per 1,000. The death-rate compares favourably with that in other West Indian Colonies. As the infantile death-rate exceeds that in countries within the temperate zone, the adult death-rate is not much higher than that in non-tropical countries.

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality was slightly greater than in 1924, the the death-rate for 100 births of infants dying under one year being 11·63, as compared with 11·10 in the preceding year.

The Baby Welfare Movement instituted in the previous year by Lady James has now been established for a year. The crèche opened in St. George's has proved a boon to mothers who have to go to work daily. The next step will be to provide a Health Visitor for St. George's, and extend the organisation to St. Andrews and other districts.

A statement of the principal causes of death in Grenada will be of interest :—

	1925.	*1924.*	*1923.*
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	284	296	283
Malaria	74	108	74
Enteric Fever	10	22	23
Dysentery	21	34	33
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	41	52	41
Syphilis	26	16	10
Organic disease of the heart	99	97	110

Water Supplies.

There is a pipe-borne water service in each parish of the Island except St. David's, which is well supplied with springs and streams. Carriacou has to depend on wells and rain-water stored in cisterns.

Mr. H. J. Peet, late Director of Works, Nigeria, visited the Colony in November at the request of the Governor to advise regarding improvement of the water services, and important reconstructions of the several works are at present being undertaken as the result of his recommendations.

III. Government Finance.

The improvement in trade conditions to which reference has already been made is reflected in the financial returns. The revenue for the year amounted to £146,218, the highest figure yet recorded. As the expenditure was £112,467, there was an excess of revenue over expenditure of £33,751, and this again is by far the greatest excess that has ever been experienced.

During the year a transfer was made to the credit of the Colony's funds of £31,337 which had been advanced during several past years from the Public Loan of £100,000 and had been expended in general works. This transfer, duly approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies and legalised by Ordinance, was for the purpose of clearing off the deficit of £25,546 with which the year opened. The Colony has now again a substantial surplus amounting at 31st December, 1925, to £39,542.

The public debt amounts to £223,670 and sinking funds for its redemption have now been accumulated to the sum of £86,166, leaving a net indebtedness of £137,504, a sum slightly more than last year's revenue.

Banks.

Two Banks are established in the Colony, Barclays Bank (Dominion, Overseas and Colonial—formerly the Colonial Bank) and the Royal Bank of Canada, the former having also a branch at Grenville. Savings Bank business is conducted by both banks, the rate of interest on deposits being 3 per cent.

The note circulation of Barclays Bank was £25,000, and that of the Royal Bank of Canada $100,000, but the actual amount in circulation is stated to be about £30,000.

Silver is legal tender without limit. There is very little gold in the Colony, a few American gold coins alone being in circulation.

Savings Bank.

The Government Savings Bank continues to develop its business, a result greatly due to the interest on deposits being at the rate of 4 per cent.

The number of depositors increased from 1,702 to 1,922, and the amount at the credit of depositors from £25,430 to £32,103. The investments amounted in value to £26,139, and there was a profit of £247 on the year's business.

IV. Annual Progress of Trade.

The total trade of Grenada in 1925 amounted in value to £865,890, an increase of £242,793 over that of the previous year. The imports were valued at £431,807 and exports at £434,083, compared with £272,291 and £350,806 respectively in 1924.

Imports.

The principal articles imported were the following :—

	Value.	Increase or decrease over 1924. Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Flour	51,183	11,169	—
Cotton, piece-goods	46,413	9,555	—
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	15,907	10,916	—
Fish, dried, etc. ...	13,516	2,042	—
Rice	12,484	4,530	—
Motor-cars and parts	11,860	7,193	—
Bags and sacks, empty	10,509	6,163	—
Sugar, unrefined ...	10,481	—	3,433
Hardware	10,382	6,365	—
Machinery, industrial ...	9,443	9,076	—
Boots and shoes ...	9,123	3,055	—
Oil, kerosene ...	8,107	—	405
Motor spirits ...	7,741	2,407	—
Soap, common ...	6,584	1,778	—
Cotton, manufactured, other ...	6,374	1,176	—

Flour continues to be the principal article of importation and is imported almost wholly from Canada, the returns showing that a very negligible quantity arrives from the United States of America. As will be seen from the following table, the transfer of trade in this article from the United States has been one of the principal effects of the Trade Agreement with Canada.

Importations of Flour.

From	1915.		1919.		1922.		1925.	
	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£
Canada..	852,422	6,023	2,406,806	34,290	4,730,421	39,157	5,478,199	51,137
United States.. ..	4,352,565	34,169	2,114,257	29,766	538,795	4,437	2,644	26

The following table shows the direction of trade for the years 1924 and 1925 :—

	1924. £	*Percentage of total.*	*1925.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	83,600	30·7	156,394	36·3
United States of America ...	56,696	20·8	80,859	18·8
Canada	69,658	25·6	90,641	20·9
Other British Possessions ...	50,852	18·7	64,618	14·9
Other Foreign Countries ...	11,485	4·2	39,295	9·1

EXPORTS.

The value of exports for the year amounted to £434,083, of which £424,808 represented the value of local products and £9,275 of re-exports.

The quantity and value of the principal local products exported were as follows :—

	Cwt.		£
Cocoa, raw	73,216	...	197,231
Cotton, raw	3,252	...	16,500
Cotton, seed	8,889	...	3,088
Spices, nutmegs	21,762	...	145,861
,, mace	3,843	...	39,606
Whale oil	112,963 gals.		16,870

The direction of the export trade was as follows :—

	1924. £	*Percentage of total.*	*1925.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	161,012	46·7	171,768	30·6
United States of America ...	151,784	44·0	212,816	49·1
Canada	13,691	4·0	12,785	3·0
Other British Possessions ...	10,808	3·1	14,425	3·1
Other Foreign Countries ...	7,584	2·2	22,289	5·2

A greater quantity of the Colony's staple products was shipped this year to the United States of America than to the United Kingdom, the figures being :—

	United States of America. *Cwt.*		*United Kingdom.* *Cwt.*
Cocoa	37,038	...	31,058
Nutmegs	12,934	...	8,005
Mace	1,978	...	1,690

All the cotton exported, 3,252 cwt., went to the United Kingdom. Of the 112,963 gallons of whale oil exported, 103,999 gallons went to Norway and 3,435 to the United Kingdom.

Other articles of export include bananas and other fruit, lime juice, salt, coconuts, hides and skins, copra, ground-nuts, wood, and timber.

AGRICULTURE.

Weather conditions during the crop year which ended on 30th September were favourable to all kinds of cultivation. There was no serious outbreak of plant diseases, although these are more or less present at all times. The crops were in all cases greater than in the previous year.

Cocoa.—The crop was an early one and prices had advanced to what are considered to be normal rates. The return of more favourable prices led to greater time and attention being paid to the cultivation, which, as compared with Trinidad and larger countries, is undertaken on intensive lines, resulting in a large yield per acre. This is necessary in Grenada, where there is no undeveloped territory on which new crops or new varieties can be introduced. The curing and preparation of the cocoa are also carried to a high degree in order to maintain the standard and value of Grenada cocoa.

Spices.—On account of the very high prices ruling for nutmegs and mace, planters are extending the cultivations of this crop wherever possible. As in the case of cocoa, there is not much suitable land available, and several years must elapse before new trees arrive at a profitable stage of fruition.

Cotton.—This cultivation is confined to Carriacou and is the short staple variety called Marie Galante. The crop was a good one, amounting to 3,252 cwt., as compared with 2,842 cwt. in the preceding crop year. One of the main reasons for the increase was the rigid enforcement of an Ordinance, introduced for the eradication of the pest known as the Pink Bollworm which had made its appearance. The measures taken had the additional effect of introducing better cultural methods. Arrangements were made through the Pacific Cable Board for cable reports of prices in the Liverpool markets for the type of cotton grown in Carriacou to be published during the reaping and ginning months.

Other Crops.—The favourable prices for cocoa and spices have diverted attention from development of the banana industry, as lands suitable for successful cultivation of bananas are also adapted to nutmeg cultivation. Coffee could also be cultivated profitably; the production, however, of this crop is insufficient

for the local demand. Sugar is also largely imported, but in this case there is not now sufficient suitable land for its successful cultivation, which requires to be undertaken on a large scale to withstand outside competition.

Crops of corn (Indian maize) and of root crops, locally designated as ground provisions, have been plentiful.

Land.

There are no Crown lands for sale; any lands remaining in the possession of the Crown are preserved as forest or rain reserves.

Estates are occasionally bought by the Government for the purpose of land settlement, but this is confined to small-holders, of whom, mainly owing to the schemes fostered by Government, there are over 14,000 in the Island.

Industries.

The manufacture of sugar is carried on on a small scale at several factories, which also make rum. The production of sugar is far below the quantity locally consumed, and the manufacture of rum occasionally falls short of what is required for home consumption. The quantity of rum manufactured last year was 45,385 proof gallons, being the output from twelve small distilleries.

An ice factory, subsidised by the Government, continues at work in St. George's.

Whale Industry.—The main undertaking of an industrial nature is now the whaling industry, which was established last year on modern lines. Seventy-two whales were caught in the season from January to the end of April, and 112,963 gallons of whale-oil, of the value of £16,870, were exported. The factory, which was not quite completed last year, is now equipped for the manufacture of whale guano.

V. Legislation.

Seventeen Ordinances were passed during the year, the most important being the following :—

No. 1.—The Agricultural Industries Protection Ordinance, protecting the banana industry by prohibiting the exportation of suckers, and made applicable to any plant which may need such protection.

No. 2.—The Income Tax Amendment Ordinance, giving relief to Shipping and Insurance Companies.

No. 6.—The Agricultural Loans Ordinance, enabling owners of land to obtain loans for its development as a first charge against the crops.

No. 8.—The Taxes Management (Amendment) Ordinance, introducing improvements in the system of serving of notices of assessment.

No. 10.—The Legislative Council (Elected Members) Ordinance, regulating the procedure for election of Members to serve on the Legislative Council.

No. 12.—The Local Loan (Amendment) Ordinance, authorising certain advances to Government from the Loan to be regarded as expenditure.

No. 15.—The Public Health Ordinance, establishing a single Sanitary Authority for the Island, and consolidating the several Ordinances dealing with sanitation and public health.

VI. Educational Progress.

A Director of Education was appointed in 1925, and under his chairmanship a Committee appointed by the Governor, with a very representative membership, inquired into the constitution and powers of the Boards of Education, both Primary and Secondary, and made recommendations for readjustment of the Boards and of the Ordinances. Their report contains many new suggestions which it is hoped soon to put into practice. It is contemplated to establish Pupil Teachers' Centres in various districts, and improve the pay of Assistant Teachers with a view to obtaining a more highly-qualified type of Primary School Teacher.

Primary.

The number of primary schools has remained the same as last year, namely, 58, of which 10 were Government and 48 grant-in-aid schools. Of the latter, 27 were Roman Catholic, 14 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, and 2 Presbyterian.

The number of pupils on the roll and the average attendance were 11,480 and 6,992 respectively, the percentage of average attendance to the number on the roll being 60·9.

Practically all the annual cost of the schools, exclusive of upkeep of buildings, is borne by Government, and the grant-in-aid amounted to £7,479.

Secondary.

The number in attendance at the Grenada Boys' School in St. George's has greatly increased, being 85 at the end of the year. Part of this increase is due to an extension of the scheme under which external exhibitions tenable at the Boys' Secondary School are awarded to promising boys from the primary schools. An increased number of awards has been given, and as the competition was thrown open to scholars of the lower division schools as well as the combined schools, much healthy keenness has been shown by the schools of the Island in sending up pupils.

Twenty-three candidates were entered from the School for public examinations. Five sat at the London Matriculation Examination for the first time in the history of the School, but all were unsuccessful.

The sports side of the School is not neglected. Great activity was shown this year; the first inter-Islands' school sports with representatives from St. Lucia and St. Vincent being held at the Queen's Park in April. A very successful meeting resulted in the St. Vincent Grammar School winning the contest.

The Anglican Girls' High School and the St. Joseph's Convent High School have continued to maintain their numbers and standard of work throughout the year. The Government gives a grant to each of these schools of £150 each, and provides for six exhibitions, value £6 per annum each, to each of these two schools.

VII. Communications.

In spite of its mountainous nature, the Colony is extremely well supplied with roads which traverse every part, and are suitable for motor traffic. A main line of road encircles the Island, passing through each of the towns, and two main roads intersect the interior, one from St. George's to Grenville, and the other from Gouyave to Grenville. In addition, there are numerous by-ways. The approximate mileage of main roads is 114, and of by-ways 305 miles.

Several motor-bus services ply between the various towns, especially between St. George's along the eastern coast to Sauteurs in the north.

A mail motor and passenger 'bus service over the same route is run by the Government. On the western side a private motor-bus service links up Gouyave with St. George's, and there is also a subsidised daily motor-boat service running between St. George's and Sauteurs. The boat also extends its journey once a week to Carriacou.

The principal post office is in St. George's, and there are sub-offices at Gouyave, Victoria, Sauteurs, Grenville, and St. David's, and Hillsboro, Carriacou, in addition to several postal stations.

Telegraphs.

A wireless station erected in St. George's is operated by the Pacific Cable Board with communication via Barbados. A subsidiary wireless station has this year been also established at Carriacou. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company still carries on business in Grenada by cable system.

TELEPHONES.

A telephone service with earth-return circuit has long been established, but owing to the great increase in number of subscribers a change to a more modern system may soon become imperative. There are 635 instruments in use, 159 miles of direct wire, and 902 miles connecting subscribers and exchanges. There are five exchanges, that at St. Mark's having been discontinued and the district served from St. John's exchange.

SHIPPING.

Direct communication with the United Kingdom was maintained by the Harrison Line, their larger steamers calling about once a month. This direct service is much appreciated; the duration of the voyage to London is about fourteen days. The cargo steamers of this Line also call frequently.

The Canada-West Indies Steamer service was continued throughout the year, calls on the upward and downward journeys being fortnightly.

The Furness-Withy Line have a direct service from New York to Grenada at intervals of about ten days. The time occupied between New York and Grenada is seven days.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Acting Governor.

Grenada,
Windward Islands.
19*th July*, 1926.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40s. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1924–25, No. 1289 .. .. 1s. 9d.
BAHAMAS, 1925, No. 1285 .. .. 6d.
BARBADOS, 1925–26, No. 1301 .. .. 9d.
BASUTOLAND, 1925, No. 1294 .. .. 9d.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1269.. .. .. .. 9d.
BERMUDA, 1924, No. 1279 .. .. 9d.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1925, No. 1300 .. 1s.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1924, No. 1277. 9d.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1290 .. 6d.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1925, No. 1293.. 1s. 3d.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1925, No. 1298 .. .. 3d.
CEYLON, 1923, No. 1243 .. .. .. 5s.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT, 1925, No. 1286 .. .. 1s.
CYPRUS, 1924, No. 1253 .. .. .. 1s. 9d.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1924, No. 1278. 9d.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1925, No. 1305 .. .. 2s.
FIJI, 1925, No. 1299 .. .. .. 1s.
GAMBIA, 1925, No. 1306 .. .. .. 9d.
GIBRALTAR, 1924, No. 1266 .. .. 6d.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1246.. .. .. .. 6d.
GOLD COAST, 1924–25, No. 1287 .. 2s. 3d.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1924–25, No. 1284 .. .. 1s.
GRENADA, 1924, No. 1263 .. .. 6d.
HONG KONG, 1924, No. 1288 .. .. 1s. 3d.
JAMAICA, 1924, No. 1276.. .. .. 1s. 3d.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1282 .. .. 1s.
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1924–25, No. 1283 1s.
MAURITIUS, 1924, No. 1281 .. .. 9d.
NORTHERN RHODESIA, No. 1292 .. 1s.
NEW HEBRIDES, 1924, No. 1273 .. 6d.
NIGERIA, 1924, No. 1245.. .. .. 1s.
NYASALAND, 1925, No. 1296 .. .. 6d.
ST. HELENA, 1925, No. 1297 .. .. 6d.
ST. LUCIA, 1924, No. 1268 .. .. 6d.
ST. VINCENT, 1925, No. 1303 .. .. 6d.
SEYCHELLES, 1924, No. 1272 .. .. 3d.
SIERRA LEONE, 1924, No. 1275 .. 1s. 3d.
SOMALILAND, 1924, No. 1271 .. .. 6d.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1925, No. 1302.. .. .. 2s.
SWAZILAND, 1924, No. 1261 .. .. 6d.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1237.. .. .. .. 3d.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1924, No. 1260. 1s. 6d.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1925, No. 1304.. .. .. 6d.
UGANDA, 1924, No. 1280 .. .. .. 6d.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1924, No. 1265 .. .. 6s.
WEI-HAI-WEI, 1925, No. 1295 .. .. 6d.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1924, No. 1254 .. .. 6d.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1925 (Colonial, No. 22) .. .. 4s. 6d.
IRAQ, 1925 (Colonial, No. 21) .. .. 6s.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1925 (Colonial, No. 20) .. 5s. 6d.
TANGANYIKA, 1925 (Colonial, No. 18).. .. .. 3s. 3d.
LABOUR IN TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, 1925 (Colonial No. 19) 4s.
TOGOLAND, 1925 (Colonial, No. 23) .. .. 4s.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920–25 (Colonial, No. 15) 2s.

All prices are net. Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc., e.g. West Indian Conference, 1926: Summary of Proceedings, 2s. 6d.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1326.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1925.

For Reports for 1923 and 1924 see Nos. 1240 and 1268 (Price 6d. each).

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh
York Street, Manchester; 1, St Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1927

Price 6*d*. Net.

No. 1326.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1925.

I.—Geographical and Historical.

Though uncertain, it is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Christopher Columbus on 18th June, 1502. Some doubt, however, is thrown upon this belief by a French tradition to the effect that its discovery was made by French shipwrecked seamen in December of a later year, who named the island St. Alouziel or St. Alousie.

The largest of the Windward Islands, St. Lucia is 24 miles in extreme length and 12 miles in greatest breadth, its area being estimated at 233 square miles. It is situated in latitude 13° 50′ North and longitude 61° West, with Martinique in view about 24 miles to the north and St. Vincent about 21 miles to the south. On a clear day the historic Diamond Rock, or "H.M.S. Diamond Rock," can clearly be seen off the coast of Martinique. At its northern extremity lies Pigeon Island, famous for Rodney's Fort and Look-out, from whence the movements of the French fleet under de Grasse were observed prior to its total defeat by Admiral Rodney off the coast of Dominica in 1782. Pigeon Island was later used as a military station, but for a number of years has been abandoned for that purpose. The village of Gros Islat and the bay of that name are opposite Pigeon Island.

Rat Island, lying off the coast between Vigie and Choc, is fitted as a quarantine station. Fortunately, it is more often in demand as a holiday resort.

Vigie promontory forms the northern boundary of Castries harbour. On its highest point is a lighthouse and the Signal Station of the port. There are numerous War Department buildings at Vigie now much sought after and rented as private residences.

Government House, the official residence of the Administrator, is a commodious building beautifully situated on a spur of the Morne some 500 ft. above sea-level, and commanding unrivalled views of the surrounding scenery.

On the summit of Morne Fortune, which rises 800 ft. above Castries, there is further extensive barrack accommodation, and this also is to some extent rented as private residences. Castries harbour, on the north-west end of the Island, possesses excellent natural advantages. Ships drawing up to 27½ ft. of water can anchor with safety upon its sheltered waters. It is on record that in 1899 the United States of America squadron, comprising three battleships, two cruisers, and two second-class cruisers, and also one Dutch warship, were safely berthed in the harbour without interfering with the regular business of the port, ten steamers having called during their stay, seven of which coaled. The town of Castries is built upon what is for the most part reclaimed land at the northern end of the harbour. It is well laid out and possesses good wharves for shipping. Nowhere in the West Indies can ships lie alongside so safely and be coaled and watered with such convenience and speed.

The important sugar plantations and factories of Cul de Sac and Roseau are some miles south of Castries. Each possesses a sheltered bay from which crops may be shipped.

Marigot harbour, the villages of Anse-la-Raye and Canaries are on the western coast. The picturesque town of Soufriere nestles at the feet of the two Pitons. These imposing cone-shaped mountains rise sheer out of the water, the greater to the height of 2,619 ft., the lesser to the height of 2,461 ft.

A most interesting volcanic crater is to be found two miles from the town of Soufriere and about 800 ft. above sea-level. There are a number of perpetually active boiling cauldrons of black water and mud from which issues large quantities of steam : around the sides there is a quantity of sulphurous and iron deposits. There are two furnished houses close by which are frequently used as health resorts. Hot sulphurous baths may be had at the bath house there, and lower down the valley at "Diamond." The first baths were established as far back as 1784 by Baron de Laborie near Soufriere, for the use of invalids.

Further down the coast are the villages of Choiseul, Laborie, and Vieuxfort. The lastmentioned is situated at the southern extremity of the Island and possesses an extensive sugar plantation and factory. Cape Moule á Chique, on the highest point of which, 733 ft. above sea-level, there is a lighthouse fitted with a modern flashlight visible 40 miles out at sea, is the most southerly point.

On the east, or windward, coast are the villages of Micoud and Dennery, the latter having a large sugar estate and factory just outside its boundaries. Marquis and Dauphin lie to the north of Dennery. Marquis Valley is a well-managed and fertile pasture; unfortunately, at present it lacks suitable road communication with Castries. It is hoped that next year a new road

(25912) Wt. 24349/1620 500 3/27 Harrow G.94

will be constructed which will make access to Marquis quite possible for motors. It is claimed that the Empress Josephine was born near Dauphin, and was afterwards baptised at Martinique.

The new, first-class and up-to-date hotel, with accommodation for fifteen people, situated in an unrivalled position 300 ft. above Castries, should prove an attraction to tourists. From its pleasant surroundings excursions may be made by road and sea to the numerous points of historic and scenic interest in which the Colony abounds.

II.—General Observations.

The general health of the Island was good during the year. There was no epidemic sickness to be recorded. The Hookworm Campaign ceased and it is the opinion of the Chief Medical Officer that this infection will consequently increase.

The Chief Medical Officer is responsible for the general supervision of matters of health and sanitation in the Colony.

Victoria Hospital, the principal hospital, is situated within half a mile of Castries. A Resident Surgeon is in charge, and he is assisted by a staff consisting of a European matron with local nurses and dispensers. There is a ward with six rooms assigned to paying patients, of which extensive use is made.

This institution has a good reputation, and patients speak highly of the skill and attention of the staff.

There are three small district casualty hospitals close to the principal local dispensaries of Soufriere, Vieuxfort and Dennery.

The Pauper and Leper Asylums are situated in the Soufriere District, and are supervised by the Medical Officer of the District and a Visiting Advisory Committee.

The treatment of yaws has been successfully carried forward. The yaws hospital was finally closed for the purpose in September, 1923, a striking testimony to the efficacy of the dispensary treatment of yaws by injections of arseno-benzol compounds.

On 31st December, 1924, the resident population of the Colony was estimated to have been 24,939 males and 29,365 females, making a total of 54,304. On 31st December, 1925, this figure had increased to 55,099 (males 25,345 and females 29,754). The natural increase during the year was 957, but departures from the Colony exceeded arrivals by 162, so that the net addition was only 795.

The number of inhabitants to the square mile was 236.

Births during the year numbered 2,113, 1,091 males and 1,022 females. The number of deaths recorded was 1,156, 584 males and 572 females. The birth-rate was 36·2 and the death-rate 18·8 per 1,000 of the population. Illegitimate births numbered 1,334, or 631·3 per 1,000 of the total births.

One death from snake-bite was reported in the Micoud District. The danger from venomous reptiles is much exaggerated. The most dangerous snake, the fer-de-lance, is being gradually exterminated through the introduction of the mongoose, and the advance of cultivation. In addition, the Government pays 6*d*. for every serpent head brought to the various police stations, and this helps considerably in the process of extirpation. They are never met with in or near the towns.

There is good river and sea fishing. At certain times of the year shooting can be obtained.

The prosperity of the Colony is mainly dependent upon agriculture.

Extensive banana cultivation has progressed rapidly and is proving of great benefit to the Colony.

There is an abundant supply of fruit, vegetables and fish, which form the staple foods of the population.

Coaling, for which there are exceptional facilities, still affords considerable, though irregular, occupation for a number of labourers in and around Castries.

"Poppy Day" has been observed since 1923, and a fairly satisfactory sum has been so far collected yearly for Earl Haig's Fund for Disabled Soldiers.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., arrived in the Colony on 8th April, remaining in residence until 19th July.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Lucia, went to Canada to represent the Windward Islands at the Trade Conference on 4th June. At the termination of the Conference on 27th July he went on leave and returned to the Colony on 24th September.

The first shipment of bananas from the Colony was made on 3rd August to the United States of America by S.S. "Maraval."

The Public Lawn Tennis Court in the Botanic Gardens was completed, and a second one is now in course of construction.

The Tourist Association was formed on 18th November, and it is expected that tourist ships may be induced to call at St. Lucia during 1926.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entering and cleared during the year was 1,015 of a total tonnage of 1,106,097 tons. Of this total 489 were steam vessels and 526 sailing.

III.—Financial.

The local revenue received during the year amounted to £75,555, or £3,960 more than in the previous year. The expenditure, however, exceeded the revenue by £9,527, being £85,082, or £3,104 less than in 1924. It is expected that economies which have been effected will reduce expenditure considerably during the present year, while improving trade conditions should increase the revenue by some £6,000 in 1926. It is anticipated that there will be a surplus of approximately £1,200 revenue. Charges on account of public debt and for advances by the Crown Agents and Colonial Bank are a heavy drain on the Colony's resources. The accounts for the year closed with a deficit of £9,527, or an improvement of £7,064 over the deficit at the end of 1924. The public debt of the Colony stood at £80,190, and the accumulated sinking fund for its redemption £51,243, on 31st December, 1925.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10*s*. and 5*s*. are in circulation, as well as the notes of the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries. Each of these banks has Savings Banks, and there is, in addition, a Government Savings Bank, all of which do a fair amount of business, the latter's balance at the close of the year being £13,657.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports (including bunker coal) was £277,013, and of exports (including bunker coal) £243,207. The value of bunker coal imported was £39,562, as compared with £31,721 in 1924, while the export totalled £77,399, as compared with £51,042 in the previous year. Imports from United Kingdom totalled £86,114, other parts of the British Empire £66,941, while the total from foreign countries was £114,708, parcel post being responsible for the remaining £9,250. Of the imports from foreign countries, those from the United States of America show a value of £96,405, of which the principal items were bunker coal £39,562, and cinema films £11,750.

Of British countries Canada shows a total of £39,483, and it is satisfactory to note that the bulk of the trade hitherto done with the United States of America is now going to Canada.

andronicus

Of the total exports, commodities valued at £100,304 went to the United Kingdom, £39,580 to other parts of the British Empire and £24,896 to foreign countries, while exports of bunker coal totalled £77,399. Ships stores, with the decline in shipping trade, amounted to £1,028 only.

IV.—Annual Progress of Trade, Agriculture and Industry.

Favourable weather enabled a good crop to be made.

The price of sugar fell steadily during the year from £36 per ton for best West Indian Crystals in January, to £25 10*s*. per ton in December, 1925, the average price received being £30 10*s*., as against £46 per ton for crop in 1924.

The decline in value of sugar products has been discouraging to the sugar factories and to the small cane farmers who make fancy molasses. The output of factory sugar for refining was much higher than it has been for some years, an increase being shown of 1,300 tons for the 1925 crop. There was a reduction in low sugars and molasses and syrup production.

The area in sugar remains at about 4,750 acres. Factory plants have been greatly improved and a much better recovery of sugar is expected for the tonnage of cane handled. It is hoped that as regards the sugar industry generally the recent negotiations with Canada and improved trading facilities will be beneficially felt throughout this industry. There has been a slight increase in the amount of rum manufactured locally, overseas prices have however been discouraging and no rum was exported.

The cocoa market has provided a workable price throughout the year, about 68*s*. per cwt. for best cocoa; cultivation has not been extended and the area in cocoa remains at about 6,000 acres.

The lime industry has had an encouraging year which has placed production on a firm footing. The cultivations have received increased attention and have been considerably extended. The concentrated lime juice market improved from £18 to £21 per pipe, raw juice remained stationery at 2*s*. to 2*s*. 6*d*. per gallon, but some extensive contracts were made by local growers and a high grade product was exported.

There was a moderate trade in green limes to the United States during the period February–June.

Excellent prices were received during the year for otto of limes and distilled lime oil. The former rose from 11*s*. to 22*s*. per lb. at the close of the year, the latter from 6*s*. in January to 9*s*. 6*d*. per lb. in December. Owing to general shortage these prices have since greatly improved.

ublishing company, inc.

The recent development of an additional 100 acres in lime cultivation brings the area to a total of about 2,650 acres.

The coconut crop has again proved a safe investment, the average price being £30 per ton for copra; a considerable amount of the crop is now cured by heated flue system. This has prevented loss of time and crop during wet weather.

Groves have been extended and now cover about 2,700 acres.

A larger proportion of the crop has been purchased by the local oil mills.

Nutmegs (and mace) though not very extensively grown prove a satisfactory export crop.

Logwood, cedar, roofing shingles, charcoal, and firewood were exported in substantial quantity.

Some progress is being made in the planting of tobacco, camphor, African oil palm and sisal hemp. There is room for much development in these directions.

The bay oil factories have maintained good production, now mainly in the finished product—bay rum—for which there is an increasing demand. An increase of 4,237 gallons in export is shown over 1924.

As to bee-keeping, a good harvest of honey and wax was made during the year, but slightly below that for the previous season. The apiaries have been improved by the introduction of Italian queen bees.

Banana cultivation is going ahead, and the regular calls of fruit steamers are confidently expected to start towards the end of 1926.

The original promoters of the banana export industry, now registered as a company, propose to develop, in addition to the planted area, a considerable extent of Crown Lands for banana production.

Conducted on the right lines, with right application to control of disease and suitable shipping facilities, this development should soon form a chief industry.

The oil mill is now confining its activities to extracting oil from copra alone. This forms quite an important minor industry. The sale of oil meal is conducted intercolonially.

The exports show a marked increase both in fruit and ground provisions generally. A considerable proportion of this increase is due to the activity of small proprietors. There are marked signs of a progressive agricultural policy.

Increased interest has been shown in the cultivation of Sea Island cotton. There are considerable areas suitable for this crop which so far are free from "pink bollworm."

The teaching of agriculture in the primary schools, where treated seriously by the pupils, should prove of great benefit to the Colony in the future if the theory and practice as now being taught is put to practical use on leaving school.

Cattle, sheep, and horses are of poor quality and, when finances permit, the introduction of fresh stock is urgently needed.

High freights and uncertain and expensive inter-island communication tend to restrict the smallholder from sending perishable goods to the ready markets in other islands, and hinder the free exchange of products between the nearer islands.

V.—Education.

Primary education is free and compulsory. There are 49 denominational schools. Although education is compulsory between the ages of 6 to 14 years little more than half the children of school age attend. The teaching is greatly hampered by the prevalence of French "patois."

Grants-in-aid are made to these schools, mainly for the payment of teachers' salaries. The Inspector of Schools, a Government Officer, is in charge of the administration of the grants.

Except for the Roman Catholic Sisters, the teachers are all natives of the Colony or neighbouring Colonies. Facilities for training of teachers, or higher rates of pay to attract more highly qualified teachers, are urgently needed.

English, reading, writing, arithmetic, the elements of grammar, geography and hygiene are taught. In the upper classes boys are taught elementary agricultural science, both practical and theoretical, and the girls needlework and domestic economy. The results are generally good.

Secondary education is supplied by St. Mary's College for boys, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, both situated in Castries. These schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations and the London University Matriculation Examination. Pupils have attained considerable success in these examinations. An annual scholarship of £175 per annum, known as the St. Lucia Scholarship, was established in 1918. The scholarship was suspended during the year owing to the necessity for economy. The scholarship is awarded on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. A choice of Universities, or of Agricultural, Scientific or Technical Colleges or Institutions in Europe, Canada or the United States approved by the Governor in Council, is permitted.

The scholarship is tenable for not less than three, and not more than five, years according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned. Up to 1925 six scholarships have been awarded.

VI.—Climate.

The climate of St. Lucia, always very much maligned, is generally healthy. Everything possible in the way of sanitation is carried out but owing to lack of funds much remains to be done. The health of the Island compares favourably with any of the West Indian Colonies. There are two seasons, the dry season usually beginning in January and ending in May, and the wet season lasting from June to December. The climate is singularly mild. On the hillsides around Castries, where many of the best residences are located, it is pleasantly cool. On the Morne Fortune a delightful breeze is almost invariably to be found.

The mean temperature varies from 70° to 72° during the cool season, when it sometimes goes as low as 65° at night. During the hot season 90° has been recorded. The temperature records obtained from the Meteorological Station at Reunion show a mean noon temperature of 83·9° F. in the shade, and a mean night temperature of 71·6° F. The range of temperature was 27°. (Minimum 64°, Maximum 91°.)

The mercurial mean pressure gives an average of·29·71 inches.

The rainfall for 1925 was 76·76 in. at the Botanic Station, Castries, being 3·77 in. below the average for 25 years.

Thunderstorms are not frequent and accidents from lightning rare.

Slight earthquake shocks are occasionally felt.

VII.—Communications.

The road system of the Island, owing to lack of funds, has perforce to advance slowly. There are now maintained by the Government 125 miles of main roads, 139 miles of by-ways, and 74 miles unclassified roads, of which 126 miles are suitable for and much used by motor traffic.

Passenger subsidised motor-bus services are regularly maintained between Castries and Dennery and Vieuxfort and Soufriere.

The Government 50-ton motor launch supplies a regular service between Castries, Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and the villages of Anse-la-Raye, Canaries and Laborie.

There is a telephone system throughout the Colony, the ten exchanges being connected by 94 miles of trunk lines, giving 206 connections over 275 miles of wire, 218 subscribers.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular fortnightly steamer service to Canada and other West Indian Colonies, and (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the French mail steamer. There are other and frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America, and direct to Europe.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board; there is also the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, the latter no longer subsidised by the Government.

OLIVER PLUNKETT,
Captain,
Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,
24th December, 1926.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40*s*. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1924–25, No. 1289 .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
BAHAMAS, 1925, No. 1285 .. .. 6*d*.
BARBADOS, 1925–26, No. 1301 .. .. 9*d*.
BASUTOLAND, 1925, No. 1294 .. .. 9*d*.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1925–26, No. 1317 .. .. 1*s*.
BERMUDA, 1925, No. 1309 .. .. 9*d*.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1925, No. 1300 .. 1*s*.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1925, No. 1308 1*s*.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1290 .. 6*d*.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1925, No. 1293 .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1925, No. 1298 .. .. 3*d*.
CEYLON, 1923, No. 1243 .. .. .. 5*s*.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT, 1925, No. 1286 .. .. 1*s*.
CYPRUS, 1925, No. 1313 .. .. .. 1*s*. 9*d*.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1925, No. 1322 6*d*.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1925, No. 1305 .. .. 2*s*.
FIJI, 1925, No. 1299 .. .. .. 1*s*.
GAMBIA, 1925, No. 1306 .. .. .. 9*d*.
GIBRALTAR, 1925, No. 1314 .. .. 6*d*.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923–24, No. 1246 .. .. 6*d*.
GOLD COAST, 1924–25, No. 1287 .. 2*s*. 3*d*.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1924–25, No. 1284 .. .. 1*s*.
GRENADA, 1925, No. 1310 .. .. 6*d*.
HONG KONG, 1925, No. 1324 .. .. 1*s*. 6*d*.
JAMAICA, 1924, No. 1276 .. .. 1*s*. 3*d*.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1925, No. 1321 .. .. 1*s*.
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1925–26, No. 1323 1*s*.
MAURITIUS, 1924, No. 1281 .. .. 9*d*.
NORTHERN RHODESIA, No. 1292 .. 1*s*.
NEW HEBRIDES, 1924, No. 1273 .. 6*d*.
NIGERIA, 1925, No. 1315 .. .. .. 1*s*.
NYASALAND, 1925, No. 1256 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. HELENA, 1925, No. 1297 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. LUCIA, 1924, No. 1268 .. .. 6*d*.
ST. VINCENT, 1925, No. 1303 .. .. 6*d*.
SEYCHELLES, 1924, No. 1272 .. .. 3*d*.
SIERRA LEONE, 1925, No. 1320 .. 1*s*.
SOMALILAND, 1925, No. 1316 .. .. 6*d*.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1925, No. 1302 .. .. 2*s*.
SWAZILAND, 1925, No. 1307 .. .. 6*d*.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924–25, No. 1237 .. .. 3*d*.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1925, No. 1311 1*s*. 6*d*.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1925, No. 1304 .. .. 6*d*.
UGANDA, 1925, No. 1318 .. .. .. 6*d*.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1925, No. 1319 .. .. 6*s*. 3*d*.
WEI-HAI-WEI, 1925, No. 1295 .. .. 6*d*.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1925, No. 1312 .. .. 6*d*.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1925 (Colonial, No. 22) .. .. 4*s*. 6*d*.
IRAQ, 1925 (Colonial, No. 21) .. .. 6*s*.
PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN, 1925 (Colonial, No. 20) .. 5*s*. 6*d*.
TANGANYIKA, 1925 (Colonial, No. 18) .. .. 3*s*. 3*d*.
LABOUR IN TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, 1925 (Colonial No. 19) 4*s*.
TOGOLAND, 1925 (Colonial, No. 23) .. .. 4*s*.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920–25 (Colonial No. 15) .. 2*s*.

All prices are net. Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1350

GRENADA

Report for 1926

(*For Reports for* 1924 *and* 1925 *see Nos.* 1263 *and* 1310, *respectively* (*Price* 6*d. each*).)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.
1927.

Price 6*d.* net

58-22-0-26

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. Introduction :	
Geographical	3
Climate	3
Historical	4
II. General	4
Public Health and Statistics	6
III. Government Finance...	7
Banks	7
IV. Annual Progress of Trade	8
Imports	8
Exports	9
Agriculture	10
Land	12
Industries	12
V. Legislation	12
VI. Educational Progress	13
Primary	13
Secondary	13
VII. Communications—	
Roads	14
Posts	14
Telegraphs	14
Telephones	14
Shipping	15

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926

I.—Introduction.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West longitude. The Island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the Island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one, called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the Island, 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

CLIMATE.

The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May, when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade or drops below 70°, and these occasions occur so rarely that they are specially recorded in meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1926 was 92° on 9th September, and the lowest 70° on several days. The mean of maximum temperatures was 85° and the mean of minimum 74°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1926 was 59.37 inches. Over the past thirty years the average at St. George's has been 72.62 inches.

Historical.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—General.

For more than two years the prices of two important products—nutmegs and mace—have continued at exceptionally high rates, and although the price of the former declined slightly towards the end of the year the values, compared with pre-war figures, are still extremely remunerative to the growers. An upward trend in the prices of the other staple crop of the Island—cocoa—also occurred, with the result that a general wave of prosperity has extended throughout almost the entire community. Its signs are evident in an improved standard of living, and in expenditure on articles of better quality than usually purchased.

This tendency ought to benefit manufactures of British origin—and this has already been apparent in the case of motor-cars which, for the first time since motor transport was introduced into Grenada, are now being imported from Great Britain to an appreciable extent.

Whaling operations—as will be seen from the notes under "Industries"—were carried out on a smaller scale last year, but have now been discontinued, and it is uncertain whether the Company intends to resume the industry. The number of whales caught has not come up to the expectations formed when the station was erected, and some doubt appears to exist as to whether the whales are migrating or whether the species (*megaptera nodosa*) is becoming extinct.

Another promising industry—that of banana cultivation—has also received a blow by the closing down of the Swift Company towards the beginning of 1927. Efforts to maintain the cultivation and

to arrange for transport and marketing were taken by the Government, and there was a prospect of a resumption of the export of the fruit to New York, but unfortunately the latest outlook is far from encouraging.

A large scheme of improvement and extension of water supplies at a cost of about £14,000 was proceeded with, according to plans drawn up by Mr. H. F. Peet, M.I.C.E., who visited the Colony for the purpose in the early part of the year. The main work of improvement consists of enlargement of the filter beds, construction of additional reservoirs and sedimentation tanks, and introduction of ferric alumina treatment. Extensions of the water service in St. George's and the districts of Grand Anse, Mount Moritz, and Happy Hill were carried out during the year, and work of improvement has also been undertaken at Grenville, Sauteurs, and Gouyave.

Mr. Peet also drew up two schemes for the electric lighting of the town and district of St. George's, and it has been decided to proceed with a hydro-electric undertaking from power obtained from the Annandale River. Its introduction involves conversion of the telephone system in the electric light area from an earth to a metallic circuit, but as the present system can barely meet the requirements of the subscribers it has been decided to reconstruct the telephone system throughout the Island. These two schemes involve an expenditure of £40,000, and at the time of writing a loan for the purpose has been arranged for by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

The question of closer association with Trinidad continues to engage attention, although expressions of public opinion on the subject are somewhat lacking, from a fear that the proposal will mean some loss of individuality and autonomy among the smaller islands. The present association of the Windward Islands under a Governor at Grenada, and of the Leeward Islands under a Governor at Antigua, are examples of the feasibility of the larger union. In these existing unions, however, a certain element of jealousy arises from the fact that the seat of the Government is placed in an island no more important than the others of the group, and this would disappear by establishing the headquarters at an island of the size, importance, and public activities of Trinidad. There would also be the ultimate possibility of the public men of the smaller Councils meeting there for the consideration of subjects of common West Indian interest, thus obviating the defect of so many divided opinions on such subjects.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., was absent in England on leave from 27th June to 30th October, the administration of the Government of the Windward Islands being undertaken from 15th July to 30th October by the Honourable Herbert Ferguson, C.B.E., the Colonial Secretary of Grenada.

Public Health and Statistics.

The new Public Health Ordinance, which was passed towards the end of 1925, came into operation on 1st March, 1926, and under its provisions the control of sanitation, which formerly had been undertaken by various Local Sanitary Authorities, passed to the control of a Central Authority consisting of the Chief Medical Officer as Chairman, two Medical Officers, and a representative from each of the six District Boards of the Colony. The practical measures in regard to sanitation are entrusted to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, with a staff of seven Sanitary Inspectors. A motor-lorry and adequate sanitary bins have been provided for St. George's, and handcarts and wheelbarrows in the other towns. The uniformity of procedure and the regular and systematic house to house inspections will, it is hoped, lead to greatly improved sanitary conditions.

The scheme for district visiting stations, to which reference was made in the last annual report, although not completed during the year, has now been established.

Financial provision has been made for a leper settlement, and steps are being taken for the selection of a suitable site. Lepers are not numerous, their number being under 20, and it is confidently expected that proper segregation will stamp out this disease within a generation.

Vital Statistics.—The estimated population at 31st December, 1926, was 71,621, the density being 538 per square mile.

There were 2,402 births and 1,460 deaths, the birth-rate being 33.53 and the death-rate 20.3 per thousand.

The death-rate is the highest recorded since 1917, when the rate was 20.6.

The percentage of deaths of children below five years of age to the total deaths was 50.8. In the year 1923 the percentage was 40.3, and in the following year 41.3.

The following table compares the infantile death-rate with that in other West Indian Colonies and England and Wales :—

Infantile death-rate per 100 births.

Country.	Year.	Under 1 year.	Under 5 years.
Grenada	1926	13·7	30·9
Grenada	1925	11·6	23·3
British Guiana	1925	15·5	20·9
Dominica	1925	13·5	23·4
Jamaica	1925	17·3	25·8
St Lucia	1925	10·6	19·2
St. Vincent	1925	11·5	18·6
Trinidad	1925	13·4	20·1
England and Wales	1924	7·5	11·4

The following observations appear in the report on vital statistics for the year :—

> "The increased death-rate amongst infants has occurred principally in the parishes outside St. George's. In the latter, a Crêche was opened at the end of 1924, and, while the improvement in the infantile death-rate in St. George's as compared with the out-districts cannot with absolute certainty be attributed to the Baby Welfare Movement, there can be no doubt that this organisation has materially contributed to such a result. The District Visiting Stations that have this year been established by the Government will have a resident nurse in attendance specially trained in midwifery, and it is hoped that this scheme may lead to greatly improved conditions in the districts."

The increased number of deaths among young children accounts to a large extent for the increased total death-rate. There was a larger death-rate from diarrhœa and enteritis—principally among children—the deaths numbering 400 as against 284 in 1925, and from syphilis, which increased from 26 to 66, 42 of the latter being from congenital syphilis of infants.

Much of the high death-rate amongst young children is attributable to improper feeding, and, as one of the measures for counteracting this, the Government is considering a scheme for the distribution of pure milk at a cheap rate to the children of mothers in poor circumstances.

III.—Government Finance.

The revenue for the year again made a record, the amount being £148,447 as compared with £146,218 in 1925. The expenditure was £119,001, resulting in a surplus on the year of £29,446. With this addition, the excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1926, amounted to £69,201.

A special Reserve Fund was created during the year, and, in accordance with instructions from the Secretary of State, the Fund will be augmented annually (*a*) by a vote of £1,000, (*b*) by transfer of half the surplus revenue in each year, (*c*) by the interest on the Invested Reserve Fund until the Fund reaches the sum of £50,000.

By the operation of these measures the Reserve Fund at the end of 1926 was £23,435, the remaining surplus assets being £45,766.

The public debt of the Colony amounts to £223,670, against which there are accumulated sinking funds amounting at 31st December, 1926, to £92,824, leaving a net indebtedness of £130,846.

Banks.

Two Banks are established in the Colony, Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Overseas, and Colonial—formerly the Colonial Bank) and the Royal Bank of Canada, the former having also a branch at

Grenville. Savings bank business is conducted by both banks, the rate of interest on deposits being 3 per cent.

The note circulation of Barclay's Bank was £25,000, and that of the Royal Bank of Canada $100,000, but the actual amount in circulation is stated to be about £30,000.

Silver is legal tender without limit. There is very little gold in the Colony, a few American gold coins alone being in circulation.

Savings Bank.

The Savings Bank conducted by the Government gives 4 per cent. interest on deposits, and with this favourable rate the business of the Bank continues to grow steadily.

The amount standing at the credit of depositors rose during the year from £32,103 to £36,356, the number of depositors at the same time increasing from 1,922 to 2,135. The investments on account of the Bank's funds were £32,139, and there was a profit of £209 on the year's working.

IV.—Annual Progress of Trade.

The value of imports for the calendar year 1926 was £386,483, and of exports £447,401, the total trade being £833,884. As compared with 1925, the imports were less in value by £45,324, while the value of exports increased by £13,318.

IMPORTS.

The principal articles imported were the following :—

—	Value.		Increase or Decrease over 1925.	
	1925.	1926.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Flour	51,183	47,582	—	3,601
Cotton, piece-goods	46,413	39,794	—	6,619
Wood, &c., unmanufactured ...	15,907	22,739	6,832	—
Fish, dried, &c.	13,516	13,904	388	—
Rice	12,484	10,386	—	2,098
Motor-cars and parts	11,860	14,439	2,579	—
Bags and sacks, empty	10,509	6,256	—	4,253
Sugar, unrefined	10,481	9,251	—	1,230
Hardware	10,382	8,465	—	1,917
Machinery, industrial	9,443	3,307	—	6,136
Boots and Shoes	9,123	7,850	—	1,273
Oil, kerosene	8,107	7,007	—	1,100
Motor spirits	7,741	8,205	464	—
Soap, common	6,584	6,387	—	197
Cotton manufactures, other ...	6,374	5,437	—	937

The decreased importations are mainly due to the business houses having been well stocked in the preceding year. In the case of flour, although a decrease in value was recorded, the quantity imported was slightly more than in 1925.

Flour continues to be the principal article of importation and is obtained almost wholly from Canada, the returns showing that a very negligible quantity arrives from the United States of America. As will be seen from the following table, the transfer of trade in this article hitherto imported from the United States has been one of the principal effects of the Trade Agreement with Canada :—

Importations of Flour.

—	Canada.		United States.	
	lb.	£	lb.	£
1915	852,422	6,023	4,352,565	34,169
1919	2,406,806	34,290	2,114,257	29,766
1922	4,730,421	39,157	538,795	4,437
1926	5,293,833	47,485	11,172	97

The following table shows the direction of trade for the years 1925 and 1926 :—

—	1925.	Percentage of Total.	1926.	Percentage of Total.
	£		£	
United Kingdom	156,394	36·3	126,511	32·7
United States of America... ...	80,859	18·8	80,158	20·8
Canada	90,641	20·9	93,336	24·2
Other British Possessions ...	64,618	14·9	55,202	14·2
Other foreign countries	39,295	9·1	31,276	8·1

Exports.

The value of exports for the year amounted to £447,401, of which £437,751 represented the value of local products and £9,650 of re-exports.

The quantity and value of the principal local products exported were as follows :—

		£
Cocoa, raw	83,384 cwt.	223,290
Cotton, raw	3,159 ,,	14,040
Cotton Seed	7,762 ,,	2,646
Spices—Nutmegs	22,702 ,,	127,000
Mace	3,679 ,,	49,490
Whale Oil	108,055 gals.	14,258

The direction of the export trade was as follows :—

—	1925.	Percentage of Total.	1926.	Percentage of Total.
	£		£	
United Kingdom	171,768	39·6	165,901	37·1
United States of America ...	212,816	49·1	227,015	50·7
Canada	12,785	3·0	14,895	3·3
Other British Possessions ...	14,425	3·1	14,555	3·2
Other foreign countries	22,289	5·2	25,035	5·7

A greater quantity of the Colony's staple products continues to be shipped to the United States of America than to the United Kingdom, the figures being :—

	United States of America.	*United Kingdom.*
	cwt.	cwt.
Cocoa	42,536	34,426
Nutmegs	15,019	6,189
Mace	1,855	1,595

All the cotton exported, 3,159 cwt., went to the United Kingdom. Of the 108,055 gallons of whale oil exported 107,815 gallons were consigned to Holland and 240 gallons to Trinidad.

The total amount of export duty collected was £11,061. The amount collected in 1925 was £12,267. The products in respect of which these amounts were collected were :—

	1925.	1926.
	£	£
Cocoa	4,979	5,668
Cotton, raw	488	316
Cotton Seed	222	192
Nutmegs	5,440	3,626
Mace	961	901
Whale Oil	177	337
Whale Manure	—	21

The increase under cocoa was due partly to larger crops and partly to higher values.

Other articles of export included bananas and other fruit, lime juice, salt, coconuts, hides and skins, copra, groundnuts, wood, and timber.

Agriculture.

Weather conditions are reported to have been very unfavourable for crops during the year 1926, but exports of cocoa and nutmegs showed a slight increase, nevertheless, over those of the previous year.

Cocoa.

The market prices for cocoa were profitable, and towards the end of the year a still further advance in price occurred. The exports amounted to 83,384 cwt. as compared with 73,216 cwt. in 1925, and the value increased from £197,231 to £223,290. In three parishes experimental plot work has been begun with a view to determining accurately the effects of manurial and cultural treatment of the cocoa tree in relation to its productiveness.

Spices.

The quantity of nutmegs exported was greater than in the previous year, but a slight decline in the very high prices reduced the value from £145,861 to £127,000. The production of mace was slightly less than in 1925, but the prices were on the average higher, and the value of the mace exported rose from £39,606 to £49,490.

Cotton.

Cotton cultivation, which is principally of the variety called "Marie Galante," and is confined to Carriacou, was normal, the crop being [illegible]age quantity and the prices slightly lower than in the preceding year. The Commissioner of Carriacou reports that there was no sign of boll weevil and that this was due to the success of the methods adopted for its suppression during the past three years.

Other Crops.

Considerable attention was given during the year to the development of banana cultivation, and by the end of the year shipments of 1,000 to 1,200 stems were being made to New York every three weeks by a steamer provided by the Swift Banana Company. Unfortunately, this Company ceased operations shortly afterwards, and the re-establishment of shipping and marketing facilities is a problem which is engaging the attention of the Government. The immediate difficulty is that until the production reaches the extent of about 20,000 stems weekly the industry does not warrant the employment of special steamers. If means could be found to carry on during the interval of development, the industry would be extremely profitable. There is a prospect also of grape fruit cultivation being developed, and an experimental plot of several acres is being laid out by the Agricultural Department. The corn (Indian maize) crop throughout the Colony is reported to have been short, and ground provisions, i.e., root crops, did not do so well as anticipated.

The actual amalgamation of the Agricultural Department with that of Trinidad was brought into effect during the year, and visits were paid by Mr. W. G. Freeman, B.Sc., the Director of Agriculture, Mr. Scheuli, Agronomist, Mr. Joseph de Venteuil, Chemist,

and Mr. S. Stell, Mycologist, while a visit was also paid towards the end of the year by Captain Metivier, Veterinary Surgeon, in connection with an outbreak of disease among pigs, which was diagnosed as swine fever.

Land.

There are no Crown lands for sale; any lands remaining in the possession of the Crown are preserved as Forest or Rain Reserves.

Estates are occasionally bought by the Government for the purpose of land settlement, but this is confined to smallholders of whom, mainly owing to the schemes fostered by Government, there are over 14,000 in the Island.

Industries.

The sugar industry can scarcely be said to exist in Grenada, much less sugar being made than is required for local consumption. This condition of things continues, although for some years past the Government has imposed a protective duty on imported sugar amounting to 1*d*. per lb., with a view to stimulating the local production. There is, apparently, a lack of suitable land available for profitable cultivation of canes.

Rum was manufactured at twelve distilleries, the output of which was 45,096 proof gallons, a quantity barely sufficient for the local demand.

An ice factory continues to work in St. George's with the aid of a Government subsidy.

Whaling Industry.

The operations of the Company established on Glover Island were continued, with three in place of two whale-catchers, but the catch numbered only 72 whales as compared with 102 in the previous year. The quantity of oil exported was 108,055 gallons, of the value of £14,258, and a small quantity of manure was exported, of the value of £418.

These results apparently have not been profitable, and operations in the present year have been entirely discontinued.

V.—Legislation.

Eighteen Ordinances were passed during the year, the principal of which were the following :—

No. 1.—Dangerous Drugs.—Introducing measures for dealing with the traffic in opium, &c.

No. 4.—Carriage of Goods by Sea.—Adopted to secure uniformity of procedure throughout the Empire.

No. 9.—Midwives.—Providing for the examination, registration, and control of midwives.

No. 11.—Primary Education Ordinance.—Revising the constitution of the Board of Education and of committees of management, and improving conditions affecting teachers.

No. 18.—Companies.—Which introduces modern legislation on the lines of the Imperial Act on the subject.

VI.—Educational Progress.

Dr. H. A. Baker, D.Sc., the Director of Education, was seconded to the post of Geologist to the Newfoundland Government for one year from the end of June, the duties of Director being taken over by Mr. H. H. Pilgrim in conjunction with his own duties as Inspector of Schools.

Primary.

The number of primary schools is the same as last year, namely, 58, of which 10 were Government, 27 Roman Catholic, 14 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, and 2 Presbyterian.

The total number of scholars on the roll at 31st December, 1926, was 11,731, and the average attendance was 7,066, representing 60.2 per cent. of the number on roll.

The total expenditure by the Government on primary education for the year was £8,287, and the amount by the Denominations was £306. Excluding administration and inspection, the cost to Government per pupil in average attendance at Government schools was £1 4*s*. 3*d*., and at grant-in-aid schools £1 2*s*. 7*d*.

Secondary.

The numbers at the Grenada Boys' School have still further increased, and numbered 108 at the last term, of whom 36 were scholarship holders from the lower division and combined primary schools.

In addition, there were 182 girls on the rolls of the Anglican Girls' High School and the St. Joseph's Convent School. These figures do not represent the total number of girls receiving secondary or specialised education in the Colony, as there are about 60 pupils in attendance at another private school, which has this year now received a Government grant.

Ten pupils from the Grenada Boys' School entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, and nine passed, two Honours and two Distinctions being gained. Two pupils from this school sat for, but did not pass, the Cambridge School Certificate Examination.

The successful candidates at the Cambridge Junior Local Examination from the Anglican Girls' School numbered three out of six, and from the St. Joseph's Convent School two out of five, one of the pupils from the latter school gaining a Distinction.

The Matriculation Examination of London University has now been made the standard for winning the Grenada Scholarship, which is now awarded biennially.

At the June Examination this year, six candidates sat, and the Scholarship was awarded to Mr. M. A. Byer, who passed in the 1st Division. Only one of the other candidates passed the examination, in the 2nd Division.

VII.—Communications.

Roads.

There is a good network of main roads and byways throughout the Island, the approximate mileage of the former being 114 and of the latter 305 miles. All the main roads and most of the byways are suitable for motor traffic. The gradients in some parts are steep, and the numerous curves and blind corners necessitate care in driving.

The Government motor mail and passenger service between St. George's and Sauteurs, via Grenville, was discontinued from August, when the service was taken over by a private contractor under a subsidy from the Government. On the western side of the Island there is now also a subsidized motor-bus mail and passenger service as well as a subsidized motor-boat service. This latter extends its journey to Carriacou once a week.

Posts.

Postal business is transacted at the principal post office in St. George's, and at sub-offices at Gouyave, Victoria, Sauteurs, Grenville, and St. David's, and at Hillsborough, Carriacou. There are, in addition, several postal stations.

Telegraphs.

There is a wireless station at St. George's, operated by the Pacific Cable Board, and a subsidiary wireless station was erected in Carriacou last year by the Government. Communication with other countries is also maintained by the West Indian and Panama Telegraph Company by cable.

Telephones.

There is a telephone service with five exchanges, worked very economically and at small charges. Owing to the great increase in the number of subscribers, a reconstruction of the entire system has been decided upon. There are (including Carriacou) 511 instruments and 150 switches in use; 183 miles of direct wire and 902 miles connecting subscribers and exchanges.

SHIPPING.

Direct communication with the United Kingdom was maintained by the Harrison Line, their larger steamers calling about once a month. This direct service is much appreciated; the duration of the voyage to London is about 14 days. The cargo steamers of this Line also call frequently.

The ordinary fortnightly service of the subsidized Canada-West Indies Steamship Line was continued for a part of the year, but in the latter half was restricted to a monthly call of passenger steamers with an intermediate call of freight steamers. Arrangements have now been made for an improved service under the management of the Canadian Government Mercantile Marine.

The Furness-Withy Line have a direct service from New York to Grenada at intervals of about ten days. The time occupied between New York and Grenada is seven days.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Administrator.

GRENADA,
WINDWARD ISLANDS.
28th June, 1927.

(488—21) Wt. 12869—797 500 10/27 H. St. G. 7/8

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased.

ASHANTI.
BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMEN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
IRAQ.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1364.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1926.

(For Reports for 1924 and 1925 see Nos. 1268 and 1326, respectively (Price 6d. each).)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1927.

Price 6d. net.

58-34-0-26.

SAINT LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Situation and Area	2
History	3
Climate	4
General Observations	4
Vital Statistics	5
Shipping	6
Financial	6
Imports and Exports	6
Progress of Trade, Agriculture, and Industry	7
Education	8
Communications	9

Situation and Area.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about twelve miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480 Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of that town.

History.

It is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Columbus, during his fourth voyage, on the 18th June, 1502. There is, however, a tradition amongst the French that it was discovered on the 13th December of a later year by some shipwrecked French seamen, who named it St. Alouziel or St. Alousie after the martyred virgin saint of that name, whose feast is commemorated on that date.

The island was then inhabited by the Caribs and they remained in undisturbed possession for another century.

In 1605 sixty-seven persons proceeding to Guiana by the English ship "Olive Blossom" were forced by famine to land in the island, and they remained "to take their fortune in the fruitful isle." They were not able to stay longer than a month, however, when, reduced to nineteen by wars with the Caribs, they left in an open boat and reached the mainland of South America in sore distress. This is the first recorded instance of a landing by Englishmen in the island.

In 1626 a Commission was granted by Cardinal Richelieu to MM. d'Enambuc and du Rossay to establish a French Colony "in the islands of St. Christopher and Barbados and in the surrounding territories," which presumably included St. Lucia, and in 1627 the island was granted by the King of England, along with all the Caribbee Islands, to the Earl of Carlisle, who appointed Lord Willoughby of Parham to be Governor of Barbados and the other Caribbee Islands. In 1635 it appears to have been granted by the King of France to MM. de l'Olive and Duplessis.

In 1638 Captain Judlee of St. Kitts (acting in the name of Lord Willoughby) and three or four hundred men took possession of the island and attempted to effect a settlement in it, but in 1640 these early colonists were massacred and expelled by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who sold it in 1650 to MM. Honel and du Parquet for the equivalent of £1,600. The Caribs made repeated attempts to expel the French but failed and finally, in 1660, they concluded a treaty of peace with the latter.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia and took possession of it. The English continued in occupation until the Peace of Breda, in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France and made a dependency of Martinique.

Throughout the eighteenth century recurrent struggles took place between the English and the French for possession of the island, the more important occurring in the latter half of the century. In 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton, but was returned to France by the Treaty of

Paris in the following year. In 1778 it again surrendered to the British, who remained in occupation until 1783 when, by the Peace of Versailles, St. Lucia was once more restored to France. It was from Pigeon Island, off the north-western coast of St. Lucia, during the period of this occupancy that Rodney sighted the French Fleet of 36 sail of the line, under the Comte de Grasse, prior to giving them battle and defeating them in the memorable naval action of the 12th April, 1782. The island was again taken by the British in 1794, but they were forced by the French Republican party in the island, aided by insurgent slaves under "Citoyen" Victor Hughes, the Civil Commissary of Guadeloupe, to evacuate it in the following year. In 1796, after an obstinate and sanguinary struggle, that party laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war to a force 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under the command of Sir Hugh Christian. Sir John Moore, the subsequent hero of Corunna, took part in this operation as Brigadier-General Moore, and remained in the island as Governor thereafter. The British retained possession of the island until 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on the 22nd June, 1803, since when it has continued under British rule. As a result of the operations of 1778, 1796, and 1803, no fewer than thirteen British regiments have "St. Lucia" inscribed on their colours.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands. The temperature varies between 70° in the cool season, from December to May, to 90° in the remainder of the year. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the former garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60° and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

The temperature records during 1926 show a mean noon temperature of 85.5° in the shade. The maximum temperature recorded was 94°, the minimum being 62°, giving a range of 32°. The rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year was 68.12 inches, being 21.37 inches below the average for 37 years.

General Observations.

The general health of the island was good during the year. There was no epidemic sickness to be recorded. The Chief Medical Officer is responsible for the general supervision of matters of health and sanitation in the Colony.

Victoria Hospital, the principal hospital, is situated within half a mile of Castries. A Resident Surgeon is in charge, and he is assisted by a staff consisting of a European matron and local

nurses and dispensers. There is a ward with six rooms assigned to paying patients, of which extensive use is made. This institution has a good reputation, and patients speak highly of the skill and attention of the staff.

There are three small district casualty hospitals close to the principal local dispensaries of Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and Dennery.

The Pauper and Leper Asylums are situated in the Soufriere District, and are supervised by the Medical Officer of the District and a visiting Advisory Committee.

The prosperity of the Colony is mainly dependent upon agriculture. Extensive banana cultivation has progressed rapidly, and there is an abundant supply of fruit, vegetables, and fish, which form the staple foods of the population.

Coaling, for which there are exceptional facilities, still affords considerable, though irregular, occupation for a number of labourers in and around Castries.

There is good river and sea fishing. At certain times of the year shooting can be obtained.

The second public lawn tennis court in the Botanic Gardens is nearing completion, and an attractive tennis, bathing, and social club has been formed at Vigie and promises to be a most successful venture.

" Poppy Day " has been observed since 1923, and a fairly satisfactory sum has been so far collected yearly for Earl Haig's Fund for Disabled Soldiers.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., made two visits to the Colony during the year, from 2nd February to 23rd March and from 12th November to 16th December.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Lucia, then Acting Governor, went on leave from 2nd July and His Honour Captain Oliver Plunkett, Chief Justice, was appointed to act as Administrator.

Vital Statistics.

On 31st December, 1925, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 25,345 males and 29,754 females—a total of 55,099. On 31st December, 1926, the figure had increased to 55,698; males 25,594, females 30,104. The natural increase during the year was 890. The departure from the Colony exceeded the number of persons entering the Colony by 291, so that the net addition was only 599.

The births (including still-births) were 2,120—males 1,087, females 1,033. The number of deaths recorded was 1,230—males 592, females 638.

The principal causes of death as returned (excluding still-births) were malaria, 73; pulmonary tuberculosis, 57; phthisis, 31;

syphilis, 56; cancer, 23; pneumonia, 72; worms, 117; infantile debility, 31; senile decay, 108.

There was one death from snake bite returned in the Gros Islet District.

Shipping.

The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,107, of a total tonnage of 1,071,957 tons. Of this total, 490 were steam vessels and 617 sailing.

Four ships of His Majesty's Fleet and seven private yachts called during the year.

Financial.

The local revenue received during the year amounted to £83,379 or £7,824 more than the previous year. The expenditure, however, exceeded the revenue by £1,111, being £84,488 or £594 less than in 1925. It is expected that the economies which have been effected will reduce expenditure considerably during the present year. The accounts for the year closed with a deficit of £1,109, which cannot be regarded as satisfactory, but, nevertheless, represents a substantial improvement of £8,418 over the deficit at the end of 1925. The public debt of the Colony stood at £206,609, and the accumulated sinking fund for its redemption £54,767, on the 31st December, 1926.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10*s*. and 5*s*. are in circulation, as well as the notes of the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries. Each of these Banks has savings banks, and there is, in addition, a Government Savings Bank, all of which do a fair amount of business, the latter's balance at the close of the year being £12,644.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports (including bunker coal) was £252,236, and of exports (including bunker coal) £251,705. The value of bunker coal imported was £53,551, as compared with £39,562 in 1925, while the export totalled £76,314, as compared with £77,399 in the previous year. Imports from the United Kingdom totalled £62,399, other parts of the British Empire £62,515, while the total from foreign countries was £121,506, parcel post being responsible for the remaining £5,816. Of the imports from foreign countries, those from the United States of America show a value of £103,507, of which the principal items were bunker coal £53,551 and cinema films £6,800.

Of British countries, Canada shows a total of £36,940.

Of the total exports, commodities valued at £62,421 went to the United Kingdom, £70,822 to other parts of the British Empire, and

£41,595 to foreign countries, while exports of bunker coal totalled £76,314. Ships' stores, with the decline in shipping trade, amounted to £553 only.

Progress of Trade, Agriculture, and Industry.

The price for sugar was low previous to, and during, the crop. The sugar market, however, improved steadily during the year, being favourably affected by Cuban restrictions on sugar production; the average price per ton of West Indian crystals was £29 9*s.*, as against £30 10*s.* in 1925.

The total amount of sugar made was 6,021 tons, as against 5,564 tons for 1925.

The production of rum again decreased, the following quantities being made in the distilleries :—

	Proof Gallons.
1925	45,762.2
1926	34,161.3

There has been no extension in the area under cane, which remains at about 4,750 acres.

The cocoa market improved during the year and provided a workable price for best cocoa, the price ranging from 57*s.* to 68*s.* per cwt., with a further advance at the end of the year. Exports were as follows : —

1925	10,443 cwt. valued at £22,339
1926	10,036 cwt. valued at £22,454

St. Lucia grades of cocoa compare well with other kinds, but would receive better attention if the total crop were pooled for shipment in bulk.

High prices were realised for lime oils during the year, ranging from 25*s.* to 46*s.* per lb. for hand-pressed oil and from 9*s.* 6*d.* to 36*s.* for distilled oil. Concentrated and raw lime juices were sold at a moderate price throughout the year and all markets had become more normal towards the close of the year.

Increased attention was given to lime cultivation. The total crop of the Colony, calculated in barrels, was :—

1925—63,406 barrels, value as exported lime products £27,835

1926—59,415 barrels, value as exported lime products £28,245

This industry is now the second most productive in the Colony. The area under lime cultivation is 2,650 acres.

The production of coconuts has increased, with a number of young trees coming into bearing, and a large crop has been made; much of this has been dealt with by the local oil mills in the manufacture of oil and soap, the exports of which are correspondingly augmented as shown below :—

	1925.	*Value.* £	*1926.*	*Value.* £
Coconuts (Number)	123,516	432	118,501	380
Coconut Oil (Gals.)	6,323	791	19,081	3,846
Copra (lb.)	221,944	3,563	178,234	1,808
Coconut meal (lb.)	28,917	106	95,011	777

The production of bananas has increased considerably during the last two years, due largely to the operations of the Banana Company and the organised collection of peasants' bananas for shipment. Shipment of bananas from St. Lucia to New York took place on four occasions.

The present yield of all Gros Michel cultivations in the Colony is estimated to reach 70,000 bunches during the year.

Owing to the weak American market, bay oil factories dealt with a smaller crop than in the previous year. Mentholated bay rum has also been manufactured. Local rum, owing to its immaturity, has been found unsuitable for the manufacture of bay rum.

An increased crop of sea island cotton was raised and realised a good price.

By increased attention to apiculture a good honey crop was made during the year and the following were exported :—

	1925.	*Value.*	*1926.*	*Value.*
	lb.	£	lb.	£
Honey	43,862	463	129,152	737
Wax	426	23	217	8

Copra has been utilised by the local oil mills in the manufacture of coconut oil and cake.

Soaps of good quality, containing a high proportion of natural glycerine, have been manufactured experimentally and provision made for a local trade in soap.

Education.

Primary education is free and compulsory. There are 49 denominational schools. Although education is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14, little more than half the children of school age attend. The teaching is greatly hampered by the prevalence of French "patois."

Grants-in-aid are made to these schools, mainly for the payment of teachers' salaries. The Inspector of Schools, a Government officer, is in charge of the administration of the grants.

Except for the Roman Catholic Sisters, the teachers are all natives of the Colony or neighbouring Colonies. Facilities for training of teachers, or higher rates of pay to attract more highly qualified teachers, are urgently needed.

English, reading, writing, arithmetic, the elements of grammar, geography, and hygiene are taught. In the upper classes boys are taught elementary agricultural science, both practical and theoretical, and the girls needlework and domestic economy. The results are generally good.

Secondary education is supplied by St. Mary's College for boys, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, both situated in Castries. These schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations and the London University Matriculation Examination. Pupils have attained considerable success in these

examinations. The St. Lucia Scholarship of £175 per annum, which was established in 1918 and suspended in 1925, was renewed in 1926, and made biennial. The Scholarship is awarded, on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination, to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. A choice of universities, or of agricultural scientific or technical colleges or institutions in Europe, Canada, or the United States, approved by the Governor in Council, is permitted. The Scholarship is tenable for not less than three, and not more than five, years according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned. Up to 1926 six Scholarships have been awarded.

Communications.

The road system of the Island, owing to lack of funds, has perforce to advance slowly. There are now maintained by the Government 125 miles of main roads, 143 miles of by-ways, and 74 miles of unclassified roads, of which 156 miles are suitable for, and much used by, motor traffic.

Passenger subsidised motor-bus services are regularly maintained between Castries and Dennery and Vieuxfort and Soufriere.

The Government 50-ton motor launch supplies a regular service between Castries, Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and the villages of Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, and Laborie.

There is a telephone system throughout the Colony, the ten exchanges being connected by 94 miles of trunk lines, with 217 subscribers over 298 miles of wire.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular monthly steamer service to Canada and other West Indian Colonies, and (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the French mail steamer. There are other and frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America and direct to Europe.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board; there is also the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, the latter no longer subsidised by the Government.

OLIVER PLUNKETT, *Capt.*
Acting Administrator.

ST. LUCIA,
October, 1927.

(980—21) Wt. 18966—1223 500 12/27 H. St. G. 7/8

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased.

ASHANTI.
BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
'IRAQ.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1372.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1926.

(For Reports for 1924 and 1925 see Nos. 1267 and 1303, respectively (Price 6d. each).)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1928.

Price 6d. net.

58-35-0-26.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1926.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—Geographical and Historical	2
II.—General Observations	3
III.—Climate	4
IV.—Financial	5
V.—Vital Statistics	6
VI.—Annual Progress of Trade, Agriculture, and Industries ...	7
VII.—Education	10
VIII.—Hospitals	11
IX.—Banks	11
X.—Communications	12

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ N. latitude, and 60° 57′ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of 9 miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the Island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the Island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the Island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

On the whole the year 1926 may be regarded as a fairly satisfactory one, although the revenue, £60,243, fell short of that for 1925 by some £2,200, due mainly to the fact that the tax on land throughout the Colony was reduced by one-half.

The yield from Income Tax, £3,014, showed a reduction of £1,500 on that for 1925. This may be attributed to the large unsold stocks of cotton and arrowroot held in England during the last three years.

The total trade of the Colony amounted to £366,515, as against £444,339 in 1925; the value of exports, £162,909, showing a marked reduction of nearly £70,000 as compared with 1925. The cause for this is to be found in the serious decline in the marketable export values of arrowroot and syrup.

The net surplus as on 31st December, 1926, amounted to £21,509, and in addition to this the Colony possesses a Reserve Fund of £11,000 now fully invested in good liquid securities, while the Public Debt only amounts to £9,730 with sinking funds invested to the extent of £5,494.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £59,282, being some £6,000 more than the expenditure for 1925. This £6,000, however, includes £2,000 appropriated to form the nucleus of the Public Property Insurance Fund. The surplus on the year's working amounted to £961.

This Island, like other West Indian islands, depends entirely for its prosperity upon securing sales and satisfactory prices for its principal agricultural products—arrowroot, cotton, copra, syrup.

The general health of the Island was good. Eight cases of diphtheria occurred, with four deaths, and forty-eight cases of enteric, with nine deaths.

There were 1,304 cases of infantile diarrhœa, with 86 deaths, during the period under review, but it is probable that a certain number of these cases are of tubercular origin.

The mortality-rate per 1,000 births was 125, as against 115 in 1925.

The campaign against yaws continued successfully, some 1,861 cases being discharged clinically cured.

An important event in the medical history of the year was the appointment of a Chief Sanitary Inspector, upon whose arrival a campaign of public health education was started. This appointment is destined to be of very considerable influence in the carrying out of sanitation measures.

During the year a new water sewerage system was installed at the Colonial Hospital, which has given most satisfactory service.

A new electric-light plant was put in at the Hospital and the building re-wired.

The principal public works undertaken included the reconstruction of the telephone system, certain minor exchanges being eliminated. A new and more suitable type of switchboard was erected at the central exchange and smaller switchboards of similar design were installed at the principal district exchanges. The work of reconstructing the system, which was started in 1925, was completed at the close of the year under review.

Reconstruction work was continued on the Windward Highway and reached Georgetown at the end of the year. The cost of the work, as in 1925, was defrayed from surplus funds.

A new motor roller of an improved type was obtained.

A causeway was constructed over the Cumberland River and also over the Teviot and Fairhall rivers.

The education year was marked by the introduction of a revised code of education and the institution of pensions for Head Teachers on retiring.

Perhaps the most important event of the year, from the political point of view, was the Preliminary Conference of Representatives of the West Indian Islands and British Honduras and British Guiana, held in London in May and June with a view to the formation of a Standing Conference to meet at regular intervals and discuss and advise upon matters of general interest to the West Indies. The Windward Islands were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Moorhouse, K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., and the Honourable G. Lafitte.

The Colony was visited during the early part of the year by a Parliamentary delegation under the leadership of Viscount Peel.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., paid a brief visit in February. The Administrator, Mr. R. Walter, C.M.G., was on leave from 14th July till the end of the year. During his absence the Government was administered by His Honour the Chief Justice, Mr. J. S. Rae, except for the period 23rd September till 3rd October, when the administration was taken over by the Honourable N. H. Turton, Attorney-General.

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet season from June to December. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 78.6° F. to 82.1° F. The highest was in May, and the lowest in February. Meteorological records for 1926 show that the mean monthly temperature was 80.7° F., as against 79.5° F. in 1925.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea-level, was 78.86 inches, as compared with 90.98 inches in 1925. Rain fell on 283 days, and the greatest fall for one day was 1.84 on the 22nd July.

The rainfall at the Botanic Gardens, only a mile away from the Experimental Station but some 200 feet higher up, was 79.17 inches. The average at these Gardens for the last 33 years was 101.23 inches, so that the rainfall during 1926 was 22.37 inches below the average.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation, and temperature, ranged from 30.189 inches on the 21st February to 29,821 inches on the 16th November.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1926, was :—

	£
Net surplus at 1st January, 1926	20,548
Revenue in 1926	60,243
	80,791
Expenditure in 1926	59,282
Net surplus at 31st December, 1926	£21,509

The net local revenue and expenditure in the last three years were :—

	Local Revenue. £	*Expenditure against Local Revenue.* £
1924	60,893	53,887
1925	62,450	53,190
1926	60,243	59,282

The principal items of revenue in the last three years were :—

	1924. £	*1925.* £	*1926.* £
Import duties	25,869	26,379	26,683
Export duties	3,032	2,982	2,959
Excise duty on rum	2,938	5,816	6,479
Land and house tax	5,882	6,337	4,124
Income tax	3,947	4,504	3,014
Liquor trade duty	2,934	2,736	3,013
Postage stamps	2,334	1,732	1,774

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up from donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufriere volcano in 1902-3,

is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to the general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor. This amount, together with the Colony's Reserve Fund of £11,000, offers excellent security both for elemental disasters and economic depression. The amount to the credit of the Public Property Insurance Fund which was started during the year stood at £2,042 at the close of the year.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1926, was £9,730, of which £1,280 is a loan raised by the town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £5,494 on the 31st December, 1926, of which £4,631 was in respect of Government loans, and £863 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

Currency.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447 according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1926, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 49,751 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths and marriages in the past two years :—

	1925.	1926.
Births	1,946	1,963
Males	1,005	968
Females	941	995
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	43.13	39.46
Deaths	876	966
Death-rate per 1,000	18.18	19.42
Marriages	136	153
Marriage-rate per 1,000	2.82	3.08

Illegitimate births numbered 1,418, or 72.2 per cent. of the total number of all births.

Still-births numbered 108, of which 88 were illegitimate.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The total values of imports and exports in 1925 and 1926 were :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total trade.*
	£	£	£
1925	211,907	232,432	444,339
1926	203,606	162,909	366,515

Produce of the Colony to the value of £158,825 was exported in 1926, as against £229,941 in 1925.

Imports.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1925.	1926.
	£	£
United Kingdom	75,914	67,425
Canada	46,108	45,373
British West Indies	15,180	10,896
India	646	3,476
Newfoundland	2,851	6,071
Other British Colonies	7,271	3,878
United States of America ...	46,302	46,737
France	1,736	2,845
Denmark	790	450
Holland	706	675
Foreign West Indies	669	550
Germany	1,505	1,875
Other countries	3,547	3,266
Unclassified, including Parcel Post	8,682	10,089
	£211,907	£203,606

The following are the percentages, in the last two years, of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1925.	1926.
United Kingdom	35.82	33.12
United States of America... ...	21.85	22.95
Canada	21.76	22.28
All other countries	20.57	21.65

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, drink, and tobacco	71,423
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	102,521
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	19,402
Miscellaneous and unclassified	10,260
	£203,606

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1925 and 1926 were as follows :—

	1925.	1926.
	£	£
United Kingdom	167,116	92,492
Canada	19,149	10,992
British West Indies	27,744	32,716
British Guiana	1,306	649
United States of America ...	14,136	20,613
Other countries	490	1,363
	£229,941	£158,825

The principal products exported were :—

	1925.	1926.
	£	£
Arrowroot	125,078	45,807
Cotton :—		
Sea Island	57,655	63,175
Marie Galante	464	1,514
Seed cotton, Marie Galante	1,047	468
Cocoa	2,345	2,461
Syrup and molasses	19,672	16,523
Cassava starch	4,160	4,077
Copra	5,512	9,826
Peanuts	3,794	2,370
Animals	3,986	5,243
Cotton seed	53	398
Cotton-seed oil	1	583
Whale oil	1	148
Vegetables, fresh	2,581	2,107
Peas	866	476
Corn	627	388

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery continued to buy seed cotton on profit-sharing terms, but confined its activities to Sea Island cotton only, as was the case in 1925.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1925-26 and 1926-27 :—

	1925-26.	1926-27.
	lb.	*lb.*
Sea Island seed cotton ...	131,520	451,393

Corn was purchased on the co-operative system to the following extent during the seasons 1925-26 and 1926-27 :—

	1925-26.	1926-27.
	lb.	*lb.*
Shelled corn	100,850	99,929
Cob corn	36,138	37,933

Cotton.—The acreage planted in cotton again showed an increase over past years. For the 1925-26 season 4,989 acres were planted with Sea Island cotton and 1,359 acres with Marie Galante, while for the 1926-27 season 6,156 acres were planted with Sea Island and 1,300 acres with Marie Galante. The acreage planted with Sea Island cotton in the 1926-27 season has only been exceeded on one occasion, viz., 1920-21.

The number of peasant proprietors of Sea Island cotton increased from 2,515 in the 1925-26 season to 3,360 in 1926-27.

The total amount of Sea Island cotton lint produced during the season under review was 507,240 lb., or at the rate of 82 lb. per acre—a considerable reduction on the previous three seasons, due largely to attacks of the cotton caterpillar.

On the whole the damage done by the pink bollworm, except on one estate, was not worse than in previous years. Planters were careful to clean up their fields during the close season and this, combined with the vigilance of the Agricultural Department, contributed to keep the pest in check.

A total of 589,499 lb. of Sea Island cotton was exported in 1926, value £63,175, as against 473,219 lb., value £57,655, in 1925.

The export of Marie Galante cotton was 30,275 lb., of the value of £1,514, as against 9,673 lb., of the value of £464, in 1925.

Marie Galante seed cotton to the amount of 56,092 lb., value £468, was exported in 1926, as against 100,468 lb., value £1,047, in 1925.

Cotton seed is used extensively as a fertiliser.

Syrup and Molasses.—337,099 gallons, of the value of £16,523, were exported in 1926, as against 268,118 gallons, of the value of £19,672, in the previous year.

Rum.—28,286.7 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing an increase of 1,489.6 proof gallons on the previous year.

Arrowroot.—There was no fixing of prices in the London market by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association during the year 1926, but large quantities remained unsold. 3,291,553 lb., of the value of £45,807, were exported as compared with 3,190,412 lb., of the value of £125,078, in 1925. The British market is overstocked with this valuable foodstuff and additional markets are required. It is satisfactory to note that the export of this commodity to the United States of America increased from 649,977 lb. in 1925 to 914,379 lb. in 1926. Holland also was an importer and, in view of the great importance of finding new and wider markets for this stuff, this is good news.

Peanuts.—190,978 lb., value £2,370, were exported, as against 273,039 lb., value £3,794, in 1925.

Copra.—The exports of copra continue to increase. The figures for the past seven years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.* lb.
1920	22,644
1921	89,005
1922	222,593
1923	356,626
1924	645,973
1925	661,309
1926	762,563

In view of the flat state of the markets for cotton and arrowroot it is satisfactory to note the progress of the copra industry.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the Colony; several Societies are, however, not functioning. The amount of money loaned in 1926 was £1,586, compared with £1,460 in 1925. A few Societies failed to repay in 1926 debts contracted in earlier years. All loans contracted in 1925 were repaid in 1926.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 353, of 204,743 tons; and 357, of 211,393 tons, cleared. Three vessels of sixty-three tons were registered during the year.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1925 and 1926 :—

	1925.	1926.
Number of schools	27	28
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	4,884	5,407
Average attendance	2,648	2,892
Government Grant-in-aid ...	£2,939	£3,335
Cost per head in average attendance	£1.2.2	£1.3.0¾

Eleven of the twenty-eight regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other seventeen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were eight other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools", which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £114.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School, and one for girls—the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1926 was 70 boys and 50 girls, as compared with 74 boys and 43 girls in 1925. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

There is an Island Scholarship awarded biennially under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

The first Island Scholar to be appointed, Mr. P. E. McI. Clarke, left the Colony in September, 1923, to study medicine at King's College, London. Satisfactory reports have been received as to his progress in his studies.

A second scholar, Mr. A. B. Brereton, was appointed in 1924 and left during 1925 to take up his medical studies at Edinburgh University, and a third scholar, Mr. J. P. E. Cropper, was appointed in 1926 but had not taken up his studies at a University at the close of the year.

Provision exists for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—HOSPITALS.

The following hospital accommodation is provided :—Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 78 beds (including 4 beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, 4 beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, 4 beds.

IX.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.—The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	*Number of depositors at 31st December.*	*Amount of deposits.*	*Amount of withdrawals.*	*Balance to credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalized.*
		£	£	£
1925 ...	737	2,968	2,665	14,642
1926 ...	729	1,945	2,427	14,561

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £402.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st December, 1926, amounted to £13,746. Interest at 3 per cent. is paid on deposits.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas).—There is a branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), formerly the Colonial Bank, with a Savings Bank Department.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

Owing to the rejection of the tender of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for the shipping service contemplated by the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1925, the fortnightly service hitherto maintained by the Company was reduced to a monthly service during the year under review and the Colony suffered greatly from lack of regular passenger steamship communication. The Harrison, the Canadian Merchant Marine, and the Columbian Lines of steamers continued to call at uncertain intervals with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo were also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the cash-on-delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with seventeen district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor-car, by motor-boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing vessels.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintained their station at St. Vincent.

The wireless station for the new telegraph system authorised by the West Indian Islands (Telegraph) Act, 1924, of the Imperial Parliament, which was erected by the Radio Communication Company and opened in March, 1925, is in regular operation and has given very satisfactory service.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 219 services and 188 miles of line in use.

R. WALTER,
Administrator.

Government House,
Saint Vincent,
18*th October*, 1927.

(1062—21) Wt. 20528—1392 500 1/28 H. St. G. 7/ 8

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1391.

GRENADA

Report for 1927

(For Reports for 1925 *and* 1926 *see Nos.* 1310 *and* 1350, *respectively (Price* 6*d. each).)*

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.
1928
Price 9d. net.

58-1391.

EMPIRE DEVELOPMENT

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926 to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 9*d*.).

Agriculture in Trinidad. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 3.) 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agriculture in British Guiana. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 4.) 9*d*. (10*d*.).

Agriculture in Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 5.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board May, 1927 to May, 1928. (E.M.B. 9.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS.

The Imperial Economic Committee has issued a series of publications on the problems connected with the marketing and preparing for market of foodstuffs produced within the British Empire. The following six volumes are now ready. General Questions, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Meat, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Fruit, 4*s*. 6d. (4*s*. 10*d*.); Dairy Produce, 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.); Fish, 6*d*. (8*d*.); Poultry, Eggs, Honey, 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Eighth Report of the Committee, "The Functions and Work of the Imperial Economic Committee," 6*d*. (7*d*.). The relationship between the Committee and the Empire Marketing Board is explained in this Report.

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1927.

CONTENTS

		Page.
	Geographical	2
	Historical	3
	Climate	3
	Language	3
	Currency	4
	Weights and Measures	4
I.	General	4
II.	Finance	5
III.	Production	8
IV.	Trade and Economics	10
V.	Communications	12
VI.	Justice, Police and Prisons	13
VII.	Public Works	14
VIII.	Public Health	15
IX.	Educational Progress	15
X.	Land and Survey	16
XI.	Labour	16
	Miscellaneous	17

Introduction.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West longitude. The Island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the Island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the Island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

HISTORICAL.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

CLIMATE.

The climate from December to end of April may be described as good, as during that period the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds. In the autumn from July to end of October, there is great humidity and extreme heat, with little variation between night and day. During this period the climate is extremely debilitating, although not exactly unhealthy. The highest temperature in 1927 was 92 degrees on 24th September and 6th October, and the lowest 65 degrees on 19th March. The mean of maximum temperatures was 85 degrees and the mean of minimum 74 degrees. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1927 was 76.79 inches. Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 72.79 inches.

LANGUAGE.

The only language spoken is English. A small and decreasing number of agricultural labourers in the country districts speak a very corrupt patois of English and French, but all understand and speak English.

Currency.

The currency is the same as in Great Britain, the monetary units being the same. Silver, however, is legal tender without limit, and there are also in circulation bank notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, of five dollars denomination. One or two of the business houses keep their accounts in dollars and cents, but the Government accounts are in sterling.

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures are of the Imperial standard. An exception to this has arisen recently in connection with motor spirit, which is sold by the wine or American gallon.

1.—General.

The continuance of high prices for the Colony's staple products of cocoa, nutmegs, and mace has added another prosperous year to Grenada's record, a result to which fine weather conditions and satisfactory crops also contributed. The cocoa shipments in the crop year ended 30th September, 1927, amounted to 54,296 bags (of 180 lb.) as compared with 47,857 bags in the same period of the preceding year. The spice crops were also good and it may be of interest to note that Grenada produces one-third of the world's supply of nutmegs and mace. The quantities exported last year were 21,238 cwt. of nutmegs and 3,733 cwt. of its derivative, mace.

The wealth arising from these prosperous conditions is widely distributed, for Grenada is an Island of peasant proprietors who number 15,211 out of a total population of 73,319. As all parts of the Island have benefited by the increased circulation of money, the signs of prosperity are everywhere apparent in the number of motor-cars and motor 'buses that ply on the roads, in the attendance at numerous race meetings, and the general appearance and dress of the inhabitants.

The prosperity is reflected also in the financial position of the Government, and in place of the deficit which existed a few years ago the Colony had at the end of 1927 surplus assets amounting to £90,869. Of this amount £37,188 is invested towards forming a reserve fund of £50,000 as a special reserve to be used only in the time of serious emergency.

Coincident with the prudent building up of assets, the Government has proceeded with the execution of several important public works, which are detailed under Section VII of this report.

In his address introducing the Estimates in Legislative Council, His Excellency announced, among other schemes of Government policy, the intended formation of a Central Water Authority in connection with the scheme for improvement and extension of water supplies (referred to in last year's report) which had now been practically completed.

The Central Water Authority would take over the existing water works and be responsible to the Boards for the supply of water up to its delivery from the tap, the Boards on their part continuing as formerly to assess the water rates, fixing the rates at such figures as they consider necessary to meet the contribution to the Central Water Authority, and any surplus arising from the water rates would go to the Boards' general revenue. A competent Water Engineer would serve as the executive officer of the Authority, on which each of the District Boards would be directly represented. The St. Andrew's District Board are also desirous of constructing a covered market in the town of Grenville, and of developing and improving the town, and it has been decided to meet the cost of this scheme, together with that of the water extension, by the raising of a loan of £10,000 through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

New market buildings in St. George's and Gouyave are also under consideration.

The oiling of the main roads and of the principal streets in the town of St. George's has greatly improved matters in regard to health and sanitation. The town is practically free from dust, and for a tropical town of its size has a clean appearance which elicits praise from visitors.

The scheme for electric light in St. George's area and reconstruction of the telephone system throughout the Colony is being proceeded with. The necessary loan of £40,000 was raised through the Crown Agents for the Colonies under the inter-colonial scheme of loans. The proposal to utilise the Annandale River as a source of power has, however, been abandoned in consequence of difficuties which arose in connection with acquisition of the necessary land, and on the advice of the Consulting Engineers it has been decided to proceed with the alternative plan of an internal combustion engine scheme, to be supplemented hereafter if necessary by hydro-electric power. This scheme involves less capital outlay, but necessitates at first a higher charge for supply of light, but it is not expected that the charge per unit will exceed the rate now being paid in other West Indian islands.

His Excellency also announced that it was his intention to appoint a Committee to advise as to the manner in which Government grants-in-aid to the Denominations on behalf of education should be adjusted in the future.

The Government had taken over the Queen's Park during the past year, and it was hoped that a start would soon be made with the new Pavilion, towards the cost of which the Government were to make a contribution of £1,000.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year amounted to £155,508, being the highest on record.

Import duties continue to be the chief source of revenue, and the following table shows the proportion of revenue from that and other sources :—

Year.	*Import Duties.*	*Export duties, Income Tax and other direct taxation.*	*Other Sources.*
	£	£	£
1923	37,709	45,119	20,995
1924	50,116	47,206	20,131
1925	67,342	59,454	19,422
1926	62,471	64,704	21,271
1927	68,523	66,473	20,512

Expenditure.

The expenditure was £131,413, being less than the revenue by £24,095.

The following table gives a comparison of revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*
	£	£	£
1923	103,823	113,095	—
1924	117,453	106,003	11,450
1925	146,218	112,467	33,751
1926	148,447	119,001	29,446
1927	155,508	131,413	24,095

No changes took place during the year in the method of raising revenue, and the only alterations in rates of taxation were slight increases in the general rates of import duty on cement, cocoa, cordage, fish, and dried fruits and nuts, in order to give an increased Empire preference on these articles, in accordance with certain recommendations under the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1927, was £90,869, of which £37,188 is invested as a reserve fund. The other ordinary surplus assets of £53,681 comprise the following items :—

	£
Loans to District Boards	15,771
Public Works Stores and Colony Drug Stores ...	5,941
Land Settlement Advances	536
	£22,248

leaving approximately £31,433 as liquid or readily available assets.

PUBLIC LOANS.

The particulars of public loans outstanding at 31st December, 1927, and of the accumulated sinking funds may be seen from the following tables :—

Description of Loan.	*Legal Authority.*	*Amount.*	*Annual Sinking Fund Contribution.*	*Accumulated Sinking Funds.*			*Present yield on Securities.*
				Cost Price.	*Nominal Value.*	*Present Market Value.*	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	Ordinance No. 15 of 1891.	123,670	1,237	83,955	91,394	79,830	3,680
Local Loan, 1917.	Ordinance No. 12 of 1917.	100,000	1,500*	15,879	16,036	16,368	816
Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan.	Ordinance No. 13 of 1927.	£40,719	9 4	Contribution to Sinking Fund to commence in October, 1930.	Nil.	—	—

The first drawings in connection with redemption of the Local Loan, 1917, took place on 28th January, 1928, when debentures amounting to £18,040 were drawn. These will be paid off on 15th June, 1928.

In addition to the increased sinking fund contribution of £1,790 in respect of this Loan, the interest on the redeemed debentures will continue to be added to the sinking fund, this being necessary to effect total redemption by the date fixed by the Ordinance, namely, 1947. Annual drawings in connection with this Loan will continue to take place up to the combined amount of the sinking fund contribution and interest on the redeemed debentures.

*Increased to £1,790 from 1st January, 1928.

The particulars of the terms or periods for redemption of the above mentioned loans are as follows :—

4 per cent. Inscribed Stock—To be paid off on the 15th May, 1917–42, by half-yearly investments of a sum equal to one per cent. per annum of the total amount issued.

Local Loan, 1917—Redeemable on 15th December, 1947.

Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan—Redeemable 15th April, 1959.

III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.—This continues to be the principal crop of the Colony.

The following table shows the quantity exported annually, and the value, during the last 10 years :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1918	135,572	519,365
1919	99,368	539,740
1920	81,732	466,658
1921	87,421	185,193
1922	72,904	167,056
1923	77,783	155,883
1924	85,394	201,547
1925	73,216	197,231
1926	83,384	223,290
1927	100,478	305,640

The main causes of the decrease in production after 1921 have been given by experts as follows :—

(*a*) Destruction of plantations by the hurricane in September, 1921.

(*b*) Unfavourable market prices in the period from 1923 to 1925.

(*c*) The interplanting of nutmeg trees on cocoa cultivations.

The necessity for accurate costing in connection with cocoa cultivation has been realised, and has undoubtedly led to the discovery that certain lands were unsuitable for cocoa and were not yielding a profit under that crop except in years of abnormally high prices. As periods of exceptional prices occur only rarely, the reduction in crop volume by the cutting out of these areas has not on the average resulted in reduced net profit to the estates.

Nutmegs.—The area under cultivation has been steadily extended for many years, and the greatly increased market prices of recent years have brought this product into close rivalry with that of cocoa. The particulars of export for the past ten years may be seen from the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1918	23,053	103,417
1919	15,354	54,281
1920	14,604	59,448
1921	18,023	34,007
1922	22,542	59,959
1923	21,611	55,017
1924	19,369	95,321
1925	21,762	145,861
1926	22,702	127,000
1927	21,238	103,444

Mace.—The quantity of mace exported in 1927 was 3,733 cwt., of the value of £59,145.

Cotton.—Cotton is cultivated in Carriacou where a slight extension of the cultivation on the larger estates has recently taken place. The Regulations governing the control of the pink boll worm have been rigidly enforced, and it is reported that no pink boll worm was in evidence at any time during the reaping or ginning season.

The particulars of exports of cotton during the past five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1923	2,950	12,904
1924	2,842	15,180
1925	3,252	16,500
1926	3,159	14,040
1927	3,788	15,890

Sugar.—Attempts have been made from time to time to stimulate the production of sugar, and for the past three years the protective duty has been increased to 1d. per lb., yet, notwithstanding this very material help, it has not been found practicable to grow sufficient sugar for the local demand. Importations of raw sugar last year amounted to 1,719,583 lb., of the value of £14,280.

Various other crops are grown, but only to a small extent. The area of fertile land in places accessible for profitable cultivation is limited, and although the cultivation of other crops, such as grape fruit, for instance, could be extended, their development beyond a certain limit could only be at the expense of existing profitable cultivations.

Rum is manufactured on twelve estates, the quantity delivered for home consumption last year being 47,077 proof gallons. This was insufficient for the demand, and 2,448 proof gallons were imported in the same period, principally from Barbados.

Ice is manufactured at a factory in St. George's subsidised by Government.

FORESTRY.

A forest reserve of 2,485 acres is established at Grand Etang near the centre of the Island, and by legislation the mountain ridges are protected from denudation. The areas are too small and too inaccessible for growth with a view to profit, their main value and importance consisting in preserving the sources of water supply.

FISHERIES.

There are various fishing grounds adjacent to the coasts, and supplies of fresh fish are fairly constant. The fishermen do not venture far from the coast, and there are no surplus quantities available for smoking or curing.

The Whaling Industry which was established in 1925 on Glover Island ceased operations after 1926, and no whales were caught and no whale oil was exported in 1927.

Mining.

There are no mines of any kind.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

The total trade, import and export, amounted in value to £922,140, the value of imports being £415,607 and that of exports £506,533. The apparent trade balance in favour of the Colony was £90,926.

Imports.

The following table shows the principal articles imported, according to value, and a comparison is given with the values imported in the previous year :—

Article.	*Value, 1927.*	*Value, 1926.*	*Increase or decrease over 1926.*	
			Increase.	*Decrease.*
	£	£	£	£
Flour	46,273	47,582	—	1,309
Cotton piece-goods	32,071	39,794	—	7,723
Fish—Dried	14,915	13,904	1,011	—
Sugar—unrefined	14,280	9,251	5,029	—
Rice	12,314	10,386	1,928	—
Boots and shoes	10,112	7,850	2,262	—
Motor-cars	10,086	14 439	2,994	—
Motor parts	7,347			
Motor Spirits	9,203	8,205	998	—
Wood, etc.—unmanufactured ...	8,881	22,739	—	13,858
Manures	8,559	4,004	4,555	—
Kerosene Oil	7,873	7,007	866	—
Biscuits, Bread, &c.	6,547	5,774	773	—

Notes re changes of trade.—There has been no radical change in the nature of trade or of sources of supply. The increased importations of various articles are due to the present prosperity of the Island. The importation of lumber in 1927 was normal, there being an unusual quantity imported in 1926 as the result of destruction of a lumber yard by fire.

The sources of supply of imports are shown below :—

	£
United Kingdom...	146,159
United States of America	72,553
Canada	96,062
Other British Possessions	71,473
Foreign Countries	29,360

EXPORTS.

The exports, amounting in value to £506,533 (of which £495,701 represented the value of local products and £10,832 of re-exports) consisted of the following :—

	£
Cocoa, raw	305,640
Cotton, raw	15,890
Cotton seed	2,960
Spices, nutmegs	103,444
Mace	59,145

The direction of the export trade may be seen from the following table :—

	£
United Kingdom...	196,346
United States of America	241,985
Canada	42,044
Other British Possessions	17,578
Other Foreign Countries	8,580

It is observable that a greater quantity of the Colony's staple products (with the exception of cotton) continues to go to the United States of America than to the United Kingdom, the figures being as follows :—

	United States of America.		*United Kingdom.*	
	cwt.	£	*cwt.*	£
Cocoa, raw ...	48,522	147,970	38,834	117,785
Nutmegs... ...	14,519	70,070	4,956	24,390
Mace	1,379	21,780	2,144	34,260

The duty in respect of exports amounted to £14,076, as compared with £11,061 in 1926. The products in respect of which these amounts were collected were :—

	1927.	1926.
	£	£
Cocoa	9,901	5,668
Cotton, raw	204	316
Cotton seed	228	192
Nutmegs	2,087	3,626
Mace	1,656	901
Whale Oil	nil	337
Whale manure	—	21

The duties are on graded scales according to market prices in London and New York, and the increase under the head of cocoa was due to a larger crop and better prices than in the previous year.

Other articles of export, of comparatively small value, included bananas and other fruit, lime juice, salt, coconuts and copra, hides and skins.

V.—Communications.

(i) By Sea.

The Canadian Government Mercantile Marine maintains a monthly passenger service between Halifax and St. John and the West Indies, with an alternate fortnightly cargo service. Steamers of the Furness Withy Line from New York call at intervals of about ten to fourteen days.

Direct communication with London is maintained monthly by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, and cargo steamers of this Company pay intermediate calls.

There is frequent communication with Trinidad and Barbados by sailing vessels as well as by steamers of the companies above mentioned.

A coasting service by daily motor-boat, with a call once a week to Carriacou, is subsidised by Government.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The Colony is linked up with other parts of the world by the cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

A wireless station worked by the Pacific Cable Board, under subsidy, is established in St. George's and communicates with Barbados.

A subsidiary wireless station, erected by the Government, communicating with Grenada has also been installed at Carriacou.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service.

A telephone service worked by Government has been in existence for many years. The total number of instruments in use last year was 771, there being an increase of 71 subscribers during the year. There are six exchanges and subscribers have the right of communication throughout without trunk-line charges. The revenue amounted to £4,289 7s. 1d. and expenditure to £3,105 8s. 6d.

The present system—an earth return circuit—has reached its limit of usefulness, and reconstruction to a more modern system is now being undertaken.

There is a good system of roads and bridges throughout the Colony, there being 148 miles of main roads and 301 miles of by-ways. All are suitable for motor traffic, and several miles of the main roads are oiled. Six motor road rollers are in constant use in road maintenance and repairs.

VI.—Justice, Police and Prisons.

(i) Justice.

There were 1,859 convictions during the year 1927, 1,841 in the summary courts and 18 in the Supreme Court, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,850 summary convictions and 22 convictions on indictment.

Since the year 1924, when there was the considerable number of 305 convictions for praedial larceny, there has been a steady decrease in the number of convictions for this offence. In 1925 the number of such convictions was 259, in 1926 the number was 190, and in the present year 146. The continuous decrease is probably due to the increased general prosperity of the Colony since 1924.

As is usually the case in this Colony the occurrence of the more serious forms of crime was rare. There was no conviction for homicide or for an offence against property with violence to the person. A single case of rape occurred.

(ii) Police.

The fixed establishment consists of 1 Officer-in-Command, 1 Inspector, and 88 non-commissioned officers and men.

Rural Constables to the number of 225 were also on the roll on 31st December, 1927. These Constables are only employed on special occasions.

All ranks were trained in musketry and fired a modified course with satisfactory results.

A fire brigade is under the Police and was considerably improved last year by the acquisition of a motor fire truck and duplicate equipment of hose and standpipes.

A number of chemical fire extinguishers was obtained and installed in the various Government institutions and buildings.

The Government Band is also under the Police and consists of a Bandmaster and twelve bandsmen. The conversion of the band into a Police Band is being undertaken, and at present five of the Bandsmen are in the Police Force, and several Constables are being taught with a view to becoming bandsmen.

(iii) Prisons.

The number of prisoners in custody at the beginning of the year was 34, of whom 27 were males and 7 females.

There were 166 admissions during the year, 126 being males and 40 females.

The daily average number of prisoners was 28 in the case of males and 6.6 in the case of females.

The following table shows the number of recommitals on conviction for the year :—

	Once.	*Twice.*	*Three or more.*
Males	14	7	40
Females	3	4	12
	17	11	52

Religious services were carried on regularly throughout the year by the Anglican and Roman Catholic ministers.

The behaviour of the prisoners was good, and there were only two cases of corporal punishment.

The health of the prisoners was satisfactory. The daily average on the sick list was 0.7 males and 0.6 females. One male and one female were transferred to the Colony Hospital, and one female was treated in the Prison Infirmary. There were no deaths.

In regard to labour, prisoners were employed at stone breaking, baking, preparing cocoa, and tailoring within the prison walls, and gangs were employed outside at clearing and cultivating lands and repairing roads.

The prison is now combined with the Police Department and the arrangement under the present head is working satisfactorily.

VII.—Public Works.

The public works of principal importance undertaken during the year consisted of the following :—

(*a*) Commencement of bridge over St. John's River at Queen's Park.

(*b*) Construction of a residence for the Commissioner, Carriacou.

(*c*) Improvement of water supplies in Carriacou.

(*d*) Construction of a Leper Settlement.

(*e*) Improvement of the Colony Hospital, including interior painting of the main building, extension of the operating theatre, and Nurses' Hostel.

(*f*) Construction of a public bathing house at Grand Anse.

(*g*) Construction of a boat shelter in St. George's Harbour.

(*h*) Continuation of improvement and extension of water works and supplies throughout the Colony.

(*i*) Continuation of draining and filling up of low-lying areas in Queen's Park.

(*j*) Preliminary work in connection with the reconstruction of the telephone system and electric light scheme.

VIII.—Public Health.

The year 1927 was a healthy one, there being no serious outbreak of infectious disease, while there was a marked decrease in infantile deaths.

There was a period of unusually high temperature in the autumn, the unusual height of 92° F. in the shade being recorded on two days. The lowest temperature was 65°, recorded on 19th March.

The deaths numbered 1,147, and the death-rate per 1,000 was 15.6, the lowest rate so far recorded. In 1926 it was 20.3, and in the previous year 16.5

The infantile death-rate per 100 births of infants dying under one year was 10.46.

The births numbered 2,294; of these 1,135 were boys and 1,159 girls. The birth-rate per 1,000 was 31.29.

Three hundred and fifty marriages were registered, being at the rate of 41.7 per thousand of the population.

Diarrhœa and enteritis caused 272 deaths (as against 400 in 1926) and the next principal cause of death was malaria which accounted for 87 deaths (as against 84 in 1926).

The estimated population at the 31st December, 1927, was 73,319.

A Leper Settlement was constructed last year, the site selected being a promontory on the south-west coast of St. George's parish, and the cost, inclusive of construction of roads and a water supply, was £1,500. Lepers are few in number (less than twenty) but segregation has proved difficult to enforce, and it is expected that by the provision of the Settlement leprosy will be eradicated from Grenada within a generation.

IX.—Educational Progress.

Dr. H. A. Baker, D.Sc., the Director of Education, who had been seconded last year was confirmed in the appointment of Geologist to the Newfoundland Government. During the entire year the duties of Director were performed by Mr. H. H. Pilgrim in conjunction with his own duties as Inspector of Schools.

Secondary.

Sixteen pupils from the Grenada Boys' School entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, and 12 passed, 1 Honour and 1 Distinction being gained. Five pupils from this School also sat for the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, of whom 3 passed, 1 with Honours.

The successful candidates at the Cambridge Junior Local Examination from the Anglican Girls' School numbered 5 out of 7, and from the St. Joseph's Convent School 3 out of 7. One Distinction was gained by the Church of England High School.

Primary.

The number of primary schools is the same as last year, namely, 58, of which 10 were Government, 27 Roman Catholic, 14 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, and 2 Presbyterian.

The total number of scholars on the roll at 31st December, 1927, was 12,605, and the average attendance was 7,638—60.5 per cent. of the number on roll.

The total expenditure by the Government on primary education for the year was £8,755. Excluding administration and inspection, the cost to Government per pupil in average attendance at Government schools was £1 5s. 7d. and at grant-in-aid schools £1 0s. 6d.

The Matriculation Examination of London University has now been made the standard for winning the Grenada Scholarship, which is now awarded biennially.

X.—Land and Survey.

Grenada is a Colony of small proprietors, the number of estates over 100 acres in extent being only 142.

The following table shows the number of small holdings of land according to the Tax Rolls for the year 1927.

Number of small holdings.

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*	*Total.*
75,390	12,651	1,643	326	195	396	15,211

Land in possession of the Crown is of small area and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest, for preservation of the rainfall. The main portion is the Grand Etang Forest Reserve, to which frequent visits were made by the Crown Lands Superintendent and the boundary lines maintained.

There are no Crown lands available for settlement. Occasionally an estate is purchased by the Government for resale in small lots to peasants under convenient terms of payment spread over a number of years.

Only one survey was carried out by the Public Works Department during the year, in connection with the boundaries of Windsor, la Force, and Chantilly, under the Boundaries Settlement Ordinance.

XI.—Labour.

Labour chiefly consists of employment on the respective estates in the Colony and includes the following work :—

(*a*) Overseers who are employed to supervise and control the gangs;

(*b*) Drivers in personal charge of the gangs;

(*c*) Ordinary labourers, men and women, engaged on the actual details of work—working or ploughing the land, draining, weeding, cutlassing, pruning, manuring, etc., and reaping the produce.

Labour as in (*b*) and (*c*) above is also largely employed on the public roads of the Colony on breaking metal and general repair and surface oiling work.

The rates of pay would be approximately as follows :—

(*a*) £3 to £8 per month.

(*b*) 2s. to 4s. per day.

(*c*) Men, 1s. 2d. to 2s. per day; Women, 1s. to 1s. 4d. per day.

The daily rates of pay quoted above apply also to pay for " task " work and it is usually possible to undertake two " tasks " in a day.

Other labour includes masons, carpenters, mechanics, chauffeurs, bootmakers and the like. A fair number of masons and carpenters are more or less regularly employed by Government, and during the last two or three years there has been a reasonable amount of this class of work available for both under Government control and privately throughout the Colony, so much so that reliable mechanics of this class are exceedingly scarce. Quite a large number of chauffeurs are now employed in the Colony and a limited number of other mechanics are engaged in the motor shops and on other work connected with water works, pipe laying, etc.

The pay for these would be approximately as follows :—

Masons, carpenters and mechanics, 2s. to 7s. per day;
Chauffeurs, £3 to £5 per month.

Miscellaneous.

A United States Army Squadron of four amphibian planes visited Grenada on 7th April in the course of their Pan-American flight under the leadership of Major H. A. Dargue. They landed at the beach at Queen's Park and proceeded next day to St. Vincent. The landing arrangements were reported to be satisfactory.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Administrator.

GRENADA,
30th April, 1928.

(2479—21) Wt. 7971—598 500 8/28 H. St. G. 7/ 8

Reports of Imperial and Colonial Interest.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.

Summary of Proceedings. Cmd. 2768 ... 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings.
Cmd. 2769 ... ... 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.

Summary of Proceedings. Cmd. 2883 ... 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings.
Cmd. 2884 ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9½*d.*)

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.

Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Cmd. 2825 ... ... 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 1½*d.*)

COLONIAL AGRICULTURE.

Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the Colonial Agricultural Service.
Cmd. 3049 ... ... 9*d.* (10*d.*)

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 ; 120, George Street, Edinburgh ; York Street, Manchester ; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff ; 15, Donegall Square West, Belfast ;
or through any Bookseller.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

THE EMPIRE'S AGRICULTURE

An historical event of importance in the development of the Empire's Agriculture took place towards the close of 1927. The foundations were, it is believed, then laid for the ultimate creation of a real and effective British agricultural commonwealth. The occasion was the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference held in Great Britain in October and November, 1927, which was attended by delegates of high standing from all countries in the Empire.

"The Report of the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference," just issued, contains a full account of the events leading up to the Conference, the recommendations (both in full and in summary form) there made and the views expressed by the highest authorities on agriculture in all quarters of the Empire. The recommendations deal with the following subjects:—The establishment of an Imperial chain of Agricultural Research Stations. The establishment of Imperial clearing houses of information. The recruitment, training and interchange of scientific workers in agriculture for the whole Empire. The action immediately necessary to secure co-operative work in such specialist subjects as Veterinary Science, Animal Nutrition and Genetics, Dairying, Soils and Fertilisers, Plant Breeding and Pathology, Fruit Growing, Entomology, Preservation and Transport, and Agricultural Economics.

The Report of 250 pages is issued at the specially low price of 1s. (with postage 1s. 5d.), in order that it may be within easy reach of all those affected.

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON—Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2
EDINBURGH—120, George Street MANCHESTER—York Street
CARDIFF—1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST—15, Donegall Sq. W.
Or through any bookseller.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1395.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1927.

(For Reports for 1925 and 1926 see Nos. 1303 and 1372, respectively (Price 6d. each).)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.
1928
Price 6d. Net

58-1395.

EMPIRE DEVELOPMENT

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926 to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 9*d*.).

Agriculture in Trinidad. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 3.) 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agriculture in British Guiana. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 4.) 9*d*. (10*d*.).

Agriculture in Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 5.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board May, 1927 to May, 1928. (E.M.B. 9.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS.

The Imperial Economic Committee has issued a series of publications on the problems connected with the marketing and preparing for market of foodstuffs produced within the British Empire. The following six volumes are now ready. General Questions, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Meat, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Fruit, 4*s*. 6d. (4*s*. 10*d*.); Dairy Produce, 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.); Fish, 6*d*. (8*d*.); Poultry, Eggs, Honey, 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Eighth Report of the Committee, "The Functions and Work of the Imperial Economic Committee," 6*d*. (7*d*.). The relationship between the Committee and the Empire Marketing Board is explained in this Report.

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1927.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Geographical	2
Historical	2
Language	3
Currency	3
Climate	3
I.—General	3
II.—Financial	3
III.—Production	5
IV.—Trade and Economics	8
V.—Communications	9
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	10
VII.—Public Works	11
VIII.—Public Health	12
IX.—Education	13
X.—Crown Lands and Surveys	13
XI.—Labour	14
XII.—Miscellaneous	15

Geographical.

The Island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of 9 miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

Historical.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possesson of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the Island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the Island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the Island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English.

Currency.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents. Imperial weights and measures are in use.

Climate.

St. Vincent is reputed to be one of the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet season from June to December. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout 1927 varied from 78.2° F. to 82° F. The highest was in October and the lowest in February; the mean monthly temperature was 80.3° F. as against 80.7° F. in 1926.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea-level, was 98.45 inches in 1927, as compared with 78.86 inches in 1926. The greatest fall for one day was 5.28 inches on 22nd October.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30.167 on 11th July to 29.814 on 17th November, 1927.

I.—GENERAL.

There were no events of any outstanding political importance during the year under review and no constitutional changes.

His Excellency, Sir F. S. James, K.B.E., C.M.G., resided in the Colony for a month from 20th March till 23rd April.

II.—FINANCIAL.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1927, was :—

	£
Net Surplus at 1st January, 1927	21,509
Revenue in 1927	56,469
	£77,978
Expenditure in 1927	61,564
Net Surplus at 31st December, 1927	£16,414

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1923	52,031	48,394
1924	60,893	53,887
1925	62,450	53,190
1926	60,243	59,282
1927	56,469	61,564

The principal items of revenue in the last five years were :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Import Duties ...	19,499	25,869	26,379	26,683	24,649
Export duties ...	3,073	3,032	2,982	2,959	2,587
Excise duty on rum ...	5,430	2,938	5,816	6,479	4,685
Land and House tax ...	5,892	5,882	6,337	4,124	3,442
Income Tax	2,044	3,947	4,504	3,014	2,480
Liquor trade duty ...	2,470	2,934	2,736	3,013	2,820
Postage stamps ...	1,588	2,334	1,732	1,774	1,875

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 1st January, 1927, was £9,730, of which £560 was redeemed during the year, thereby leaving the debt at the close of the year at £9,170, made up as follows :—

	£
The Public Works Loan, 1913	500
The Public Works Loan, 1914	900
*The Kingstown Board Loan, 1914	1,170
The Public Purposes Loan, 1915	1,400
The War Loan, 1916	2,000
The Windward Highway Loans, 1917, 1919 and 1920	3,200
	£9,170

The accumulated sinking funds provided for redemption of loans stood on the 31st December, 1927, at £5,788, of which £4,924 was in respect of Government loans and £864 in respect of the Kingstown Board loan.

The investments on behalf of the Loans Redemption Fund stood at the close of the year as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial Government National War Bonds 5 per cent.	1,152	12	9
War Loan Stock 5 per cent.	2,602	15	8
Westminster Bank	1,168	1	10
	£4,923	10	3

*The Colony is only responsible for redemption of this loan in case of default by the Kingstown Board.

The investments on behalf of the Kingstown Board Sinking Fund stood as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Westminster Bank	103	12	3
Imperial Government National War Bonds 5 per cent.	760	18	4
	£864	10	7

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund made up from donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière Volcano in 1902-1903, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and applied to the relief of the poor. This amount, together with the Colony's Reserve Fund of £11,000, offers excellent security both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

The amount to the credit of the Public Property Insurance Fund which was started during the year 1926, stood at the close of the year 1927 at £2,238.

III.—PRODUCTION.

One of the striking features of St. Vincent agriculture is the variety of the different kinds of produce. St. Vincent does not keep all its eggs in one basket. Arrowroot, cassava starch, Sea Island cotton, Marie Galante cotton, sugar, syrup and molasses, peanuts, cocoa, copra—all these, as well as other minor articles figure in the export list.

Perhaps the most noticeable feature of the year was the falling off in export of Sea Island cotton, 446,274 lb., valued at £39,204, being exported as against 589,499 lb., valued at £63,175, in 1926.

On the other hand, there was a remarkable increase in the export of copra, which commodity appears to have a great future before it. The export has increased steadily from year to year since 1923, as the following figures show :—

Year.	*Quantity exported.* *lb.*	*Value.* £
1923	356,626	2,959
1924	645,973	5,430
1925	661,309	5,512
1926	762,563	9,826
1927	1,198,441	10,083

The area under cotton in St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the year amounted to 4,358 acres, showing a reduction as compared with the previous season of 2,792 acres under Sea Island cotton and a reputed reduction of 306 acres under Marie Galante.

During the season 1926-27 there were, in St. Vincent and Bequia, 3,055 peasant growers, with an acreage of 3,088 under Sea Island

cotton; during the season 1927-28 there were only 1,733 peasant growers, with 1,594 acres.

The year under review was dominated by anxiety as to the sale of outstanding and long-accumulated stocks of cotton in the United Kingdom, and the British Cotton Growing Association advocated a policy of curtailment of acreage under cultivation. St. Vincent made proposals to other cotton-growing islands to restrict the export of Sea Island cotton to 50 per cent. of the average for the last five years and to institute a system of export under licence, but in view of the replies it was felt to be undesirable to initiate legislation to restrict production or export. The situation was considerably relieved by the action of the Fine Spinners' Association towards the end of the year in agreeing to buy up all outstanding stocks (except the superfine) at 1*s*. 8*d*. per lb—a poor price but better than continual anxiety both for planters and for the Government which had advanced considerable sums of money to the Government Ginnery to purchase cotton on a co-operative basis, principally from peasants.

As regards arrowroot, in view of the large stocks remaining unsold in England it is satisfactory to note that increasing exports are being made to places other than the United Kingdom. The total amount exported was 3,195,478 lb., value £53,309; and of this amount the United States of America took 1,147,096 lb.—an increase of 232,717 lb. on the previous year, while Barbados took 273,549 lb., and Canada 260,018 lb. It is hoped that as time goes on Canada will absorb increasing quantities.

A very satisfactory feature of the year was the export of sugar, some 840,000 lb., valued at £6,947 being exported, whereas none at all had been exported in 1925 and 1926. Two estates in the Island recently erected new and improved sugar machinery. In addition to this, 171,063 gallons of syrup, valued at £10,459, were exported: but this export showed a considerable decrease on that of each of the last five years.

During the year under review 114 lb. of fibre manila hemp obtained from the abaca plant (*musa textilis*) were sent to the Imperial Institute for examination. The results were very favourable, showing that the Grade A sent from St. Vincent compares quite satisfactorily with the three commercial grades of manila hemp. It is too early to say whether the fibre can be produced here on a commercial basis, but it is hoped shortly to make a trial shipment for sale in London.

The question of building up a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada has occupied the attention of the Government and the Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce, but improved communication and considerable organization in methods of packing, grading, &c., will be necessary before such a trade can become an accomplished fact, and co-operation between the West Indian Islands will be essential.

The appended table shows the comparative amount of the annual exports of the principal commodities during the last five years :—

Articles.	1923.		1924.		1925.		1926.		1927.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£
Arrowroot ... ... lb.	2,177,183	31,829	2,952,535	51,361	3,190,412	125,078	3,291,553	45,807	3,195,478	53,309
Cassava Starch ... ,,	366,085	3,700	634,631	6,838	470,284	4,160	443,075	4,077	543,681	4,940
Cotton—Sea Island... ,,	585,143	47,292	520,369	50,218	473,219	57,655	589,499	63,175	446,274	39,204
Do.—Marie Galante ,,	5,084	217	1,540	58	9,673	464	30,275	1,514	53,381	2,669
Seed Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	67,301	421	32,030	534	100,468	1,047	56,092	468	108,999	1,250
Cocoa... ... ... ,,	121,374	1,755	130,910	1,820	154,821	2,345	174,599	2,461	135,490	2,267
Copra... ... ... ,,	356,626	2,959	645,973	5,430	661,309	5,512	762,563	9,826	1,198,441	10,083
Sugar—crystallized ,,	145,944	1,863	22,400	280	—	—	—	—	840,000	6,947
Syrup and Molasses... gal.	275,932	18,711	261,127	15,758	268,118	19,672	337,099	16,523	171,063	10,459
Cotton Seed ... ... lb.	150	2	475,003	2,216	26,485	53	88,106	398	151,903	1,266
Peanuts ... ... ,,	492,972	5,988	322,153	4,439	273,039	3,794	190,978	2,370	263,509	3,219
Peas—Dried... ... ,,	138,910	1,595	90,705	984	90,476	866	50,185	476	38,719	352
Firewood ... cords	373	272	292	257	216	181	208	178	240	221
Whale Oil ... ... gal.	1,195	90	6,672	476	280	38	1,964	148	132	24
Cotton Seed Oil ... ,,	880	300	4,120	467	4	1	5,180	583	—	—
Hides and Skins ...	—	54	—	151	—	146	—	221	—	221
Vegetables, Fresh ...	—	3,216	—	2,550	—	2,581	—	2,107	—	1,915
Wool—Raw ... ... lb.	—	—	—	—	263	26	—	—	—	—
Logwood ... ... tons	15	75	30	145	4	4	—	—	—	—
Spices—Nutmegs ... lb.	13,846	115	14,452	494	10,360	492	20,190	887	21,025	695
Other kinds ,,	2,477	52	3,589	140	2,418	100	5,062	333	5,817	255
Corn ... ... ,,	262,975	1,326	143,862	752	143,210	627	91,059	388	98,879	618
Animals	—	5,884	—	2,559	—	3,986	—	5,243	—	4,398
Lime Juice ... ... gal.	50	3	175	9	438	3	10	1	—	—
Fruit—Fresh ...	—	137	—	143	—	271	—	290	—	328
Various, unspecified...	—	932	—	12,731	—	839	—	946	—	1,175
		£128,788		£160,810		£229,941		£158,420		£145,815

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.* *Island Produce.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1923	138,677	128,788	2,583	131,371
1924	160,028	150,811	51	150,862
1925	211,907	229,941	2,491	232,432
1926	203,606	158,420	4,489	162,909
1927	172,097	145,213	602	145,815

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	41,147	51,834	75,914	67,425	55,812
Canada	40,862	40,686	46,108	45,373	40,540
British West Indies ...	7,736	12,641	15,180	10,896	12,789
India	1,080	869	646	3,476	1,229
Newfoundland	2,018	3,142	2,851	6,071	4,471
Ceylon	25	32	—	62	107
Other British Colonies ...	4,866	6,093	7,271	3,816	5,126
United States of America	28,943	33,983	46,302	46,737	36,663
France	1,226	1,264	1,736	2,845	1,485
Denmark	8	543	790	450	774
Germany	1,057	1,335	1,505	1,875	1,836
Holland	486	553	706	675	582
Foreign West Indies ...	15	68	669	550	1,003
Other Countries	9,208	6,984	3,547	3,266	3,494
Unclassified, including Parcel Post.	—	—	8,682	10,089	6,186
	£138,677	£160,028	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	52,712	60,842	68,717	71,423	64,104
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	19,016	18,104	19,547	19,402	16,735
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	59,323	74,080	114,777	102,521	84,954
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	7,626	7,002	8,866	10,260	6,304
	£138,677	£160,028	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097

In order to encourage the importation of British motor vehicles, legislation was passed during the year exempting from import duties motor bicycles, motor tricycles, motor-cars and parts thereof made wholly from British materials by British labour. Foreign-made vehicles of this nature pay an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent.

During the year nineteen motor-cars were imported, nine of which were admitted free of duty as British cars.

The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	29·67	32·39	35·82	33·12	32·43
United States of America	20·87	21·24	21·85	22·95	21·30
Canada	29·46	25·42	21·76	22·28	23·56
All other Countries ...	20·00	20·95	20·57	21·65	22·71

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

Country of destination.	*1923.* £	*1924.* £	*1925.* £	*1926.* £	*1927.* £
United Kingdom	73,270	84,521	167,116	92,576	68,452
Canada	19,223	18,368	19,149	10,992	10,276
Bermuda	45	91	132	221	305
British West Indies ...	32,745	39,061	30,079	36,716	35,619
British Guiana	3,541	1,101	1,306	649	747
United States of America	2,480	6,931	14,136	20,613	28,491
Other Countries	67	789	514	1,142	1,925

V —COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 395, of 277,518 tons, and cleared was 395, of 277,400 tons. Four vessels of a total tonnage of 105 were registered during the year, three of which were built in the Colony.

A monthly passenger and mail service was maintained by the Canadian Government Merchant Marine during the year, and from time to time steamers of the Harrison and Columbian line paid calls.

The steamship service contemplated by the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1925 had not been provided at the close of the year under review.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Roads.

The road system of the Island consists of 34 miles of highway on the windward side, suitable for motor traffic, and 28 miles on the leeward side, about 15 miles of which are suitable for motor traffic.

The highway on the windward side is the main artery of traffic but on the leeward side the sea is the natural highway.

In addition to the highways there are some 280 miles of byways which act as feeders from the interior to the main roads.

Postal.

There is a central post office in Kingstown, the capital of the Island, and 17 offices in out-districts.

Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor-car, to the leeward side by motor-boat, and to the Grenadines by sailing vessels.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintained their cable station throughout the year and there is a wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board as part of the All-British System authorised by the West Indian Islands (Telegraph) Act, 1924, of the Imperial Parliament.

Telephones.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in districts. There were 230 services and 188 miles of line in use.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(a) Justice.

There was no sitting of the West Indian Court of Appeal in St. Vincent during the year.

Twenty-one criminal cases were tried by the Supreme Court and twenty-two convictions were obtained. The number of actions filed in the Supreme Court was 11. There were 8 appeals from Magistrates' decisions. The number of Causes filed in the Summary Jurisdiction of the Court was 65.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 1, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 717. 854 persons were charged in 1927, as against 687 in 1926. Fines collected amounted to £217, an increase of £75 on the preceding year.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 2, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 981. 1,367 persons were charged in 1927, as against 863 in 1926. Fines collected amounted to £229, as against £171 in 1926.

(b) Police.

The authorised strength of the Force remained at two officers, 52 other ranks, of whom four were permanently employed at the prison.

The general health of the Force was considerably better than in 1926.

Discipline was on the whole satisfactory.

Fire drill was carried out weekly and all hydrants and fire appliances regularly inspected.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The table given below shows that, while during the last four years the number of cases taken up by the police have more than doubled, the number of cases in which no conviction was obtained has been very considerably reduced :—

	Number of cases.	*Number convicted or sent for trial.*	*Percentage of cases withdrawn or dismissed.*
1924	829	689	16·88
1925	1,304	1,090	16·41
1926	1,216	1,070	12·0
1927	1,679	1,514	9·82

The police recreation room and canteen, started in 1926, continued to run successfully during the year. The library has been increased to 82 volumes.

(c) Prisons.

The prison staff throughout the year consisted of :—

4 Police Constables, including the Non-Commissioned Office who is Keeper,
4 Warders, three of whom are skilled in trades,
1 Clerical Assistant,
1 Matron.

Total 10

At the beginning of the year the number of prisoners was 25, 23 males and 2 females. The total admissions during the year were 224, of whom 134 were males and 89 females, and 1 male juvenile.

The daily average was 26.55.

The highest number of prisoners at any time was 44—the lowest, 14.

The general health of the prisoners was good and conduct satisfactory. No floggings were administered.

The dietary of the prisoners was placed on a more liberal scale, and improvements in ventilation of some of the cells were carried out.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Considerable progress was made during the year in reconstructing the windward and leeward highways with the object of improving the surface, alignment, grade, and drainage so as to withstand the rapidly-growing increase in heavy motor traffic.

A substantial bridge was erected over the Warrawarrou River at Dauphine and causeways were constructed at Langley Park River, Park Hill, and Mount Greenan.

The road from Mount Hope Village to Wallilabou was very considerably improved by cutting and widening.

Considerable work was done in re-roofing and painting the gallery at Government House. A new electric-light plant was installed at Government House.

In order to provide increased accommodation for pupils an annexe was built on to the Girls' High School.

A water tank was erected at Paget Farm, Bequia, and a cistern provided for water at Union Island.

Owing largely to abnormal rainfall between September and November very considerable expenditure, amounting to £1,192, had to be incurred in respect of storm damage to roads, due to cliffs and bluffs breaking off and sliding into the drains, blocking them, and in some cases being thrown on to the road surface. The most serious damage done was at the Colonarie River which became flooded and divided itself into two sections, destroying part of the Colonarie Estate Road and threatening the foundations of the Colonarie Bridge, with a possibility of breaking through on the north of the bridge.

The old Park Hill Bridge was completely destroyed.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Colony at 31st December, 1927, was 50,770.

The birth-rate for the year was 37.25 per thousand, as against 39.46 in 1926.

Legitimate births numbered 525, and illegitimate births 1,366; the percentage of illegitimate births, viz., 72.2, being exactly the same as in 1926.

The death-rate per thousand for the year was 16.45, as compared with 19.42 in 1926.

The deaths of infants under one year (exclusive of still-births) numbered 199, as against 232 in 1926.

There were 120 still-births, of which 28 were legitimate and 92 illegitimate.

There were only 13 cases of enteric fever during the year, as against 48 in 1926, and 56 in 1925.

An epidemic of influenza passed over the Colony in the third quarter of the year, 1,435 cases being recorded, with 25 deaths.

There were 928 cases of diarrhoea in children under two years of age, but only 49 deaths.

A course of lectures and demonstrations was given during the year for those desirous of qualifying as Sanitary Inspectors. Twelve candidates took the course and four qualified and received local certificates of efficiency.

Nine prosecutions for milk adulteration as attested by the Babcock test were instituted during the year, and convictions secured in each case.

Much excellent work was done in the erection of 754 latrines in private houses and the provision of privy accommodation for 795 labourers at Estate Works, and similar accommodation for 405 resident estate labourers.

A new Public Health Ordinance was passed but had not come into operation at the close of the year.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1925, 1926, and 1927 :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*
Number of Schools	27	28	28
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	4,884	5,407	5,732
Average attendance	2,648	2,892	2,969
Government Grant-in-aid	£2,939	£3,335	£3,686
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 2*s.* 2*d.*	£1 3*s.* 0¾*d.*	£1 4*s.* 10*d.*

Eleven of the twenty-eight regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the seventeen other schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools, are paid from public funds.

There were eight other schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £137.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School—and one for girls—the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1927 was 71 boys and 58 girls, as compared with 70 boys and 50 girls in 1926. There is a system of Government Scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

There is an Island Scholarship awarded biennially under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

Provision exists for the Town Board of Kingstown to expend certain sums on scholarships at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government Scholarships.

X.—CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The revenue collected during the year totalled £1,067, as compared with £1,074 in 1926.

128 title deeds with diagrams were prepared, as compared with 107 in 1926.

No surveys by private surveyors were made, but the following were executed by the Department :—

1. Re-establishment of boundaries at Belair Land Settlement.

2. Re-establishment of boundaries at Troumaca.

3. Re-establishment of boundaries at Clare Valley-Questelles.

4. Survey to provide a road to allotments at Clare Valley-Questelles.

5. Survey of lots at Mahogany Hole—Rutland Vale.

6. Survey and subdivision into lots at Union Island.

7. Survey in connection with proposed water supply, Friendly Village.

8. Survey of road leading from windward highway at Stubbs to Victoria Village.

9. Survey and levels in connection with Chateaubelair water supply.

10. Survey and levels in connection with diversion at Happy Hill.

No work in connection with geological survey was undertaken.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigration of labour into the Colony, but a considerable amount of emigration takes place annually, principally to Cuba and Santo Domingo for work on sugar-cane plantations. The emigrant is attracted by the delight of seeing the world, of a pleasant holiday *en voyage*, and by the lure of higher wages, forgetful of the greater cost of living in the countries he visits. During the year, 244 labourers went to Cuba and 422 to Santo Domingo, and there was a considerable amount of going to and fro between this Colony, Barbados and other West Indian Islands. The emigration season for Cuba and Santo Domingo may be said to date roughly from November in each year till the following June or July, when the emigrant returns with a flashy cap, a flashy shirt and suitcase and possibly a little money unless he has lost his earnings by gambling. Planters complain bitterly of the inconvenience caused to them by the annual exodus.

The average wage on an estate in St. Vincent is 1*s*. 2*d*. per day, but work is usually done by the task and a labourer who chooses can earn in some cases as much as 2*s*. in a day. It is found, however, that many of the labourers if better paid simply refuse to do a full week's work. A considerable amount of the work on estates is done by women.

Legislation (Ordinance No. 10 of 1927) was passed during the year, providing for the registration of recruiters of labour for

such foreign countries as should be declared by the Governor-in-Council, and for deposits to ensure the repatriation of such labourers without expense to the Colony, and also for provision being made for the families of such labourers during their absence, and for proper contracts of service being entered into.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Banks.

There is a branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) with a Savings Department, and Government maintains a Savings Bank.

Agricultural Credit Societies.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the Colony, but several of them are not functioning and some cannot be said to be working satisfactorily.

Government Cotton Ginnery.

The purchase of Sea Island seed cotton and corn on profit-sharing terms was continued during the year.

R. WALTER,
Administrator.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SAINT VINCENT,
29th May, 1928.

(2552—21) Wt. 8528—634 500 8/28 H. St. G. 7/8

Reports of Imperial and Colonial Interest.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.

Summary of Proceedings. Cmd. 2768 ... 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings.
Cmd. 2769 ... ... 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.

Summary of Proceedings. Cmd. 2883 ... 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings.
Cmd. 2884 ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9½*d.*)

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.

Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Cmd. 2825 ... ... 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 1½*d.*)

COLONIAL AGRICULTURE.

Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the Colonial Agricultural Service.
Cmd. 3049 ... ... 9*d.* (10*d.*)

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 ; 120, George Street, Edinburgh ;
York Street, Manchester ; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff ;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast ;
or through any Bookseller.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

THE EMPIRE'S AGRICULTURE

An historical event of importance in the development of the Empire's Agriculture took place towards the close of 1927. The foundations were, it is believed, then laid for the ultimate creation of a real and effective British agricultural commonwealth. The occasion was the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference held in Great Britain in October and November, 1927, which was attended by delegates of high standing from all countries in the Empire.

"The Report of the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference," just issued, contains a full account of the events leading up to the Conference, the recommendations (both in full and in summary form) there made and the views expressed by the highest authorities on agriculture in all quarters of the Empire. The recommendations deal with the following subjects:—The establishment of an Imperial chain of Agricultural Research Stations. The establishment of Imperial clearing houses of information. The recruitment, training and interchange of scientific workers in agriculture for the whole Empire. The action immediately necessary to secure co-operative work in such specialist subjects as Veterinary Science, Animal Nutrition and Genetics, Dairying, Soils and Fertilisers, Plant Breeding and Pathology, Fruit Growing, Entomology, Preservation and Transport, and Agricultural Economics.

The Report of 250 pages is issued at the specially low price of 1s. (with postage 1s. 5d.), in order that it may be within easy reach of all those affected.

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON—Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2
EDINBURGH—120, George Street MANCHESTER—York Street
CARDIFF—1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST—15, Donegall Sq. W.
Or through any bookseller.

EMPIRE DEVELOPMENT

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926 to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 9*d*.).

Agriculture in Trinidad. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 3.) 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agriculture in British Guiana. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 4.) 9*d*. (10*d*.).

Agriculture in Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 5.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board May, 1927 to May, 1928. (E.M.B. 9.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS.

The Imperial Economic Committee has issued a series of publications on the problems connected with the marketing and preparing for market of foodstuffs produced within the British Empire. The following six volumes are now ready. General Questions, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Meat, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Fruit, 4*s*. 6d. (4*s*. 10*d*.); Dairy Produce, 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.); Fish, 6*d*. (8*d*.); Poultry, Eggs, Honey, 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Eighth Report of the Committee, "The Functions and Work of the Imperial Economic Committee," 6*d*. (7*d*.). The relationship between the Committee and the Empire Marketing Board is explained in this Report.

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1927.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Geography and History	2
Climate	4
Vital Statistics	5
Languages	5
Currency	5
Weights and Measures	5
I.—General	5
II.—Financial	7
III.—Production	7
IV.—Trade and Economics	11
V.—Communications	14
VI.—Justice, Police and Prisons	15
VII.—Public Health	15
VIII.—Education	16
IX.—Labour	17
X.—Miscellaneous	17

Geography and History.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island, and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufrière, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufrière Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619

feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufrière gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a half miles south-east of the town.

It is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Columbus, during his fourth voyage, on the 18th June, 1502. There is, however, a tradition amongst the French that it was discovered on the 13th December of a later year by some shipwrecked French seamen, who named it St. Alouziel or St. Alousie after the martyred virgin saint of that name, whose feast is commemorated on that date.

The island was then inhabited by the Caribs, and they remained in undisturbed possession for another century.

In 1605 67 persons proceeding to Guiana by the English ship "Olive Blossom" were forced by famine to land in the island, and they remained "to take their fortune in the fruitful isle." They were not able to stay longer than a month, however, when, reduced to 19 by wars with the Caribs, they left in an open boat and reached the mainland of South America in sore distress. This is the first recorded instance of a landing by Englishmen in the island.

In 1626 a Commission was granted by Cardinal Richelieu to MM. d'Enambuc and du Rossay to establish a French Colony "in the islands of St. Christopher and Barbados and in the surrounding territories," which presumably included St. Lucia, and in 1627 the island was granted by the King of England, along with all the Caribbee Islands, to the Earl of Carlisle, who appointed Lord Willoughby of Parham to be Governor of Barbados and the other Caribbee Islands. In 1635 it appears to have been granted by the King of France to MM. de l'Olive and Duplessis.

In 1638 Captain Judlee of St. Kitts (acting in the name of Lord Willoughby) and three or four hundred men took possession of the island and attempted to effect a settlement in it, but in 1640 these early colonists were either massacred or expelled by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who sold it in 1650 to MM. Honel and du Parquet for the equivalent of £1,600. The Caribs made repeated attempts to expel the French, but failed, and finally, in 1660, they concluded a treaty of peace with the latter.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia and took possession of it. The English continued in occupation until the Peace of Breda, in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France and made a dependency of Martinique.

Throughout the eighteenth century recurrent struggles took place between the English and the French for possession of the island, the more important occurring in the latter half of the century. In 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton, but was returned to France by the Treaty of Paris in the following year. In 1778 it again surrendered to the British, who remained in occupation until 1783 when, by the Peace of Versailles, St. Lucia was once more restored to France. It was from Pigeon Island, off the north-western coast of St. Lucia, during the period of this occupancy that Rodney sighted the French Fleet of 36 sail of the line, under the Comte de Grasse, prior to giving them battle and defeating them in the memorable naval action of the 12th April, 1782. The island was again taken by the British in 1794, but they were forced by the French Republican party in the island, aided by insurgent slaves under "Citoyen" Victor Hughes, the Civil Commissary of Guadeloupe, to evacuate it in the following year. In 1796, after an obstinate and sanguinary struggle, that party laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war to a force 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under the command of Sir Hugh Christian. Sir John Moore, the subsequent hero of Corunna, took part in this operation as Brigadier-General Moore, and remained in the island as Governor thereafter. The British retained possession of the island until 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on the 22nd June, 1803, since when it has continued under British rule. As a result of the operations of 1778, 1796, and 1803, no fewer than thirteen British regiments have "St. Lucia" inscribed on their colours.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands.

The temperature seldom rises above 90° in the hot season, May to November, or falls below 70° in the cool season, December to May; the yearly average being about 83° noon shade temperature. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the former garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60° and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

The temperature records during 1927 show a mean noon temperature of 85.7° in the shade, the maximum temperature being 96°, the minimum temperature 65°, giving a range of 31°.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1927 was 105.08 inches, this was 26.28 inches above the average for 28 years (78.80 inches) and was the highest recorded in the Gardens since the year 1916.

Vital Statistics.

On 31st December, 1926, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 25,594 males and 30,104 females—a total of 55,698. On 31st December, 1927, the figure increased to 56,068; males 25,747, females 30,321. The natural increase during the year was 703. Departures from the Colony exceeded the number of persons entering the Colony by 333, so that the net addition was only 370.

The births (including still-births which numbered 111) totalled 1,923—Males 978, females 945. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 32.3 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths recorded (including still-births) was 1,220—Males 622, females 598. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 19.7 per thousand of the population.

The principal causes of death as returned (excluding still-births) were malaria, 50; pulmonary tuberculosis, 56; phthisis, 30; syphilis, 54; cancer, 19; pneumonia, 112; worms, 104; infantile debility, 41; senile decay, 110.

Languages.

English is, of course, the language of the Colony but the large majority of the population speak a French patois. Notwithstanding the fact that primary Education is imparted in English entirely, it is still true that comparatively few of the labouring classes can speak or understand our own tongue and in the elementary schools children have really to be taught English before they can assimilate a knowledge of the rudiments of Education. This is undoubtedly a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, but it can only be by persistent educational effort that the people as a whole will eventually learn to speak and think in the National language.

Currency.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10s. and 5s. are in circulation, as well as the notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

I.—GENERAL.

The outstanding event of the year was the fire in Castries on the night of the 14th-15th May.

Originating apparently in a provision store, the fire spread from block to block, despite the most strenuous efforts of the fire brigade, police, rovers, scouts, and a host of other willing helpers, until seventeen blocks had been devastated. Houses, wholesale stores and retail shops, the Post Office, Government spirit warehouse,

Magistrate's court-house, Attorney-General's office, and a Friendly Society's hall were all destroyed, and the fire was only stopped by the sea. Practically all the business section of the town was burnt out.

Prompt measures were taken by His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G. (who fortunately was in residence in St. Lucia at the time) to cope with the appalling situation created by this disaster.

Relief work in the first instance comprised providing temporary homes for a number of people, the issue of clothing, and a daily issue of rations to a still larger number. This work was carried out by a Committee working under the direction of Lady James and His Honour Captain Plunkett, Acting Colonial Secretary. Food and clothing were received promptly from neighbouring islands, and the Castries Fire Relief Fund was opened. This Fund ultimately reached the sum of £17,181, which was made up of £5,000 from the Imperial Treasury, £6,147 from Colonial Governments, and £6,033 subscriptions from Societies and private individuals.

As soon as the immediate distress of the people had been relieved, His Excellency appointed the Castries Fire Relief Investigation of Claims Committee to consider all statements of losses arising out of the fire and advise as to the best method of relief As a result of this investigation the sum of £16,894 was distributed in relief and building grants, the relief grants representing principally amounts allocated to assist in replacing household furniture and effects and stocks of small shopkeepers, and the building grants being amounts allocated to assist in rebuilding in concrete or masonry. In addition to these grants, the sum of £5,000 loaned to the local Government by the Imperial Treasury for ten years at 2 per cent. per anum has been re-loaned on the same terms to assist in rebuilding premises destroyed by the fire on condition that they are rebuilt in masonry or concrete.

Already a considerable area of the town is occupied by concrete or masonry buildings either completed or in course of erection, and these buildings are generally far superior to those destroyed.

It is noteworthy that the administration of the Relief Fund and Loan account, involving the disbursement of £22,000, cost only £35, of which £30 represents the cost of remittance of money from England.

The experience of this fire having proved the necessity for a more efficient fire brigade and apparatus, an enlarged brigade has been constituted and placed under the command of the Chief of Police, and some improved fire-fighting appliances have been purchased.

It was a very regrettable fact that so many of the properties and merchants' stocks destroyed by the fire were uninsured. Evidently many people regarded insurance as a luxury and others

regarded the payment of an insurance premium as a waste of money. Since the fire, the volume of insurance business in St. Lucia has increased very considerably.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.* £	*Ordinary Expenditure.* £	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.* £
1923	77,077	88,973	11,896
1924	71,595	88,186	16,591
1925	75,555	85,082	9,527
1926	83,379*	84,488	1,109
1927	82,491†	84,219	1,728

* In addition £70,180 was received as proceeds of the issue of Debt Reduction Loan.

† Including Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,000.

During 1927 the rates of taxation were altered in certain instances as follows :—

(1) Additional 5 per cent. on Income Tax, incomes being assessed as before but the tax payable being increased.

(2) Rates of Import Duty on certain commodities were altered, most being increased but a few reduced.

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £203,159 at the close of the year, being £3,450 less than at 31st December, 1926. The accumulated Sinking Fund for its redemption amounted to £58,717, as compared with £54,767 at the end of 1926.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The prosperity of the Colony is mainly dependent upon agriculture, but, owing to a variety of causes, this has not been developed to the extent it might have been. There is evidence that the inhabitants are now realizing the absolute necessity for increased agricultural production and are turning their attention to a more intensive cultivation of their properties.

The agricultural interests of the Colony suffered a severe setback by the collapse during the year of the banana company who had started operations and had induced a large number of planters to take up the cultivation of this commodity on a fairly large scale. This calamity, as well as the greater one of the prevalence

of Panama Disease throughout the island, has removed the prospect of any considerable production of bananas in St. Lucia.

Another severe blow has been the appearance and rapid spread of "Withertip" and "blossom blight" among limes. Planters had taken up this cultivation with enthusiasm and the industry was doing exceedingly well when this disaster overtook it.

The cultivation of coconuts has increased greatly in recent years and planting on a fairly large scale is still going on.

Work is being maintained with energy on three of the four sugar factories in the island and, under new management, considerable development is taking place at the Roseau factory, which is situated in one of the most fertile valleys in the island.

Strong efforts are being put forth to stimulate the cultivation of fruit of various kinds, for which industry St. Lucia seems to be peculiarly well suited.

Sugar.—The area under cultivation remains at about 4,750 acres; unfavourable weather conditions prevailed throughout the reaping season and rendered harvesting difficult and prolonged, and the yield of sugar was low.

One factory did not complete the harvesting of the crop, consequently the output of sugar products was generally lower than that of the previous year. Market prices were more favourable, however, and the value of the products shows an increase.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years:—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1923	62,940	75,304
1924	71,760	87,987
1925	97,772	72,559
1926	95,140	65,444
1927	88,640	74,200

Sugar (Muscovado).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1923	2,720	2,161
1924	9,940	9,508
1925	8,614	4,774
1926	9,138	5,414
1927	3,560	2,235

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1923	112,368	7,783
1924	159,589	12,323
1925	153,413	7,818
1926	156,424	8,659
1927	156,050	7,634

Rum.—The quantity and value of rum exported during the last five years is as shown below :—

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gals.	*Value.* £
1923	649	64
1924	95¾	29
1925	63	25
1926	37	11
1927	1,700	212

Practically all the rum produced in the island is consumed locally.

Cacao.—A favourable market for cacao existed throughout the year. This caused increased attention to be given to cultivation. A good crop was reaped, the quantity exported being 2,146 cwt. more than in the previous year.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1923	12,817	21,527
1924	12,163	21,267
1925	10,444	22,339
1926	10,037	22,454
1927	12,183	30,560

Limes.—Lime oils continued to realise high prices during the year, ranging from 27s. to 37s. per lb. for hand-pressed oil and 21s. to 28s. for distilled oil. Prices decreased towards the close of the year. The concentrated and raw juice markets were not very active. The quantity of lime products exported has decreased somewhat owing to Withertip disease. It is expected that, owing to the failure of the second crop, the production for 1928 will be still further reduced.

The crop calculated in barrels of fruit was :—

1923	53,097
1924	52,238
1925	63,406
1926	59,415
1927	58,948

Coconuts and coconut products exported during the last five years are shown in the following statements :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1923	99,945	351
1924	119,669	204
1925	123,516	432
1926	118,501	381
1927	96,813	351

Coconut Oil.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
1923	Information not available.	
1924	Information not available.	
	gals.	£
1925	6,323	791
1926	19,081	3,847
1927	3,921	735

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1923	1,847	2,350
1924	1,806	2,199
1925	1,981	3,563
1926	1,591	1,808
1927	4,077	4,409

Coconut Meal.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
1923	Information not available.	
1924	Information not available.	
	Tons.	£
1925	12	106
1926	42	778
1927	7	88

Bananas.—The exports during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Bunches.	*Value.* £
1923	4,081	291
1924	4,190	256
1925	20,818	1,374
1926	46,209	4,356
1927	27,052	2,351

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The state of the trade of the Colony as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1927 as compared with 1926 was as follows :—

Imports.

	1927.	1926.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	78,679	75,920
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured...	39,512	61,877
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured	103,640	107,889
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including Parcel Post	7,014	6,550
Total Value	£228,845	£252,236

From the above figures it will be seen that the principal decrease in imports was in raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured, while there was a small increase in the value of food, drink, and tobacco imported.

The values of imports for 1927 and 1926 classified according to country of supply were as follows :—

	1927.	1926.
	£	£
United Kingdom	67,910	62,399
Other parts of the British Empire	62,647	62,515
Foreign countries	91,713	121,506
Parcel Post	6,575	5,816
	£228,845	£252,236

These figures show that the imports from the United Kingdom have increased by £5,511, or 8.8 per cent., while those from other parts of the British Empire remain the same and those from foreign countries have decreased by £29,793 or 24.5 per cent., so that the drop in the value of imports has been entirely at the expense of foreign countries.

The values of the imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more each for 1926 and 1927 were as follows :—

Article.	1926.	1927.
	£	£
Bags, empty	6,371	4,131
Boots and Shoes	4,552	5,635
Coal, bituminous	53,551	28,407
Cotton—		
Piece goods	20,391	19,225
Other manufactures	2,501	5,366
Films, cinematograph	6,800	3,991
Fish, salted, dried, &c. ...	9,809	9,596
Grain, &c., Flour	23,896	24,411
Machinery, sugar manufacturing	7,138	4,073
Manures	6,932	4,042
Oil, edible	6,158	7,169

The chief item of interest in this table is coal, bituminous, the value of imports of which has diminished by £25,144, or 47 per cent., due to a further depression in the bunker-coal trade. Cotton manufactures show an increase, while cinematograph films show a decrease due to the destruction by fire of the cinema in May, 1927, Sugar-manufacturing machinery and manures show considerable decreases.

There would appear to be some openings for British products, as shown by the following table :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1927.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Cotton manufactures, piece goods	19,225	11,166
Manures	4,042	492
Iron and Steel manufactures ...	4,620	3,235
Wood and Timber—Shooks and Staves	2,831	366
Bags and Sacks, empty ...	4,131	2,291
Butter and substitutes	3,483	1,359
Oleomargarine	2,268	14
Motor-cars	2,141	1,637
Cement	2,114	628
Totals	£44,855	£21,188

Exports.

The values of exports in 1927, classified under four main divisions, were as follows :—

	1927.	1926.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	134,348	125,557
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	47,391	89,914
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	27,208	29,674
IV. Miscellaneous	371	99
V. Bullion and Specie ...	4,284	6,461
Total value	£213,602	£251,705

It is seen that the drop in the value of exports is due mainly to Class II, while Class I shows a moderate increase.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

	Value in 1927.	*Value in* 1926.
	£	£
Cocoa	30,560	22,454
Limes and Lime products ...	27,337	28,140
Sugar	76,435	70,858
Fancy Syrup and Molasses ...	7,634	8,659
Logwood	2,027	4,986
Bunker Coal	37,663	76,314
Copra	4,409	1,808

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.		*Total 1927.*	*Total 1926.*
	£	£	£
United Kingdom—			
Domestic Exports	37,709		
Re-exports	189		
		37,898	62,360
	£		
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic Exports	84,970		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	7,655		
		92,625	64,422
	£		
Foreign Countries—			
Domestic Exports	40,204		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	573		
		40,777	41,595
	£		
Ships' Stores—Re-exports	355		
Bunkers—Re-exports	37,663		
		38,018	76,867
Totals		£209,318	£245,244

From this table it appears that exports to the value of £24,462 have been diverted from the United Kingdom to other parts of the British Empire; exports to the former having decreased in value by £24,462 and exports to the latter having increased in value by £28,203. Exports to foreign countries decreased slightly, while the value of coal supplied to ships' bunkers decreased by £38,849, which more than accounts for the drop of £35,926 in the total value of exports of merchandise as above.

Coaling.—The coaling business, for which there are exceptional facilities and which brought considerable wealth to the Colony for many years, is not now in a very flourishing condition owing to the large reduction in the number of steamers calling for bunkers. Still, it affords appreciable though irregular occupation for a number of labourers in and around Castries.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 996, of a total tonnage of 1,153,633 tons. Of this total, 477 were steam and 519 sailing vessels.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular fortnightly steamer service to other West Indian Colonies and to Canada, (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the French mail steamer, and (3) a monthly service to the United States of America and the West Indian Colonies by the Quebec Steamship Company. There are other and frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America and direct to Europe.

Roads.—The road system of the island has been much improved in sections by surfacing with road oil. The mileage of roads in the Colony is as follows:—

Main roads	125
Byways	143
Unclassified roads	74
	342

167 miles are suitable for motor traffic and are much used.

Passenger subsidised motor-bus services are regularly maintained between Castries and Dennery and Vieuxfort and Soufrière.

The Government 50-ton motor-launch supplies a regular service between Castries, Soufrière, Vieuxfort, and the villages of Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, and Laborie.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board; there is also the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, the latter no longer subsidised by the Government.

Inland Telegraphs.—There is no telegraph system in the island.

Telephones.—There are ten telephone exchanges operating throughout the island, to which are connected 93 miles of trunk lines and 182 miles of branch lines.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the Royal Court, over which the Chief Justice presides, and by three District Courts, over which two Police Magistrates preside. The Royal Court has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction and also decides appeals from the Districts Courts. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of these bodies and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary Police duties, this Force assists in the administration of Poor Relief, and it has, since the Castries Fire of May, 1927, provided the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone-breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the island was good during the year. There was no epidemic sickness to be recorded. The Chief Medical Officer is responsible for the general supervision of matters of health and sanitation in the Colony.

Victoria Hospital, the principal hospital, is situated within a mile of Castries. A Resident Surgeon is in charge, and he is assisted by a staff consisting of a European matron and local nurses and dispensers. There is a private wing with six rooms assigned to paying patients.

There are three small district casualty hospitals close to the principal local dispensaries of Soufrière, Vieuxfort, and Dennery.

The pauper and leper asylums are situated in the Soufrière district, and are supervised by the Medical Officer of the district and a visiting Advisory Committee.

Sanitation.—The efforts of the Sanitary Department were mainly restricted to established routine work.

The work included the regular periodical inspection of premises —estates, barracks, and school-houses not excepted—the inspection of markets, slaughter-houses, bakeries, provision shops, mineral-water factories, ice factory, and the streets and drains of the various towns and villages.

Anti-malarial measures included reclamation work and cleaning of canals, ravines and drains. Pools in ravines were re-stocked with " millions " fish.

Fly destruction was carried out in towns and villages.

Attention was paid to the prevention of irregular disposal of excreta, of soil pollution, and of the pollution of rivers and streams.

An address on " Practical Sanitation " was delivered by the Chief Sanitary Inspector to the school teachers of the Colony, and a course of lectures on the same subject was delivered by the same officer to the District Sanitary Inspectors.

VIII.--EDUCATION.

Primary education is free and compulsory. There are 49 denominational schools. Although education is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14, little more than half the children of school age attend.

Grants-in-aid are made to these schools, mainly for the payment of teachers' salaries. The Inspector of Schools, a Government officer, is in charge of the administration of the grants.

English, reading, writing, arithmetic, the elements of grammar, geography and hygiene are taught. In the upper classes boys are taught elementary agricultural science, both practical and theoretical, and the girls needlework and domestic economy. The results are generally good.

Secondary education is supplied by St. Mary's College for boys, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, both situated in Castries. These schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations and the London University Matriculation Examination. Pupils have attained considerable success in these examinations. The St. Lucia Scholarship of £175 per annum, which was established in 1918 and suspended in 1925, was renewed in 1926 and made biennial. The Scholarship is awarded, on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination, to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. A choice of universities, or of agricultural, scientific or technical colleges or institutions in Europe, Canada or the United States, approved by the Governor-in-Council, is permitted. The Scholarship is tenable for not less than three, and not more than five, years according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned. Up to 1927 seven Scholarships have been awarded.

Eighteen scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government, on the results of competitive examinations to boys attending primary schools. These scholarships are tenable for one year and renewable after that from year to year for five years more.

IX.—LABOUR.

There is, generally, an ample supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on sugar estates and other of the larger properties, by the Public Works Department for work on the roads, and by the coaling companies for bunkering steamers. Since the fire of May, 1927, there has been a constant demand for tradesmen, but it has not been an easy matter to secure an adequate number of skilled workers. So far as can be ascertained the relations between employers and labourers have been satisfactory. A fair number of St. Lucia labourers are recruited periodically for work in Cuba and Santo Domingo. All arrangements in regard to this labour are made through the Government, and the recruiting agents are required to enter into a strict bond and agreement for carrying out the terms of the contract made between them and the labourers.

X.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., paid two visits to the Colony during the year, from 23rd April to 28th June and from 11th August to 23rd August.

His Honour Captain Oliver Plunkett, Chief Justice, acted as Administrator throughout the year until the 17th November, except for the periods when His Excellency the Governor was in residence in the Colony. Mr. C. A. Pickwoad succeeded Captain Plunkett and administered the Government from 17th November to the end of the year.

Four British ships of war visited the Colony during the year, as follows:—

H.M.S. "Calcutta" from the 20th to the 31st January,
H.M.S. "Colombo" from the 21st to the 22nd February,
H.M.S. "Wistaria" from the 23rd February to the 1st March,
H.M.S. "Heliotrope" from the 24th to the 27th March.

There is now an excellent up-to-date hotel situated on the hill overlooking the harbour and town of Castries. The social club at the Vigie, which was established a little more than a year ago, promises to be a great success and has supplied a long-felt want.

CHAS. W. DOORLY,
Administrator.

ST. LUCIA,
12th June, 1928.

(2554—21) Wt. 8633—344 500 9/28 H.St. G.7/8

Reports of Imperial and Colonial Interest.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.

Summary of Proceedings. Cmd. 2768 ... 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings.
Cmd. 2769 ... ... 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.

Summary of Proceedings. Cmd. 2883 ... 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings.
Cmd. 2884 ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9½*d.*)

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.

Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Cmd. 2825 ... ... 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 1½*d.*)

COLONIAL AGRICULTURE.

Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the Colonial Agricultural Service.
Cmd. 3049 ... ... 9*d.* (10*d.*)

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 ; 120, George Street, Edinburgh ;
York Street, Manchester ; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff ;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast ;
or through any Bookseller.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

THE EMPIRE'S AGRICULTURE

An historical event of importance in the development of the Empire's Agriculture took place towards the close of 1927. The foundations were, it is believed, then laid for the ultimate creation of a real and effective British agricultural commonwealth. The occasion was the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference held in Great Britain in October and November, 1927, which was attended by delegates of high standing from all countries in the Empire.

"The Report of the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference," just issued, contains a full account of the events leading up to the Conference, the recommendations (both in full and in summary form) there made and the views expressed by the highest authorities on agriculture in all quarters of the Empire. The recommendations deal with the following subjects:—The establishment of an Imperial chain of Agricultural Research Stations. The establishment of Imperial clearing houses of information. The recruitment, training and interchange of scientific workers in agriculture for the whole Empire. The action immediately necessary to secure co-operative work in such specialist subjects as Veterinary Science, Animal Nutrition and Genetics, Dairying, Soils and Fertilisers, Plant Breeding and Pathology, Fruit Growing, Entomology, Preservation and Transport, and Agricultural Economics.

The Report of 250 pages is issued at the specially low price of 1s. (with postage 1s. 5d.), in order that it may be within easy reach of all those affected.

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON—Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2
EDINBURGH—120, George Street MANCHESTER—York Street
CARDIFF—1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST—15, Donegall Sq. W.
Or through any bookseller.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1433.

ST. LUCIA

REPORT FOR 1928.

(For Report for 1926 see No. 1364 (Price 6d.) and for Report for 1927 see No. 1396 (Price 9d.)).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1929.

Price 1s. 0d. net.

58-1433

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 9*d*.).

Agriculture in Trinidad. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 3.) 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agriculture in British Guiana. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 4.) 9*d*. (10*d*.).

Agriculture in Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 5.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1927 to May, 1928. (E.M.B. 9.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d*. (8*d*.)

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d*. (8*d*.).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Development of Agriculture in British Honduras. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 16.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1928.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Geography and History	2
Climate	4
Vital Statistics	5
Languages	5
Currency	5
Weights and Measures	5
I.—General	5
II.—Finance	6
III.—Production	7
IV.—Trade and Economics	10
V.—Communications	13
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	14
VII.—Public Health	15
VIII.—Education	16
IX.—Labour	16
X.—Miscellaneous	17
Map	

Geography and History.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island, and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

It is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Columbus, during his fourth voyage, on the 18th June, 1502. There is, however, a tradition amongst the French that it was discovered on the 13th December of a later year by some shipwrecked French seamen, who named it St. Alouziel or St. Alousie after the martyred virgin saint of that name, whose feast is commemorated on that date.

The island was then inhabited by the Caribs, and they remained in undisturbed possession for another century.

In 1605, 67 persons proceeding to Guiana by the English ship *Olive Blossom* were forced by famine to land in the island, and they remained "to take their fortune in the fruitful isle." They were not able to stay longer than a month, however, when, reduced to 19 by wars with the Caribs, they left in an open boat and reached the mainland of South America in sore distress. This is the first recorded instance of a landing by Englishmen in the island.

In 1626 a Commission was granted by Cardinal Richelieu to MM. d'Enambuc and du Rossay to establish a French Colony "in the islands of St. Christopher and Barbados and in the surrounding territories," which presumably included St. Lucia, and in 1627 the island was granted by the King of England, along with all the Caribbee Islands, to the Earl of Carlisle, who appointed Lord Willoughby of Parham to be Governor of Barbados and the other Caribbee Islands. In 1635 it appears to have been granted by the King of France to MM. de l'Olive and Duplessis.

In 1638 Captain Judlee of St. Kitts (acting in the name of Lord Willoughby) and three or four hundred men took possession of the island and attempted to effect a settlement in it, but in 1640 these early colonists were either massacred or expelled by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who sold it in 1650 to MM. Honel and du Parquet for the equivalent of £1,600. The Caribs made repeated attempts to expel the French, but failed, and finally, in 1660, they concluded a treaty of peace with the latter.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia and took possession of it. The English continued in occupation until the Peace of Breda, in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France and made a dependency of Martinique.

Throughout the eighteenth century recurrent struggles took place between the English and the French for possession of the island, the more important occurring in the latter half of the century. In 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton, but was returned to France by the Treaty of Paris in the following year. In 1778 it again surrendered to the British, who remained in occupation until 1783 when, by the Peace of Versailles, St. Lucia was once more restored to France. It was from Pigeon Island, off the north-western coast of St. Lucia, during the period of this occupancy that Rodney sighted the French Fleet of 36 sail of the line, under the Comte de Grasse, prior to giving them battle and defeating them in the memorable naval action of the 12th April, 1782. The island was again taken by the British in 1794, but they were forced by the French Republican party in the island, aided by insurgent slaves under "Citoyen" Victor Hughes, the Civil Commissary of Guadeloupe, to evacuate it in the following year. In 1796, after an obstinate and sanguinary struggle, that party laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war to a force 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie supported by a squadron under the command of Sir Hugh Christian. Sir John Moore, the subsequent hero of Corunna, took part in this operation as Brigadier-General Moore, and remained in the island as Governor thereafter. The British retained possession of the island until 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on the 22nd June, 1803, since when it has continued under British rule. As a result of the operations of 1778, 1796, and 1803, no fewer than thirteen British regiments have "St. Lucia" inscribed on their colours.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands.

The temperature seldom rises above 90° in the hot season, May to November, or falls below 70° in the cool season, December to May; the yearly average being about 83° noon shade temperature. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the former garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60°, and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

Temperature records during 1928 at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, show a mean noon temperature of 84.4° in the shade; the maximum temperature was 92°, the minimum temperature was 63°, the temperature range being 29°.

The total rainfall at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1928 was 106.25 inches. This was 16.32 inches above the average for the last 38 years (89.93) and was the highest rainfall recorded since the year 1916. Maximum precipitation occurred on 7th August with a rainfall of 3.96 inches.

Vital Statistics.

On 31st December, 1927, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 56,068—males, 25,747 ; females, 30,321. On 31st December, 1928, the figure increased to 56,917—males, 26,393 ; females, 30,524. The natural increase during the year was 767. Arrivals in the Colony exceeded the number of persons leaving the Colony by 82, making a total increase of 849.

The general increase in population from the 1921 Census (51,505) is estimated at 5,412—males, 2,887 ; females, 2,525—and the average figures for the seven years show a slight annual increase of the male population as compared with the female, of 51.

The births (including still-births which numbered 123) totalled 2,016—males, 1,065 ; females, 951. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 33.2 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths recorded (including still-births) was 1,249 —males, 608 ; females, 641. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 19.8 per thousand of the population.

The principal causes of death returned (excluding still-births) were—malaria, 53 ; pulmonary tuberculosis, 42 ; phthisis, 23 ; syphilis, 57 ; diseases of the heart, 43 ; bronchitis, 41 ; pneumonia, 50 ; gastro-enteritis, 92 ; worms, 116 ; infantile debility, 56 ; senile decay, 115.

Languages.

English is, of course, the language of the Colony, but the large majority of the population speak a French patois. Notwithstanding the fact that primary education is imparted in English entirely, it is still true that, in the elementary schools, most of the children have to be taught English before they can assimilate a knowledge of the rudiments of education. This is undoubtedly a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, but it can only be by persistent educational effort that the people as a whole will eventually learn to speak and think in the national language.

Currency.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10*s*. and 5*s*. are in circulation, as well as the notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

I.—GENERAL.

An outstanding event of the year was the inauguration of the new Canadian Steamship Service which has been the result of the Canada-West Indies Conference held at Ottawa in 1925. The first of the steamers, the *Lady Nelson*, arrived at Castries on the 23rd December

with an official party from Canada and received a hearty welcome from the inhabitants of the Colony. High hopes are entertained of an increasing prosperity to the Island as the result of the establishment of this greatly improved means of communication with Canada and it cannot be doubted that these hopes will be realised.

An election of Members to serve on the Legislative Council of the Colony was held on the 4th April, 1928, when the following gentlemen were elected to represent the several constituencies :—

For the Northern District ... Mr. L. T. Augier McVane.
,, Eastern ,, ... Mr. George Palmer.
,, Western ,, ... Mr. H. E. Belmar.

Messrs. G. Laffitte, M.B.E., Gregor McG. Peter, and T. G. Westall were appointed Nominated Members of the Council. The new Council was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor on the 26th April.

During the year tours were made by the Administrator through the agricultural districts of the Island and steps were taken to form a Co-operative Fruit Growers' Association at Soufriere. Several experimental shipments of fruit have been made under the auspices of this association and in many cases good results were obtained. It is hoped that much good will result from the marketing of fruit on co-operative lines and that these principles will be adopted gradually in regard to other articles of agricultural produce.

In June the Colony received a visit from Professor H. Clark Powell, B.Sc., who was deputed by the Empire Marketing Board to visit several Colonies to investigate the possibilities of an increased cultivation of grape fruit. Professor Clark Powell's visit was greatly appreciated and resulted in a large importation of grape fruit plants from Florida. His excellent report on his visit has been of great assistance to planters in the Island.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.*	*Ordinary Expenditure.*	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.*
	£	£	£
1924	71,595	88,186	16,591
1925	75,555	85,082	9,527
1926	83,379*	84,488	1,109
1927	82,491†	84,219	1,728
1928	85,351‡	87,235	1,884

* In addition £70,180 was received as proceeds of the issue of a Debt Reduction Loan.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,000.

‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,836.

Taxation was increased during 1928 by :—

(1) The Stamp Duty Amendment Ordinance.

(2) The Customs Amendment (No. 2) Ordinance, increasing the surtax on Customs Duties from 17½ per cent. to 25 per cent.

(3) The Insurance Licence Ordinance, imposing a licence at the annual rate of £5 in respect of Insurance businesses carried on in the Colony.

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £199,459 at the close of the year, being £3,700 less than at 31st December, 1927. The accumulated Sinking Fund for its redemption amounted to £62,673, as compared with £58,717 at the end of 1927.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Owing to the decline in the coal trade the future prosperity of the Colony is more than ever dependent on agriculture, and the somewhat increased activity shown by the inhabitants is evidence that the position is being realised.

Interest in agriculture has also been stimulated by the present trade relations with Canada and the advantage of a direct line of steamers providing special accommodation for fruit and vegetables. Although a fruit and vegetable trade is only now beginning, the outlook is encouraging and favourable.

In May, a new agricultural station was established on a suitable Government estate near Castries. Special attention has been given to the propagation of fruit trees of the best known varieties and these are being distributed through the country. St. Lucia possesses great possibilities as a fruit-producing country and there seems little doubt that this industry will develop very considerably in the near future.

The lime industry although somewhat handicapped by "Wither-tip" disease, has been helped by favourable markets and is still being profitably carried on.

The coconut industry is being gradually extended and the output is steadily increasing. The groves generally are in good condition.

Sugar.—Four factories still continue to operate in the Colony and the area under cultivation remains at about 4,750 acres, although the cane land around one factory is being gradually planted in coconuts.

The year was a difficult one for sugar producers, the weather being unusually wet ; the rainfall recorded was 16 inches above the average for the last 38 years.

The price of sugar showed no improvement, and the output of the factories was low.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last 5 years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1924	71,760	87,987
1925	97,772	72,559
1926	95,140	65,444
1927	88,640	74,200
1928	82,000	63,050

Sugar (Muscovado).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1924	9,940	9,508
1925	8,614	4,774
1926	9,138	5,414
1927	3,560	2,235
1928	—	—

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1924	159,589	12,323
1925	153,413	7,818
1926	156,424	8,659
1927	156,050	7,634
1928	85,784	3,643

Rum.—The quantity and value of rum exported during the last five years is as shown below :—

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gals.	*Value.* £
1924	95¾	29
1925	63	25
1926	37	11
1927	1,700	212
1928	1,323	218

Practically all the rum produced in the island is consumed locally.

Cacao.—The cacao market was fairly steady, and growers gave more attention to their plantations. The average quality of beans produced was an improvement on that of five years ago. Owing to extended wet weather the crop was short, showing a reduction of 1,176 cwt. on the previous crop.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1924	12,163	21,267
1925	10,444	22,339
1926	10,037	22,454
1927	12,183	30,560
1928	11,006	27,321

Limes.—Due to the presence of "Wither-tip" the output was little more than half of that of the previous year, but the high prices of lime oils which continued throughout the year considerably enhanced the market value.

The quotations for concentrated lime juice increased from £20 to £25 per pipe c.i.f., handpressed lime oil from 38*s*. to 62*s*. per lb., and distilled lime oil from 25*s*. to 33*s*. per lb.

Calculated in barrels of green limes the crops for the last five years are :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1924	52,238
1925	63,406
1926	59,415
1927	58,948
1928	30,107

Coconuts and coconut products exported during the last five years are shown in the following statements :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1924	199,669	204
1925	123,516	432
1926	118,501	381
1927	96,813	351
1928	141,667	499

Coconut Oil.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1924	Information not available.	
1925	6,323	791
1926	19,081	3,847
1927	3,921	735
1928	931	184

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1924	1,806	2,199
1925	1,981	3,563
1926	1,591	1,808
1927	4,077	4,409
1928	6,301	8,690

Coconut Meal.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1924	Information not available.	
1925	12	106
1926	42	778
1927	7	88
1928	4	38

Bananas.—The exports during the last five years were as follows :–

Year.	*Quantity.* Bunches.	*Value.* £
1924	4,190	256
1925	20,818	1,374
1926	46,209	4,356
1927	27,052	2,351
1928	5,543	338

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The state of the trade of the Colony as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1928 as compared with 1927 was as follows :—

Imports.

	1928. £	1927. £
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	80,669	78,679
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	46,418	39,512
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	105,703	103,640
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles including Parcel Post.	9,263	7,014
Total value	£ 242,053	£228,845

The above table shows increases over the previous year in every class of imports, class IV being highest with 32 per cent.

The values of imports for 1928 and 1927, classified according to country of supply, were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
United Kingdom	92,756	67,910
Other parts of the British Empire ...	67,297	62,647
Foreign Countries...	73,959	91,713
Parcel Post	8,041	6,575
	£242,053	£228,845

The effect of preference in the above figures is very clear, for while imports from the United Kingdom have increased by £24,846 or 36.58 per cent. and from the other parts of the British Empire by £4,650 or 7.42 per cent. those from foreign countries have decreased by £17,754 or 19.36 per cent.

The values of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more for 1927 and 1928 were as follows :—

Article.	1927.	1928.
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	5,635	7,518
Coal, bituminous	28,407	25,229
Cotton—		
Piece goods	19,225	10,930
Other manufactures	5,366	13,904
Fish, salted, dried, etc.	9,596	9,394
Grain, etc., Flour	24,411	25,367
Machinery, sugar manufacturing ...	4,073	10,519
Oil, edible	7,169	6,274

Coal, the chief item, is seen from the above figures to have declined by £3,178 or 11.19 per cent. On the other hand, sugar manufacturing machinery increased by no less than £6,446 or 158 per cent., which is gratifying evidence of an effort to develop further this important industry. The recent serious fall in the price of sugar is most unfortunate and disheartening for the planters who were doing all in their power to increase the efficiency of their factories.

There would appear to be some openings for British products, as shown by the following table :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1928.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Cotton manufactures, piece goods	10,930	7,489
Manures	2,625	1,210
Iron and Steel manufactures ...	3,188	610
Wood and Timber—Shooks and Staves.	1,220	32
Bags and Sacks, empty	4,223	3,642
Butter and substitutes	3,811	1,638
Oleomargarine	2,152	117
Motor-cars...	3,507	2,785
Cement	4,192	1,448
Totals	£35,848	£18,971

Exports.

The values of exports in 1928, classified under four main divisions, were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
I. Food, drink and tobacco	108,567	134,348
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	49,505	47,391
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	31,836	27,208
IV. Miscellaneous	730	371
V. Bullion and Specie	7,198	4,284
Total value	£197,836	£213,602

The above shows a decrease during 1928 in class I only, due mainly to a falling off in the exports of sugar, molasses, concentrated lime juice, and cocoa.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

	Value in 1928.	*Value in* 1927.
	£	£
Cocoa	27,321	30,560
Lime and Lime products...	29,687	27,337
Sugar	63,050	76,435
Fancy syrup and Molasses	3,643	7,634
Logwood	2,338	2,027
Bunker Coal	35,411	37,663
Copra	8,690	4,409

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.	£	*Total* 1928. £	*Total* 1927. £
United Kingdom—			
Domestic Exports	56,419		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	110		
		56,529	37,898
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic Exports	58,473		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	4,426		
		62,899	92,625
Foreign Countries—			
Domestic Exports	34,828		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	416		
		35,244	40,777
Ships' Stores—Re-exports ...	555		
Bunkers—Re-exports	35,411		
		35,966	38,018
Totals		£190,638	£209,318

Coaling.—The coaling business, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch, and which had for many years been a source of considerable wealth to the Colony, has fallen off greatly with the reduction in the number of steamers calling for bunkers. It still, however, affords an appreciable amount of irregular employment to a number of labourers living in the capital and its vicinity.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,057, of a total tonnage of 1,222,306 tons. Of this total 533 were steam and 524 sailing vessels.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular fortnightly steamer service to other West Indian Colonies and to Canada, (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the French mail steamer, and (3) a monthly service to the United States of America and the West Indian Colonies by the Quebec Steamship Company. There are other frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America and direct to Europe.

Roads.—The road system of the island was further improved during the year. Three sections of main road, aggregating 2½ miles, were throughly reconstructed and surfaced with oil. Other sections were widened, regraded and diverted to facilitate increased motor traffic.

The mileage of roads in the Colony is as follows :—

Main roads	125
By-ways	144
Unclassified roads	74
	343

167 miles are suitable for motor traffic.

Passenger subsidised motor-bus services were regularly maintained between Castries and Dennery and Vieuxfort and Soufriere.

The Government 50 ton motor-launch supplied a regular service between Castries, Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and the villages of Anse-la-Raye, Canaries, and Laborie.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board ; there is also the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, the latter no longer subsidised by the Government.

Inland Telegraphs.—There is no telegraph system in the island.

Telephones.—The telephone system is operated entirely by the Government and consists of 110 miles of trunk lines and 204 miles of branch lines, ten exchanges and 210 subscribers.

A thorough reconstruction of rural lines was effected during the year and new switchboards installed at Castries, Soufriere, and Dennery.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the Royal Court, over which the Chief Justice presides, and by three District Courts, over which two Magistrates preside. The Royal Court has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction and also decides appeals from the Districts Courts. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of these bodies and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary Police duties, this Force assists in the administration of Poor Relief, and it has, since the Castries Fire of May, 1927, provided the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone-breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony during 1928 was fair, the only epidemic occurring being a small outbreak of para-typhoid fever in the isolated village of Canaries. The incidence of malaria was the lowest recorded since 1922.

The Medical Department consists of a Chief Medical Officer who is also Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, Castries, and six District Medical Officers as well as a Sanitary Department. The Department maintains a Port Health Officer, a suitably equipped Quarantine Station, and Pauper, Leper, and Lunatic Asylums.

The Victoria Hospital, the principal hospital, is situated one mile outside of Castries and there are three small Casualty Hospitals situated in Soufriere, Vieuxfort, and Dennery, the three towns next in importance to Castries. The Victoria Hospital was during 1928 re-modelled and brought up to modern standards, particular attention being paid to sanitation. There is a Resident Surgeon in charge and he is assisted by a staff consisting of a European Matron and local nurses and dispensers. There is a private wing with six rooms assigned to paying patients.

Sanitation and Hygiene.—Established routine work was carried out throughout the year. This included the regular periodical inspection of all inhabited areas, houses, estates, barracks, and school-houses; inspection of markets, slaughter-houses, bakeries, provision shops, mineral water factories, and ice factory. Particular attention was paid to the scavenging and cleaning of towns and villages and to the disposal of excreta and of refuse throughout the Colony.

Anti-malarial measures included general work of reclamation, swamp clearing, particularly a large area of swamp land in Vieuxfort, the restocking of pools with " millions " fish, the clearing of ravines, regular attention to the banks of rivers and streams which were overgrown with weeds, the keeping open of lagoons and river mouths, the proper covering of all receptacles for holding water and general instruction, especially to the poorer classes of the community, in the prevention of mosquitoes. Quinine for prophylaxis was available.

The town of Vieuxfort was granted the boon of a pipe-borne water supply.

The Bakeries Regulations which had never previously been enforced were brought into operation and this is resulting in cleaner methods in the making and handling of bread.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education.—There are 49 primary schools, which are all denominational, assisted by Government Grants in Aid. Forty-two of these are Roman Catholic, four Anglican, and three Wesleyan. The teachers' salaries are almost wholly paid from the Grants in Aid, which total nearly £5,000 per annum, the religious denominations contributing less than £50 per annum towards the sum required for that purpose. The grants are administered by an Inspector of Schools, a Government Officer who exercises general supervision and direction of them, subject to the ultimate control of the Governor-in-Council. Primary education is free and compulsory between the ages of 4 and 14 years, but it is probable that not more than 60 per cent. of the children between those ages attend school.

Instruction is provided in reading, writing, dictation, arithmetic, English recitation, and hygiene. In the lower standards English is also taught by means of object lessons, while the upper standards take English composition, English grammar, and geography. Instruction in elementary agricultural science for boys, both theoretical and practical, and in domestic economy for girls, including practical cooking, is also given. Many of the schools have good gardens, the care of which provides the pupils with practical work in agricultural science. The results obtained are on the whole good.

Secondary Education.—A secondary course for boys is provided by St. Mary's College, and for girls by St. Joseph's Convent School. The course at St. Mary's College now includes agricultural science. These schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local and London University Matriculation Examinations with considerable success. The St. Lucia Scholarship of the value of £175 per annum is awarded by the Government biennially, on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination, to candidates having the requisite residential, educational, and other qualifications. A choice of universities, or of agricultural, scientific, or technical colleges, or institutions, in Europe, Canada, or the United States, approved by the Governor-in-Council, is permitted. The scholarship is tenable for not less than three and not more than five years, according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned. At the end of 1927 seven scholarships had been awarded.

Eighteen scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys attending primary schools, on the results of competitive examinations. These scholarships are tenable for one year and are then renewable from year to year for five years more.

IX.—LABOUR.

There is, generally, an ample supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on sugar estates and other of the larger properties, by the Public Works Department for

work on the roads, and by the coaling companies for bunkering steamers. There is a steady demand for tradesmen, but the supply is limited. So far as can be ascertained the relations between employers and labourers have been satisfactory. A fair number of St. Lucia labourers are recruited periodically for work in Cuba and Santo Domingo. All arrangements in regard to this labour are made through the Government, and the recruiting agents are required to enter into a strict bond and agreement for carrying out the terms of the contract made between them and the labourers.

X.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., was in residence in the Colony from 26th January to 1st May.

Mr. C. W. Doorly, the newly appointed administrator, arrived in the Colony on the 26th February and was sworn in the next day.

Mr. C. A. Pickwoad left the Colony on the 20th March after having acted as Administrator and Colonial Secretary for four months. Mr. Pickwoad rendered most valuable service during the short period he was in the Colony, especially in the direction of clarifying the financial situation.

A sitting of the West Indian Appeal Court was held at Castries on the 21st August.

The following British ships of war visited the colony during the year :—

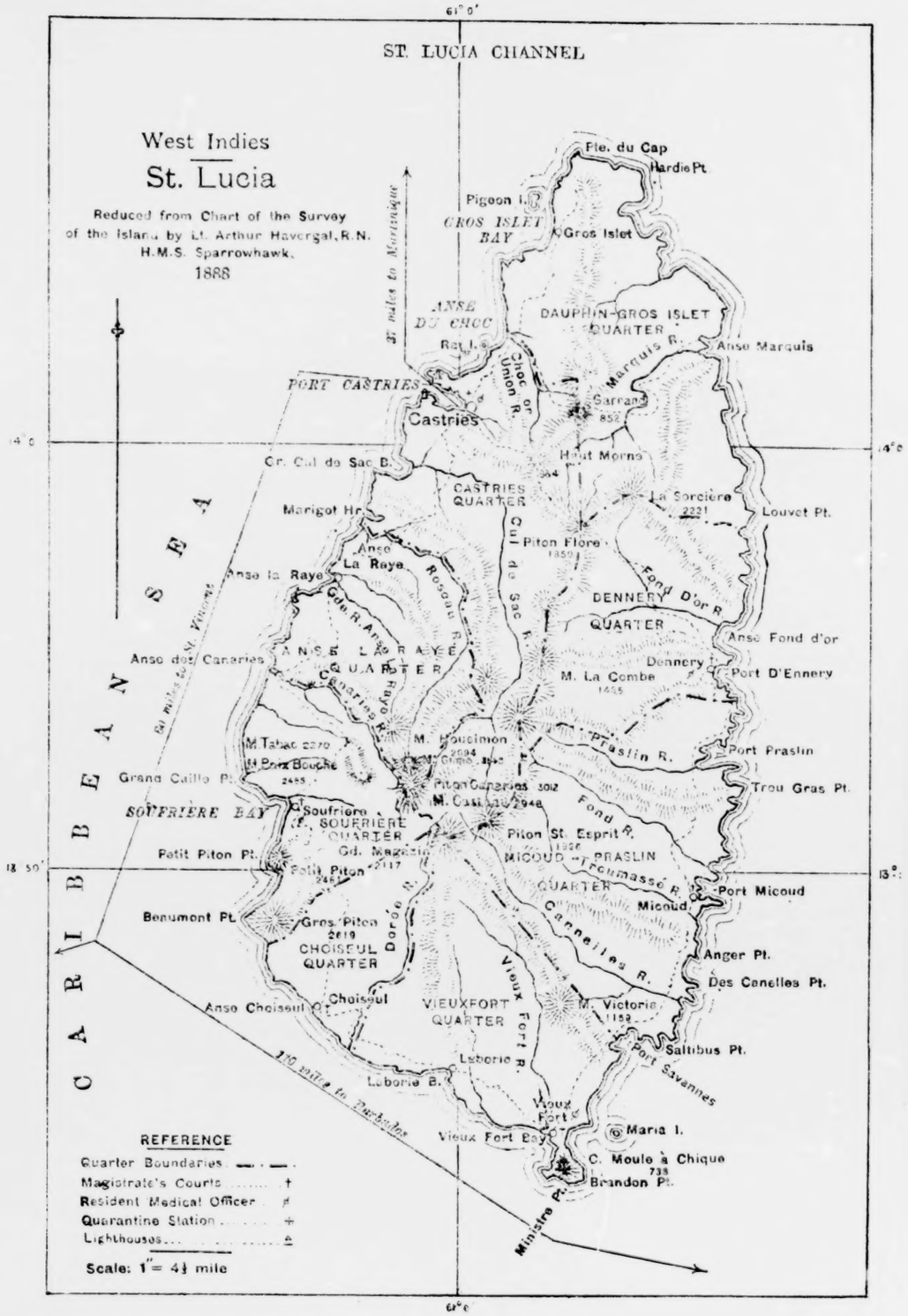
H.M.S. *Colombo* in March.
H.M.S. *Cairo* in April.
H.M.S. *Heliotrope* in January, March, and April.

CHAS. W. DOORLY,

Administrator.

St. Lucia,

18*th May*, 1929.



(4969—21) Wt. 8144—612 500 8/29 P.St. G.7/8

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922 [Cmd. 1679]. 3*s*. 0*d*. (3*s*. 2*d*.).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s*. 0*d*. (4*s*. 6*d*.).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s*. 0*d*. (2*s*. 1½*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 9½*d*.).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. 0*d*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 9*d*.).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928 [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICES.
Regulations. (October, 1928.) Colonial No. 37. 6*d*. (8*d*.).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

(4969)

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1436.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1928.

(For Reports for 1926 and 1927 see Nos. 1372 and 1395 respectively (Price 6d. each).)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1929.

Price 9d. net.

58-1436

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 9*d*.).

Agriculture in Trinidad. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 3.) 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agriculture in British Guiana. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 4.) 9*d*. (10*d*.).

Agriculture in Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 5.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1927 to May, 1928. (E.M.B. 9.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d*. (8*d*.).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d*. (8*d*.).

Oranges. World Production and Trade. Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Development of Agriculture in British Honduras. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 16.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1928.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Geographical...	2
Historical	2
Language	3
Currency	3
Climate	3
I.—General	3
II.—Financial	3
III.—Production	5
IV.—Trade and Economics	8
V.—Communications	9
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	10
VII.—Public Works	11
VIII.—Public Health	11
IX.—Education	12
X.—Crown Lands and Surveys	13
XI.—Labour	13
XII.—Miscellaneous	14
Map	15

Geographical.

The Island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of 9 miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

Historical.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the Island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the Island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton ; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the Island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English.

Currency.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents. Imperial weights and measures are in use.

Climate.

St. Vincent is reputed to be one of the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry ; the dry season from January to May, and the wet season from June to December. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout 1928 varied from 78° F. to 85.6° F. The highest was in July and the lowest in December ; the mean monthly temperature was 80.4° F. as against 80.3° F. in 1927.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea-level, was 95.28 inches in 1928, as compared with 98.45 inches in 1927. The greatest fall for one day was 2.47 inches on 17th November.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation, temperature, and latitude, ranged from 30.079 on 27th February to 29.758 on 12th September, 1928.

I.—GENERAL.

The event of most importance during the year under review and one of far-reaching results was the inauguration of the steamship service provided for under the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1925 when on Christmas Day the s.s. *Lady Nelson* of the Canadian National Steamships dropped anchor in Kingstown Harbour.

II.—FINANCIAL.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1928, was :—

	£
Net surplus at 1st January, 1928	16,414
Revenue in 1928	64,593
	£81,007
Expenditure in 1928	60,441
Net Surplus at 31st December, 1928	£20,566

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1924	60,893	53,887
1925	62,450	53,190
1926	60,243	59,282
1927	56,469	61,564
1928	64,593	60,441

The revenue for 1928 is the highest on record.

The principal items of revenue in the last five years were :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Import duties ...	25,869	26,379	26,683	24,649	28,137
Export duties ...	3,032	2,982	2,959	2,587	2,849
Excise duty on rum ...	2,938	5,816	6,479	4,685	4,137
Land and House tax ...	5,882	6,337	4,124	3,442	5,766
Income Tax	3,947	4,504	3,014	2,480	2,702
Liquor trade duty ...	2,934	2,736	3,013	2,820	3,127
Postage stamps ...	2,334	1,732	1,774	1,875	3,695

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 1st January, 1928, was £9,170, of which £810 was redeemed during the year, thereby leaving the debt at the close of the year at £8,360, made up as follows :—

	£
The Public Works Loan, 1913	400
The Public Works Loan, 1914	750
*The Kingstown Board Loan, 1914	1,060
The Public Purposes Loan, 1915	1,200
The War Loan, 1916	1,750
The Windward Highway Loans, 1917, 1919, and 1920	3,200
	£8,360

The accumulated sinking funds provided for redemption of loans stood on the 31st December, 1928, at £5,802, of which £4,938 was in respect of Government loans and £864 in respect of the Kingstown Board loan.

The investments on behalf of the Loans Redemption Fund stood at the close of the year as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Imperial Treasury Bonds 4½ per cent. ...	1,152	12	9
War Loan Stock 5 per cent.	2,602	15	8
Westminster Bank	1,182	10	3
	£4,937	18	8

* The Colony is only responsible for redemption of this loan in case of default by the Kingstown Board.

The investments on behalf of the Kingstown Board Sinking Fund stood as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Westminster Bank	103	0	3
Imperial Government Treasury Bonds 5 per cent.	760	18	4
	£863	18	7

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund made up from donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière Volcano in 1902–1903, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and applied to the relief of the poor. This amount, together with the Colony's Reserve Fund of £11,000, offers excellent security both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

The amount to the credit of the Public Property Insurance Fund which was started during the year 1926, stood at the close of the year 1928 at £2,442.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Cotton.—Yield of Sea Island cotton during year was poor owing to heavy attack of cotton worm and soft rot.

The question of altering the close season from April to September is under consideration.

349,246 lb. of lint were exported being 97,000 lb. less than in 1927.

The area under cotton in St. Vincent and the Grenadines during 1928 was 4,381 acres—3,386 acres Sea Island and 995 acres Marie Galante—as compared with 4,358 acres in 1927—3,364 acres Sea Island and 994 Marie Galante.

Arrowroot.—Arrowroot may be looked upon as one of if not the most important staple product in St. Vincent. No less than 3,870,420 lb. were exported from the Colony during 1928, valued at £64,508, showing an increase of 674,942 lb. as compared with 1927. The United Kingdom took 1,933,436 lb., United States 1,408,672 lb., Canada, Barbados, Germany, France, and Holland absorbing practically the balance. The consumption in the United States is steadily increasing. The campaign inaugurated by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers and Exporters Association twelve months ago through the medium of the West India Committee to advertise St. Vincent arrowroot in England is beginning to bear good fruit. The Empire Marketing Board have given valuable assistance both by a money grant and propaganda work.

Sugar.—The sugar and syrup industry continues to expand. 929 tons of sugar (valued at £14,190) and 167,000 gallons of syrup (valued

at £9,478) were exported. Sugar shows an increased exportation of 1,240,960 lb. over that of 1927. Market value of sugar working out at a rate a little less than £15 per ton.

Coconuts.—It is satisfactory to note the steady increase in the production and export of copra. The year 1928 shows an increase of no less than 25 per cent. over that of 1927. Several hundred acres are being planted yearly and the industry is fast becoming one of considerable importance to the Colony. Copra was valued at £18 6*s.* 0*d.* per ton.

Of the minor industries peas, beans, ground-nuts and sweet potatoes showed a marked increase, ready markets absorbing all that was produced.

The question of the building up of a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada is occupying the attention of the Government and the Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce. Now that improved communication and refrigerator accommodation has been established it is anticipated that active steps will be made to bring this into force forthwith.

A consignment of 331 lb. of Manila hemp was prepared and sent to the Imperial Institute. The report on this consignment was most encouraging, clearly indicating that Manila hemp can be successfully grown and prepared in the Colony. The report further states that commercial quantities would be readily saleable in the London market. That sent was sold at the rate of £37 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton. The cleaning of twenty pounds of fibre is regarded as a good day's work for a trained labourer in the Philippines.

The appended table shows the comparative amount of the annual exports of the principal commodities during the last five years :—

Articles.	1924.		1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£
Arrowroot ... ... lb.	2,952,535	51,361	3,190,412	53,174	3,291,553	45,807	3,195,478	53,309	3,870,420	64,508
Cassava Starch ... „	634,631	6,838	470,284	4,160	443,075	4,077	543,681	4,940	392,610	3,272
Cotton—Sea Island... „	520,369	50,218	473,219	57,655	589,499	63,175	446,274	39,204	349,246	28,549
Do.—Marie Galante „	1,540	58	9,673	464	30,275	1,514	53,381	2,669	36,214	1,358
Seed Cotton—Marie Galante. „	32,030	534	100,468	1,047	56,092	468	108,999	1,250	35,858	312
Cocoa... ... ... „	130,910	1,820	154,821	2,345	174,599	2,461	135,490	2,267	179,918	2,998
Copra... ... ... „	645,973	5,430	661,309	5,512	762,563	9,826	1,198,441	10,083	1,505,093	12,543
Sugar—crystallized „	22,400	280	—	—	—	—	840,000	6,947	2,080,960	14,190
Syrup and Molasses... gal.	261,127	15,758	268,118	19,672	337,099	16,523	171,063	10,459	167,044	9,478
Cotton Seed ... ... lb.	475,003	2,216	26,485	53	88,106	398	151,903	1,266	110,728	214
Peanuts ... ... „	322,153	4,439	273,039	3,794	190,978	2,370	263,509	3,219	334,098	4,176
Peas—Dried... ... „	90,705	984	90,476	866	50,185	476	38,719	352	96,386	876
Firewood ... cords	292	257	216	181	208	178	240	221	434	260
Whale Oil ... ... gal.	6,672	476	280	38	1,964	148	132	24	2,755	360
Cotton Seed Oil ... „	4,120	467	4	1	5,180	583	—	—	—	—
Hides and Skins ...	—	151	—	146	—	221	—	221	—	412
Vegetables, Fresh ...	—	2,550	—	2,581	—	2,107	—	1,915	—	3,468
Wool—Raw ... ... lb.	—	—	263	26	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logwood ... ... tons	30	145	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spices—Nutmegs ... lb.	14,452	494	10,360	492	20,190	887	21,025	695	17,623	709
Other kinds „	3,589	140	2,418	100	5,062	333	5,817	255	4,599	419
Corn ... ... „	143,862	752	143,210	627	91,059	388	98,879	618	49,982	299
Animals	—	2,559	—	3,986	—	5,243	—	4,398	—	6,931
Lime Juice ... ... gal.	175	9	438	3	10	1	—	—	—	—
Fruit—Fresh ...	—	143	—	271	—	290	—	328	—	388
Various, unspecified...	—	12,731	—	839	—	946	—	1,175	—	164
		£160,810		£158,037		£158,420		£145,815		£155,884

In the reports for 1925 to 1927 the value of arrowroot exported in 1925 was incorrectly shown as £125,078 and the total value of Exports in the same year was consequently also incorrectly shown as £229,941. The correct value of arrowroot exported in 1925—£53,174—is now shown, making total value of Exports for 1925 £158,037.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. Island Produce.	Exports. Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1924	160,028	150,811	51	150,862
1925	211,907	229,941	2,491	232,432
1926	203,606	158,420	4,489	162,909
1927	172,097	145,213	602	145,815
1928	192,476	155,884	2,588	158,472

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	51,834	75,914	67,425	55,812	62,335
Canada	40,686	46,108	45,373	40,540	45,787
British West Indies ...	12,641	15,180	10,896	12,789	11,873
India	869	646	3,476	1,229	1,098
Newfoundland	3,142	2,851	6,071	4,471	5,301
Ceylon	32	—	62	107	324
Other British Colonies ...	6,093	7,271	3,816	5,126	8,730
United States of America	33,983	46,302	46,737	36,663	44,127
France	1,264	1,736	2,845	1,485	3,189
Denmark	543	790	450	774	857
Germany	1,335	1,505	1,875	1,836	1,741
Holland	553	706	675	582	999
Foreign West Indies ...	68	669	550	1,003	720
Other Countries	6,984	3,547	3,266	3,494	3,812
Unclassified, including Parcel Post.	—	8,682	10,089	6,186	*1,583
	£160,027	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476

* Does not include Parcel Post.

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	60,842	68,717	71,423	64,104	69,274
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	18,104	19,547	19,402	16,735	18,075
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	74,080	114,777	102,521	84,954	103,192
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	7,002	8,866	10,260	6,304	1,925
Class V.—Bullion and Specie.	—	—	—	—	10
	£160,028	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476

The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	32·39	35·82	33·12	32·43	32·38
United States of America	21·24	21·85	22·95	21·30	22·93
Canada	25·42	21·76	22·28	23·56	23·79
All other Countries ...	20·95	20·57	21·65	22·71	20·90

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
Country of destination.	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	84,521	167,116	92,576	68,452	68,930
Canada	18,368	19,149	10,992	10,276	16,435
Bermuda	91	132	221	305	292
British West Indies ...	39,061	30,079	36,716	35,619	39,653
British Guiana	1,101	1,306	649	747	272
United States of America	6,931	14,136	20,613	28,491	30,628
Other Countries	789	514	1,142	1,925	2,262

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 386, of 356,822 tons, and cleared was 386, of 356,791 tons. Two vessels of a total tonnage of 37 were registered during the year, one of which was built in the Colony.

The steamship service contemplated under the Canada—West Indies Trade Agreement of 1925 was inaugurated towards the close of the year, the first steamer, the " Lady Nelson ", arriving in the Colony on her south-bound voyage on Christmas Day. The Colony is therefore now served by a regular fortnightly mail, passenger and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

The steamers of the Harrison, Furness Withy, Trinidad and Ocean Dominion lines paid calls during the year.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Roads.

The road system of the island consists of 34 miles of highway on the windward side, suitable for motor traffic, and 28 miles on the leeward side, about 15 miles of which are suitable for motor traffic.

The highway on the windward side is the main artery of traffic, but on the leeward side the sea is the natural highway.

In addition to the highways there are some 280 miles of by-ways which act as feeders from the interior to the main roads.

The question of raising a loan for the purpose of improving the existing roads of the Colony was brought under consideration and it is hoped that a loan of approximately £10,000 will be raised during the coming year.

Postal.

There is a central post office in Kingstown, the capital of the island, and 17 offices in out-districts.

Mails are sent to the windward side of the island by motor-car, to the leeward side by motor boat, and to the Grenadines by sailing vessels.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintained their cable station throughout the year and there is a wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board as part of the All-British System authorised by the West Indian Islands (Telegraph) Act, 1924, of the Imperial Parliament.

Telephones.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in districts. There were 227 services and 188 miles of line in use.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(a) Justice.

There was one sitting of the West Indian Court of Appeal in St. Vincent during the year.

Twelve criminal cases were tried by the Supreme Court and nine convictions were obtained. The number of actions filed in the Supreme Court was 9. There were 7 appeals from Magistrates' decisions. The number of Causes filed in the Summary Jurisdiction of the Court was 51.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 1, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 558. 770 persons were charged in 1928, as against 854 in 1927. Fines collected amounted to £191, a decrease of £26 on the preceding year.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 2, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 1,234. 1,164 persons were charged in 1928, as against 1,367 in 1927. Fines collected amounted to £264, as against £229 in 1927.

(b) Police.

The authorised strength of the Force remained at two officers, 52 other ranks, of whom four were permanently employed at the prison.

The general health of the Force was fair.

Discipline was on the whole satisfactory.

Fire drill was carried out weekly and all hydrants and fire appliances regularly inspected.

The Police Recreation Room and Canteen, started in 1926, continued to run successfully during the year. Both institutions are a great benefit to the Force and much appreciated by the crews of His Majesty's ships when visiting the Colony.

(c) Prisons.

The prison staff throughout the year consisted of :—

4 Police Constables, including the Non-Commissioned Officer who is Keeper,
4 Warders, three of whom are skilled in trades,
1 Clerical Assistant,
1 Matron.

Total 10

At the beginning of the year the number of prisoners was 35—31 males and 4 females. The total admissions during the year were 120, of whom 66 were males and 54 females.

The daily average was 26.58.

The highest number of prisoners at any time was 35—the lowest, 20.

The general health of the prisoners was fair and conduct satisfactory.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Considerable attention was paid to the leeward by-ways—feeders to the main leeward roads—to enable the peasants to convey their produce to the main roads and the coast, the latter being the natural and only economical method of transportation on the leeward side of the Colony.

The usual repairs and maintenance of Government buildings were carried out, but no works of a major class were carried out during the year.

Water Supply.

A water supply for the town of Chateaubelair was laid down at a cost of £1,000. Thus a long-needed want was supplied and an adequate and bacteriologically pure supply of water was given to the inhabitants.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Colony at 31st December, 1928, was 51,426.

The birth-rate for the year was 38.75 per thousand, as against 37.25 in 1927.

Legitimate births numbered 555, and illegitimate births 1,438 : the percentage of illegitimate births, viz., 72.2, being exactly the same as in 1927.

The death-rate per thousand for the year was 20.28, as compared with 16.45 in 1927.

The deaths of infants under one year (exclusive of still-births) numbered 251, as against 199 in 1927.

There were 113 still-births, of which 21 were legitimate and 92 illegitimate.

There were only 10 cases of enteric fever during the year, as against 13 in 1927 and 48 in 1926.

There were 582 cases of influenza recorded, with 8 deaths.

There were 1,203 cases of diarrhoea in children under two years of age, with 113 deaths.

A great number of cases of malaria was reported in 1928—1,046 with 15 deaths. A very definite epidemic occurred in the Buccament Bay settlement. The anopheline breeding grounds were traced to the lagoon and a water canal no longer in use. Steps were immediately taken to eradicate this and the lagoon and canal filled in. House to house inspection was made daily and quinine medication enforced. As a result the epidemic was controlled.

A course of lectures and demonstrations was given during the year for those desirous of qualifying as Sanitary Inspectors. Six candidates took the course and four qualified and received local certificates of efficiency.

The new Public Health Ordinance passed in 1927 was brought into operation from 1st April, 1928. Under this Ordinance the control of sanitation throughout the Colony is vested in one central authority, the executive functions of which devolve on the Chief Medical and Health Officer.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1926, 1927, and 1928 :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*
Number of Schools	28	28	30
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	5,407	5,732	6,620
Average attendance	2,892	2,969	3,410
Government Grant-in-aid	£3,335	£3,686	£4,066
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 3*s.* 0¾*d.*	£1 4*s.* 10*d.*	£1 3*s.* 10*d.*

Eleven of the thirty regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the nineteen other schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools, are paid from public funds.

There were six other schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants to the extent of £88.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School—and one for girls—the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1928 was 67 boys and 61 girls, as compared with 71 boys and 58 girls in 1927. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

There is an Island scholarship awarded biennially under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The annual value is £250 and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

Provision exists for the Town Board of Kingstown to expend certain sums on scholarships at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government Scholarships.

X.—CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The following table shows the revenue derived from Crown Lands and from Land Settlement Land :—

	Crown Lands.			*Land Settlement.*			*Total.*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1924	511	5	0	1,104	12	7	1,615	17	7
1925	469	8	6	578	2	11	1,047	11	5
1926	450	8	10	632	2	2	1,082	11	0
1927	482	4	5	585	1	4	1,067	5	9
1928	725	8	4	1,063	11	5	1,788	19	9

The marked increase in 1928 was due to the prosecution of defaulters in their districts instead of bringing them into Kingstown.

No surveys by private surveyors were made, but the following were executed by the department :—

1. Re-establishment of boundaries at Belair Land Settlement.
2. Re-establishment of boundaries at Clare Valley-Questelles.
3. Resumption of areas for roads at Clare Valley and Perseverance.
4. Survey to provide a road from Cumberland to Chateaubelair.
5. Survey in connection with proposed water supply at Troumaca.

No work in connection with geological survey was undertaken.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigration of labour into the Colony, but emigration is on the increase. Large numbers emigrate to Cuba, Santo Domingo Curaçoa, and Oruba. Cuba and Santo Domingo attract the agricultural labourer where high wages on the sugar plantations and the idea of seeing the world appeals. At Curaçoa and Oruba the large oil refining operations offer openings for artisans.

The average wage on an estate in St. Vincent is 1*s.* 2*d.* per day, but work is usually done by the task and a labourer who chooses can earn in some cases as much as 2*s.* a day. It is found, however, that many of the labourers if better paid simply refuse to do a full week's work. A considerable amount of the work on estates is done by women.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Banks.

There is a branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) with a Savings Department, and Government maintains a Savings Bank.

Agricultural Credit Societies.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies in the Colony, but several of them are not functioning and some cannot be said to be working satisfactorily. Steps are being taken to cancel the registration of the unsatisfactory Societies.

Government Cotton Ginnery.

The purchase of Sea Island seed cotton and corn on profit-sharing terms was continued during the year.

Map.

A map of the Island is annexed.

H. PEEBLES,
Administrator.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SAINT VINCENT,
31*st May*, 1929.

(5092—21) Wt. 26244—1992 500 9/29 P. St. G 7/8

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922 [Cmd. 1679]. 3*s.* 0*d.* (3*s.* 2*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 1½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9½*d.*).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s.* 0*d.* (6*s.* 5*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928 [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICES.
Regulations. (October, 1928.) Colonial No. 37. 6*d.* (8*d.*).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

(5092)

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1443.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1928.

(For Reports for 1926 and 1927 see No. 1350 (Price 6d.) and No. 1391 (Price 9d.), respectively.)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1929.

Price 9d. net.

58-1443

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 9*d*.).

Agriculture in Trinidad. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 3.) 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

Agriculture in British Guiana. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 4.) 9*d*. (10*d*.).

Agriculture in Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados. Report on Development. (E.M.B. 5.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1927 to May, 1928. (E.M.B. 9.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d*. (8*d*.).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d*. (8*d*.).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Development of Agriculture in British Honduras. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 16.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
	Geographical	2
	Historical	3
	Climate	3
	Language	4
	Currency	4
	Weights and Measures	4
I.	General	4
II.	Finance	6
III.	Production	7
IV.	Trade and Economics	9
V.	Communications	11
VI.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	12
VII.	Public Works	12
VIII.	Public Health	13
IX.	Educational Progress	13
X.	Land and Survey	14
XI.	Labour	14
XII.	Legislation	15
XIII.	Miscellaneous	15
	Map.	

Introduction.

Geographical.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British Island to the mainland of South America with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′, and 11° 58′, North latitude and 61° 20′, and 61° 35′, West longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang being situated near the centre of the Island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A Sanatorium is established near the former.

Historical.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the Island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the Island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783 by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

Climate.

The climate from December to end of April may be described as good, as during that period the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds. In the autumn from July to end of October, there is great humidity and extreme heat, with little variation between night and day. During this period the climate may be described as debilitating to Europeans although not really unhealthy. When the electric lighting scheme which is being installed in St. George's is completed, the introduction of fans in houses and offices will improve conditions in that town and adjacent area. The highest temperature in 1928 was 90 degrees on several occasions from July to November, and the lowest 60 degrees on 8th August. The mean of maximum temperatures was 89 degrees and the mean of minimum 70 degrees. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two the rainfall in 1928 was 63.90 inches. Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 72.20 inches.

Language.

The only language spoken is English. A small and decreasing number of agricultural labourers in the country districts speak a corrupt patois of English and French, but all understand and speak English.

Currency.

The currency is the same as in Great Britain, the monetary units being the same. Silver, however, is legal tender without limit, and there are also in circulation bank notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada of five dollars denomination. One or two of the business houses keep their accounts in dollars and cents, but the Government accounts are in sterling.

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures are of the Imperial standard. An exception to this has arisen recently in connection with motor spirit, which is sold by the wine or American gallon.

I.—General.

The financial and commercial position of the Colony has maintained a satisfactory level, after several years of steadily improving conditions. In his Address to the Legislative Council on the presentation of the Budget in December, His Excellency the Governor stated that there were "indications that the increase in the market prices of two of the principal products of the Colony, nutmegs and mace, may possibly be regarded as now being stable." These prices, as compared with those existing immediately before the outbreak of war in 1914, show an extraordinary rise, the range being from 35*s.* to 89*s.* per cwt. in the case of nutmegs and from 152*s.* to 311*s.* per cwt. as regards mace. As in both cases the volume of the crops has increased since 1913 by more than 40 per cent., the combined result has been a widespread improvement in the financial resources of the people and the Government. Numerous new buildings have been erected by private persons, while a large programme of public works has been carried out by the Government without encroaching on reserves, which are now much higher in amount than ever before, the total surplus assets, including an Invested Reserve of £50,000, being £113,159.

The various activities to which His Excellency referred in his previous year's Address made considerable progress during the year. The Central Water Authority was established and took over the control of the water supplies of the Colony as from the end of 1928. The Grenville Covered Market was practically completed, and will be formally opened this year. Its construction has greatly improved the town of Grenville, by the clearing of surrounding ground and opening of new roads.

The Queen's Park Bridge, the construction of which was begun towards the end of 1927, was completed during 1928, and was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor in January of the present year.

The corner stone of the Queen's Park Pavilion was laid by His Excellency shortly before his departure to England on leave, and the building was sufficiently advanced to allow of its utilisation at the Race Meeting in November. Work in connection with the installation of electric light in St. George's and reconstruction of the telephone system, which commenced early in 1928, is being continued and expected to reach completion this year.

The Committee appointed to advise regarding the manner in which Government grants-in-aid of primary education should be adjusted, in order to obtain more satisfactory results from the expenditure, submitted its report, which is now being considered by the Board of Education. The teaching staff of the Grenada Boys' Secondary School was strengthened by the appointment of a Science Master and a Mathematical Master, who took up their duties in January of this year. The enlargement of the school premises and the setting up of a Manual Training Centre will, as His Excellency announced, engage attention this year.

Amongst other events of the year were the revival of the Volunteer Force, with a proposed total composition of 1 Company of 5 Officers, and 82 other ranks, and of the St. George's Rifle Club with a membership of 50.

Resulting from a visit of His Excellency the Governor to the Grenadines early in the year, provision has been made in this year's Estimates for improvement of water supplies, and for increased visits of officers of the Medical Service to these Islands. Communication between Grenada and the Grenadines and St. Vincent is also to be improved by the purchase or construction of an auxiliary sailing vessel.

Among the visitors to the Colony during the year mention should be made of the Inspector-General of the West Indian Local Forces in August in connection with the establishment of the Volunteer Force, and of Professor Clark Powell who paid a visit towards the end of July on behalf of the Empire Marketing Board for the purpose of enquiring into the Grape Fruit Industry. His Excellency Sir F. S. James, K.B.E., C.M.G., was on leave in England from 5th July to 8th November, the Government of the Windward Islands being undertaken in his absence by Mr. Robert Walter, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Vincent, until 4th August when he went on leave, and thereafter by Mr. Herbert Ferguson, C.B.E., Colonial Secretary of Grenada.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

The total revenue for the year amounted to £153,870.

The following table shows the total revenue during the past five years, with separate particulars of direct and indirect taxation :—

Year.	*Import Duties.*	*Export duties, Income Tax and other direct taxation.*	*Other Sources.*
	£	£	£
1924	50,116	47,206	20,131
1925	67,342	59,454	19,422
1926	62,471	64,704	21,271
1927	68,523	66,473	20,512
1928	71,434	61,905	20,531

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £131,244, being less than the revenue by £22,626.

The following table gives a comparison of revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*
	£	£	£
1924	117,453	106,003	11,450
1925	146,218	112,467	33,751
1926	148,447	119,001	29,446
1927	155,508	131,413	24,095
1928	153,870	131,244	22,626

No change took place during the year in the method of raising revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities at 31st December, 1928, was £113,159 comprising the following :—

	£
Invested Reserve Fund	50,000
Loans to District Boards...	16,071
Stores and Materials for Public Works Electricity Department and Colony Drug Store.	5,802
Land Settlement Advances	470
Other assets in liquid or readily available form	40,816
	£113,159

PUBLIC LOANS.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under public loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments, at the end of 1928 was £164,361.

The particulars of the loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock (Colony's share)	113,489	0	9
Inscribed Stock (District Board's share) ...	10,180	19	3
	£123,670	0	0
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917.	82,060	0	0
	£205,730	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan.	40,712	9	4
Loan for Construction of St. Andrew's New Market.	6,366	0	11
	£252,808	10	3
Sinking Funds accumulated towards redemption.	88,447	2	9
Net Indebtedness	£164,361	7	6

III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the Island, and accounts for nearly 62 per cent, of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crops exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1924	85,394	201,547
1925	73,216	197,231
1926	83,384	223,290
1927	100,478	305,640
1928	91,444	274,461

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation is being steadily extended, and an increase in production should occur when the

young trees reach bearing stage. Crops and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1924	19,369	95,321
1925	21,762	145,861
1926	22,702	127,000
1927	21,238	103,444
1928	19,620	87,965

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1924	2,234	24,874
1925	3,843	39,606
1926	3,679	49,490
1927	3,733	59,145
1928	3,141	49,260

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland), and commanding a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. The following table gives the exports during the past five years :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1924	2,842	15,180
1925	3,252	16,500
1926	3,159	14,040
1927	3,788	15,890
1928	2,568	10,735

There was a decrease in volume of all the principal crops of the Colony, the main cause being unfavourable weather conditions.

Various subsidiary crops are grown, principally sugar and limes. The quantity produced of the former does not come up to the quantity locally consumed, and importations of raw sugar amounted in 1928 to 1,324,107 lb., of the value of £10,123. The value of lime products exported in 1928 was £5,710. Grape fruit is being planted and will probably prove a successful subsidiary industry, although it has to be remembered that the remaining fertile land not already under profitable cultivation is limited, and development of new cultivations to any great extent could only be at the expense of uprooting other permanent crops.

Rum is manufactured at thirteen sugar estates, but none is exported, the production being barely equal to the consumption demand. The quantity made last year was 57,212.3 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a factory in St. George's, aided by a subsidy from the Government.

Forestry.

A Forestry Board is constituted under an Ordinance, and looks after the preservation of rainfall by protecting mountain ridges from being denuded. There is power under the Forestry Ordinance to declare Rain Reserves, the owners of the mountainous areas so dealt with being compensated by remission of land tax. A Forest Reserve of 2,485 acres is established on Crown Lands at Grand Etang near the centre of the Island. The area is too small and too inaccessible for growing timber at a profit.

Mining.

There are no mines of any kind.

Fisheries.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

The whaling industry at Glovers Island is now finally abandoned, and the factory which was established there is dismantled. The number of whales caught in 1925, when the factory was first started, was 105, the number in 1926 dropping to 72. All the whales except two were of the Humpback species (*Megaptera nodosa*). The other two were the Bryde Whale, a type not usually seen in these waters. The Bryde is supposed to be a mule whale, but in one of the two caught there was evidence of the foetus stage of its young.

Although whales are still occasionally seen, the numbers are not considered sufficient to enable a whaling industry on modern lines, entailing a certain indispensable minimum cost, to be profitably undertaken.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £874,545, imports representing £429,279 and exports £445,266, leaving an apparent favourable trade balance of £15,987.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

Imports.

Article.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*
	£	£	£
Flour	46,069	46,273	47,582
Cotton piece-goods	29,091	32,071	39,794
Wood, etc.—unmanufactured ...	18,883	8,881	22,739
Fish—dried	17,944	14,915	13,904
Sugar—unrefined	10,123	14,280	9,251
Rice	11,731	12,314	10,386
Boots and shoes	10,083	10,112	7,850
Motor-cars	10,775	10,086	14,439
Motor parts	8,635	7,347	—
Motor spirit	9,842	9,203	8,205
Kerosene oil	7,731	7,873	7,007
Manures	6,582	8,559	4,004
Biscuits, bread, &c.	5,725	6,547	5,774

The decrease in importation of cotton piece-goods is on account of merchants anticipating less demand than in previous years, while building activity in the Colony accounts for the increase in importation of unmanufactured wood.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under :—

Exports.

	1928.	1927.	1926.
	£	£	£
Cocoa	274,561	305,640	223,290
Spices, nutmegs ...	87,965	103,444	127,000
Do. Mace ...	49,260	59,145	49,490
Cotton, raw	10,735	15,890	14,040
Cotton seed	1,850	2,960	2,646

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1928 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports.	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.*	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	163,185	37·9	194,442	43·7
United States of America	72,151	16·9	190,987	42·9
Canada	95,603	22·3	43,568	9·7
Other British Possessions	69,299	16·1	14,386	3·3
Other Foreign Countries ...	29,041	6·8	1,883	0·4

In the previous year the percentage of imports from the United Kingdom was 35.1 and exports to the United Kingdom amounted to 38.8 per cent.

V.—Communications.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail passenger and cargo service with Canada was established last year by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about ten to fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad and Barbados, and other neighbouring islands.

The Government is arranging for an auxiliary sailing vessel for communication with the Grenadines and St. Vincent, and occasionally with St. Lucia.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board, under a subsidy from the Government, is established in St. George's, and communicates direct with Barbados.

A subsidiary wireless station is installed at Carriacou, and communicates with Grenada.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service.

A telephone service—at present under reconstruction without interruption of business—has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges, and 959 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers last year was 732.

The island is well supplied by a good system of main roads and by-ways, kept in good repair by six motor road rollers. All the main roads and practically all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic. The mileage of main roads is 115, and of by-ways, 274.

VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons.

(i) Justice.

The criminal statistics of this Colony vary but little from year to year. Thus in the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,520, as compared with an average of 2,572 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,520, the number of summary convictions was 1,740 and that of convictions in the Supreme Court 23, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,837 summary convictions and 18 convictions on indictment.

There was a slight decrease of convictions for praedial larceny, the number being 143 as against 146 in 1927, 190 in 1926, and 259 in 1925.

Two cases of homicide occurred during the year and were sent on for trial in the Supreme Court. Of these, one was convicted of manslaughter and the other remains to be tried at the next sitting of the Court. Two cases of rape occurred, but there was no case of offence against property with violence to the person.

(ii) Police.

The strength of the police force on 31st December, 1928, was 1 Officer-in-Command, 1 Inspector, and 88 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural Constables to the number of 208, employed on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, administration of poor relief, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a Fire Brigade and Government Band are under its management and control.

(iii) Prisons.

A prison for males, with an adjacent separate building for females, is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

During the year 90 persons were committed to the male prison, and 26 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 26.3 and 4.3 respectively.

No death occurred among the prisoners, and the health of the prisoners was satisfactory.

VII.—Public Works.

Among the principal public works undertaken during the year were the construction of a pavilion, including a grand stand at Queen's Park, completion of the bridge over the river near the park entrance, two bungalow residences for officials in St. George's, a house for the Chief Warder of the Prison, and continuation of work in connection with installation of electric light.

In addition to the foregoing, further extensions of water supplies were carried out, a small bridge was erected over Mt. Cassell River, several miles of main roads were oiled, and the work of improving Queen's Park was continued.

VIII.—Public Health.

The birth rate for the year was 33.33 per 1,000, and the death rate 16.5 per 1,000.

The infantile death rate per 100 of infants dying under one year was 11.0.

There was no serious outbreak of any disease during the year. The principal cause of death was diarrhoea and enteritis which accounted for 263 deaths, the next main cause being malaria from which 110 deaths were recorded.

A malaria survey by the International Health Board is being arranged for in 1929.

The estimated population at the end of 1928 was 75,214.

There is a Central Hospital with 141 beds in St. George's, and smaller hospitals of 24 beds each in Carriacou and St. Andrew's. In addition there are 14 District Visiting Stations, under the charge of District Nurses who are qualified as midwives.

A Maternity Welfare Centre is established in St. George's and continues to do most excellent work. A clinic for children is regularly held by the Resident Surgeon of the Colony Hospital or one of the District Medical Officers. A trained nurse midwife, employed by the League, visits mothers and advises as to the care and management of children, and in necessitous cases a regular supply of milk is provided.

The adult death rate of Grenada is low, and the climate in general is healthy. Recreations include cricket, tennis, golf, football, bathing, fishing, and motoring.

IX.—Educational Progress.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education, under the Presidency of the Director of Education, Mr. B. H. Easter, M.A.

Secondary.

There is a Government Secondary School for Boys, at which the attendance averages about 100.

Negotiations are proceeding for the purchase of additional buildings which will enable a much needed extension to be carried out. The staff has recently been reorganised and provision made for the teaching of science (Agricultural Science).

Three secondary schools for girls receive a grant-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls range from 80 to 100.

In examinations, one candidate sat for the London Intermediate Arts and passed in all his subjects except Pure Mathematics, in which he was referred. Five candidates sat for the London Matriculation of whom three passed in the second division. For the Cambridge School Certificate (Senior) there were seven candidates of whom five passed. Four of the entries were from the girls' schools, with three passes.

Primary.

The number of recognised primary schools remained the same, namely 58.

The number of pupils on the roll in 1928 was 12,920, the average attendance being 8,128, or 62.9 per cent.

The total expenditure by the Government was £9,325.

X.—Land and Survey.

Land in possession of the Crown is of small area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall. Notwithstanding this, a Land Settlement Scheme was initiated by the Government upwards of twenty-five years ago, the main features of the scheme being the acquisition of properties offered for sale, which were then divided into small lots and re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The success of the scheme may be noted from the following table showing the number of holdings of land according to the Tax Rolls for the year 1928.

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*	*Over 100 acres.*	*Total.*
75,763	13,632	1,777	332	204	394	142	16,481

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

XI.—Labour.

Labour consists chiefly of employnemt on the estates—in working or ploughing the land, draining, weeding, cutlassing, pruning, manuring, and other land work, and reaping the produce. The labourers are employed in gangs, with drivers and overseers in personal charge and supervision. A number of labourers are also employed on the public roads of the Colony, on general repair and surface oiling work.

The rates of pay are approximately as follows :—

£3 to £8 per month for overseers.
2*s*. to 4*s*. per day for drivers.
1*s*. to 2*s*. per day for labourers.

The daily rates quoted above are usually for "task" work, which may be completed by quick workers in from 3 to 4 hours. Labourers seldom work two tasks in a day, preferring to cultivate their garden lots, which are generally given by estate proprietors to those who own no lands of their own.

Other labour includes masons, carpenters, mechanics, bootmakers, and chauffeurs, the work generally not being of a high standard. The pay of these would be approximately as follows :—Masons, carpenters and mechanics, 2*s*. to 7*s*. per day ; Chauffeurs £3 to £5 per month.

XII.—Legislation.

Of the twenty-six Ordinances passed during the year the principal were the following :—

No. 4. Wild Animals and Birds (Sanctuary) Ordinance, establishing the Grand Etang Forest Reserve as a sanctuary for wild animals and birds, and affording special protection elsewhere for three years for the armadillo and agouti ;

No. 12. Providing for the establishment of a Central Water Authority ;

No. 20. Quarantine Amendment Ordinance, to give effect to new Quarantine Regulations of the Central Quarantine Authority for the West Indies ;

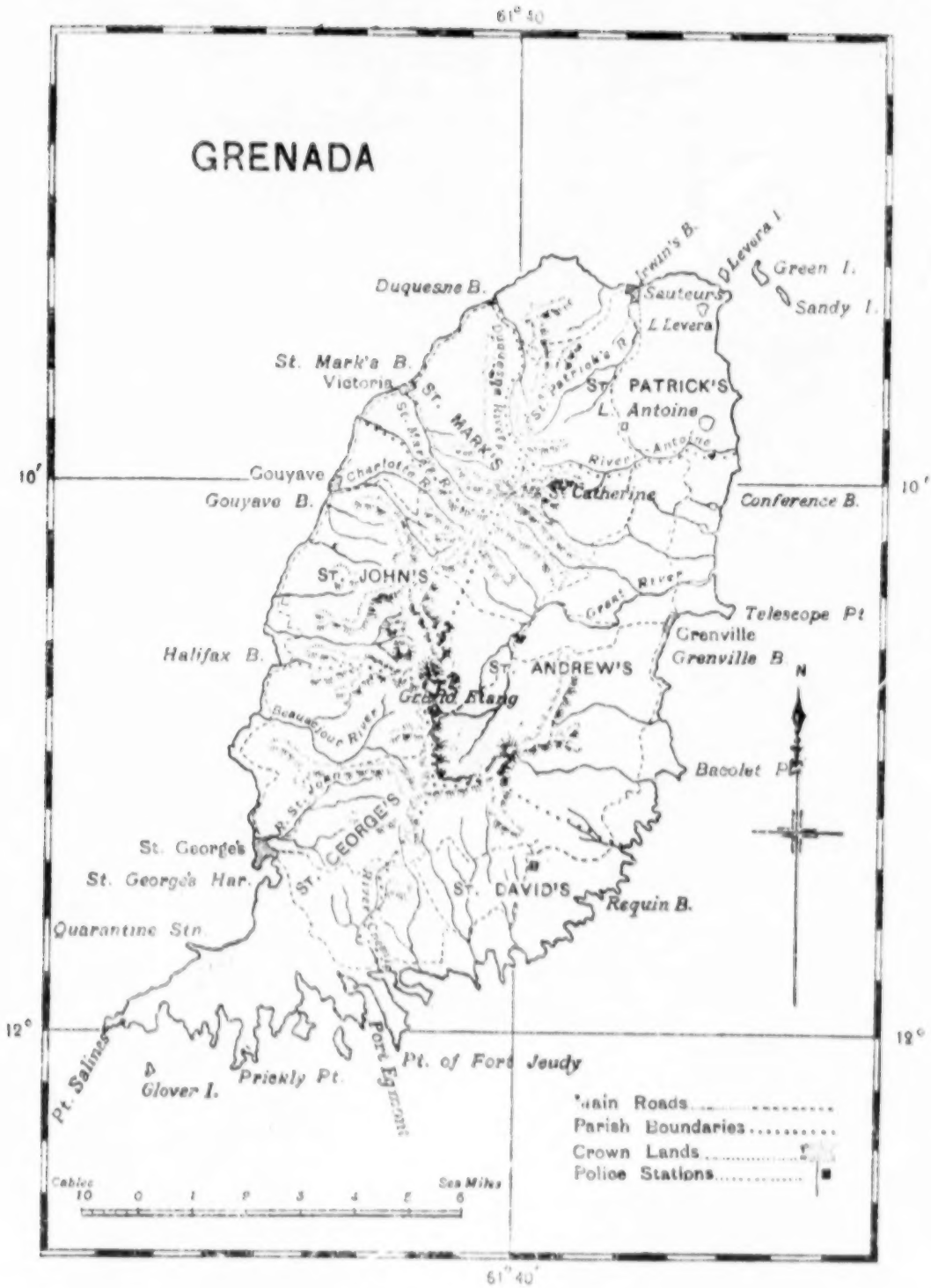
No. 22. The Lepers Ordinance providing for admissions to and control of a Leper Asylum.

XIII.—Miscellaneous.

The organisation of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides has made great headway during the past few years. The troops of Scouts have increased in number from 1 to 7 and the number of Companies of Girl Guides (a new organisation in the Colony) is 9.

H. FERGUSON,
Colonial Secretary.

GRENADA,
25*th May*, 1929.



(5228—21) Wt. 10050—791 500 9/29 P. St. G. 7/ 8

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922 [Cmd. 1679]. 3*s*. 0*d*. (3*s*. 2*d*.).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s*. 0*d*. (4*s*. 6*d*.).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s*. 0*d*. (2*s*. 1½*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 9½*d*.).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. 0*d*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 9*d*.).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928 [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICES.
Regulations. (October, 1928.) Colonial No. 37. 6*d*. (8*d*.).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

(5228)

[*Crown Copyright Reserved.*]

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1482.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1929.

(*For Reports for 1927 and 1928 see Nos. 1395 and 1436 (Price 6d. and 9d. each respectively).*)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1930.

Price 9d. net.

58-1482

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

COLONIAL FILMS.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3630.] 6*d.* (7*d.*).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1927. [Colonial No. 45.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL ENTOMOLOGICAL CONFERENCE. June, 1925. [Cmd. 2490.] 9*d.* (10*d.*)

EMPIRE CONFERENCE OF SURVEY OFFICERS, 1928.
Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 41.] 12*s.* 0*d.* (12*s.* 6*d.*).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928. [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s.* 0*d.* (6*s.* 5*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3*s.* 0*d.* (3*s.* 2*d.*).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1929.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Geographical	2
Historical	2
Language	3
Currency	3
Climate	3
I.—General	3
II.—Financial	4
III.—Production	6
IV.—Trade and Economics	9
V.—Communications	10
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	11
VII.—Public Works	12
VIII.—Public Health	13
IX.—Education	14
X.—Crown Lands and Surveys	15
XI.—Labour	15
XII.—Miscellaneous	15
Map.	

Geographical.

The Island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

Historical.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton ; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Currency.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony.

Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78° F. to 85° F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above sea level, was 81.96 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 2.24 inches on 24th September.

I.—GENERAL.

His Excellency the Governor visited the Colony on the 27th March, remaining until 15th May, and again from 4th to 17th July.

The Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station, landed for a few hours on the 6th April.

On the 11th December the Governor-General of Canada and his staff landed and drove round the Island.

The Inspector-General landed and inspected the Local Forces on the 29th May but did not remain.

His Honour the Administrator, Major H. W. Peebles, D.S.O., O.B.E., the newly appointed Administrator, arrived on the 3rd April and took the oath of office.

During His Excellency the Governor's visit in April the foundations for much needed development were laid, namely, the inauguration of the electric light for Kingstown, an extended programme for the reconstruction and oiling of the windward and leeward main roads, the erection of a pavilion in the Park, the widening of the bridge in the centre of the town connecting the windward and leeward highway. The reorganization of the Defence Force was also carried out during His Excellency's visit. An auxiliary yawl was also purchased for the purpose of linking up Kingstown, the Lesser Grenadines, and Grenada, thus enabling officers and inhabitants to visit these islands in comfort and with some assurance of arriving in reasonable time at their destination. Prior to this the journey had to be carried out by sailing vessel.

Two matters of far-reaching importance were also carried through, namely, the alteration in the cotton planting season from May to September whereby the damage done by the cotton worm and black bolls (due to heavy rain) has been greatly deterred and a good yield obtained, and the establishment of a Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau, whereby planters, peasant proprietors and labourers can bring in their fruit and vegetables for shipment to England, Canada, and other markets, receiving cash payment. This has proved a great success and is greatly appreciated by the inhabitants. The value of export of fresh fruit rose from £388 in 1928 to £1,062 in the year under review.

II.—FINANCIAL.

The financial position of the Colony is sound.

	£
Net surplus at 1st January, 1929	20,566
Revenue in 1929	64,090
	£84,656
Expenditure in 1929	70,786
Surplus at 31st December, 1929	£13,870

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows :—

	Revenue. £	*Expenditure.* £
1925	62,450	53,190
1926	60,243	59,282
1927	56,469	61,564
1928	64,593	60,441
1929	64,090	70,786

The increase in expenditure of £10,345 was mainly due to £5,000 being taken from the surplus assets of the Colony and invested to augment the Colony's Reserve Fund, thus bringing the Reserve Fund up to £16,000. Increased expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary accounts for a further £2,181, and £965 was expended on purchase and maintenance of the Government yawl "Sulaire" which plies between Kingstown, the Lesser Grenadines, and Grenada.

The principal items of revenue in the last five years were :—

	1925. £	*1926.* £	*1927.* £	*1928.* £	*1929.* £
Import duties ...	26,379	26,683	24,649	28,137	26,440
Export duties ...	2,982	2,959	2,587	2,849	2,784
Excise duty on rum ...	5,816	6,479	4,685	4,137	5,183
Land and House tax ...	6,337	4,124	3,442	5,760	6,640
Income Tax	4,504	3,014	2,480	2,702	3,055
Liquor trade duty ...	2,736	3,013	2,820	3,127	2,710
Postage stamps ...	1,732	1,774	1,875	3,695	1,769

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 1st January, 1929, was £8,360, of which £810 was redeemed during the year.

During the year a loan of £25,000 was raised through the Crown Agents from the joint Colonial Fund for the purpose of installing an electric lighting system in the town of Kingstown (£10,000), telephone reconstruction (£3,400), and road improvement (£11,600).

The debt at the close of the year was £33,060, made up as follows :

	£
The Public Works Loan, 1913	300
The Public Works Loan, 1914	600
*The Kingstown Board Loan, 1914	950
The Public Purposes Loan, 1915	1,000
The War Loan, 1916	1,500
The Windward Highway Loans, 1917, 1919, and 1920	3,200
Telephone, Electric Light, and Road Loan, 1929	25,510
	£33,060

The accumulated sinking funds provided for redemption of loans stood on the 31st December, 1929, at £5,827, of which £4,960 was in respect of Government loans and £867 in respect of the Kingstown Board loan.

The investments on behalf of the Loans Redemption Fund stood at the close of the year as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial Treasury Bonds 4½ per cent. ...	1,152	12	9
War Loan Stock 5 per cent.	2,602	15	8
Westminster Bank	1,204	6	2
	£4,959	14	7

The investments on behalf of the Kingstown Board Sinking Fund stood as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Westminster Bank	106	9	5
Imperial Government Treasury Bonds 5 per cent.	760	18	4
	£867	7	9

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, 1903, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future disaster. The interest derived from this, namely, £750 per annum, is applied to the relief of the poor. This amount plus the Colony's Reserve Fund of £15,986 offers security both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

The Public Property Insurance Fund started during 1926 stands at £2,649.

* The Colony is only responsible for redemption of this loan in case of default by the Kingstown Board.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Cotton.—Export of Sea Island cotton was poor owing to heavy attacks of cotton worm and soft rot on the 1928–29 crop. The altering of the planting season for the 1929–30 crop from April to September also affected exports.

282,903 lb. of lint were exported, being 66,343 lb. less than 1928.

Export of Marie Galante lint was 63,217 lb. In addition 97,069 lb. of seed cotton were exported. During 1928, 36,214 lb. of lint and 35,815 lb. of seed cotton were exported. Converting seed cotton into terms of lint, we find that 87,484 lb. were exported in 1929, and 45,178 in 1928.

The area under cotton in St. Vincent and the Grenadines during 1929 was 2,867 acres—1,758 Sea Island and 1,109 Marie Galante—as compared with 3,386 acres of Sea Island and 995 acres of Marie Galante in 1928.

Arrowroot.—3,573,379 lb. of arrowroot were exported valued at £59,563. This shows a decrease of 297,041 lb. when compared with that exported in 1928. It is, however, an increase over the quantities exported during the three years previous to 1928. The United Kingdom took 1,529,599 lb. and the United States 1,078,093 lb. Increasing quantities were sent to Holland, France, and Barbados. The campaign inaugurated by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association, resulted towards the end of the year in the suggestion being made that St. Vincent arrowroot should be handled in the same way as wheat is handled by the Canadian Wheat Pool. There is every indication that the pool system will be adopted by the St. Vincent arrowroot growers. This will stabilize and place the staple product of this Island on a sound business footing.

Sugar.—The sugar and syrup industry continues to expand. 1,075 tons of sugar (valued at £14,095) and 287,941 gallons of syrup (valued at £12,586) were produced. Sugar shows an increased exportation of 227,040 lb. and molasses 120,897 gallons over that of 1928. The market value of sugar was £13 per ton.

Coconuts.—The steady increase in the production of coconuts and copra continues. The exports of copra amounted to 1,879,558 lb., an increase of 25 per cent. over that of 1928. During 1928 a similar increase over 1927 was recorded. Copra was valued at £13 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton.

Of the minor industries there was a marked increase in the quantity of peas and beans and cassava starch exported, and a slight increase in the quantities of groundnuts and potatoes.

The building up of a fruit and vegetable trade took concrete form in the inauguration of a Peasants' Bureau,the name of which was subsequently changed to that of Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. This was started under the management of Mr. M. T. Horner of Montserrat, in the month of August. During 1929 it

shipped the following produce :—801 crates of avocado pears, grape fruit, green limes, mangoes, oranges, tomatoes, etc., 244 lb. of guava jelly, 684 lb. pf. peas and peanuts, 16 barrels of pumpkins and sweet potatoes, and 630 gallons of raw lime juice. All produce was graded and packed in a central packing house. A canning plant was purchased and erected, and such produce as tomatoes and pineapples were successfully canned.

The appended table shows the comparative amount of the annual exports of the principal commodities during the last five years :—

Articles.	1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value
		£		£		£		£		£
Arrowroot ... ... lb.	3,190,412	53,174	3,291,553	45,807	3,195,478	53,309	3,870,420	64,508	3,573,759	59,563
Cassava Starch ... ,,	470,284	4,160	443,075	4,077	543,681	4,940	392,610	3,272	551,512	4,596
Cotton—Sea Island... ,,	473,219	57,655	589,499	63,175	446,274	39,204	349,246	28,549	282,903	24,261
Do.—Marie Galante ,,	9,673	464	30,275	1,514	53,381	2,669	36,214	1,358	63,274	2,373
Seed Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	100,468	1,047	56,092	468	108,999	1,250	35,858	312	97,069	701
Cocoa... ... ... ,,	154,821	2,345	174,599	2,461	135,490	2,267	179,918	2,998	156,405	2,928
Copra... ... ... ,,	661,309	5,512	762,563	9,826	1,198,441	10,083	1,505,093	12,543	1,879,558	11,396
Sugar—crystallized ,,	—	—	—	—	840,000	6,947	2,080,960	14,190	1,075	14,095
Syrup and Molasses... gal.	268,118	19,672	337,099	16,523	171,063	10,459	167,044	9,478	287,941	12,586
Cotton Seed ... ... lb.	26,485	53	88,106	398	151,903	1,266	110,728	214	50	1
Peanuts ... ... ,,	273,039	3,794	190,978	2,370	263,509	3,219	334,098	4,176	358,890	4,486
Peas—Dried... ... ,,	90,476	866	50,185	476	38,719	352	96,386	876	176,791	1,671
Firewood ... cords	216	181	208	178	240	221	434	260	48	33
Whale Oil ... ... gal.	280	38	1,964	148	132	24	2,755	360	1,076	117
Cotton Seed Oil ... ,,	4	1	5,180	583	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hides and Skins ...	—	146	—	221	—	221	—	412	2,705	417
Vegetables, Fresh ...	—	2,581	—	2,107	—	1,915	—	3,468	—	3,148
Wool—Raw ... ... lb.	263	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logwood ... ... tons	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spices—Nutmegs ... lb.	10,360	492	20,190	887	21,025	695	17,623	709	18,345	764
Other kinds ,,	2,418	100	5,062	333	5,817	255	4,599	419	5,629	645
Corn ... ... ,,	143,210	627	91,059	388	98,879	618	49,982	299	42,032	239
Animals	—	3,986	—	5,243	—	4,398	—	6,931	—	4,875
Lime Juice ... ... gal.	438	3	10	1	—	—	—	—	635	39
Fruit—Fresh ...	—	271	—	290	—	328	—	388	—	1,062
Various, unspecified...	—	839	—	946	—	1,175	—	164	—	1,574
		£158,037		£158,420		£145,815		£155,884		£151,570

In the reports for 1925 to 1927 the value of arrowroot exported in 1925 was incorrectly shown as £125,078 and the total value of Exports in the same year was consequently also incorrectly shown as £229,941. The correct value of arrowroot exported in 1925—£53,174—is now shown, making total value of Exports for 1925 £158,037.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. Island Produce.	Exports. Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1925	211,907	229,941	2,491	232,432
1926	203,606	158,420	4,489	162,909
1927	172,097	145,213	602	145,815
1928	192,476	155,884	2,588	158,472
1929	186,439	151,207	363	151,570

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	75,914	67,425	55,812	62,335	58,030
Canada	46,108	45,373	40,540	45,787	49,382
British West Indies ...	15,180	10,896	12,789	11,873	11,350
India	646	3,476	1,229	1,098	888
Newfoundland	2,851	6,071	4,471	5,301	5,106
Ceylon	—	62	107	324	397
Other British Colonies ...	7,271	3,816	5,126	8,730	10,459
United States of America	46,302	46,737	36,663	44,127	37,645
France	1,736	2,845	1,485	3,189	3,424
Denmark	790	450	774	857	693
Germany	1,505	1,875	1,836	1,741	2,169
Holland	706	675	582	999	1,011
Foreign West Indies ...	669	550	1,003	720	384
Other Countries	3,547	3,266	3,494	3,812	4,110
Unclassified, including Parcel Post.	8,682	10,089	6,186	*1,583	*1,391
	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439

* Does not include Parcel Post.

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	68,717	71,423	64,104	69,274	70,301
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	19,547	19,402	16,735	18,075	16,792
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	114,777	102,521	84,954	103,192	97,810
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	8,866	10,260	6,304	1,925	1,536
Class V.—Bullion and Specie.	—	—	—	10	—
	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439

The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	35·82	33·12	32·43	32·38	31·12
United States of America	21·85	22·95	21·30	22·93	20·19
Canada	21·76	22·28	23·56	23·79	26·49
All other Countries ...	20·57	21·65	22·71	20·90	22·20

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

Country of destination.	*1925.* £	*1926.* £	*1927.* £	*1928.* £	*1929.* £
United Kingdom	167,116	92,576	68,452	68,930	62,000
Canada	19,149	10,992	10,276	16,435	15,446
Bermuda	132	221	305	292	434
British West Indies ...	30,079	36,716	35,619	39,653	41,252
British Guiana	1,306	649	747	272	788
United States of America	14,136	20,613	28,491	30,628	25,580
Other Countries	514	1,142	1,925	2,262	6,070

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total number of vessels entered for the year was 428, of a total tonnage of 491,825, as compared with 386, of 356,822 tonnage, in the previous year.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 169, showing an increase of 22 steam vessels over 1928.

The total number of vessels cleared was 430, of a total tonnage of 490,766 tons, an increase of 33,975 tons compared with 1928.

The Colony is now served by a regular fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

The steamers of the Harrison, Furness Withy, Trinidad and Ocean Dominion lines paid calls during the year.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Roads.

The road system of the island consists of 34 miles of highway on the windward side, suitable for motor traffic, and 28 miles on the leeward side, about 15 miles of which are suitable for motor traffic.

The highway on the windward side is the main artery of traffic, but on the leeward side the sea is the natural highway.

In addition to the highways there are some 280 miles of by-ways which act as feeders from the interior to the main roads.

A loan of £11,600 was raised during the year for reconstruction and oiling of the roads.

Postal.

The central post office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 17 post offices in out districts.

Mails on the windward portion of the Island are served by eight post offices. Mails to these post offices are despatched three times a week by motor transport. On the leeward coast the mails are conveyed daily by sea transport to the five post offices. The mails to the Lesser Grenadines, Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, and Union Island, are conveyed as often as sea transport is available. In the case of the Island of Bequia a contract exists whereby the mail is despatched three times a week.

142 steamers and 101 sailing vessels carried mails to the Colony.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintain a cable station in Kingstown and there is a wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board. The question of having one central office for the two systems is now under consideration.

The revenue derived from the Postal Department was £2,269, whilst the expenditure was £1,735.

Telephones.

The Government maintains a telephone system which links up Kingstown, the capital, with exchanges in Georgetown, Mesopotamia, and Barrouallie, the two former in the windward and the latter in the leeward district of the Colony. Approximately 188 miles of line is maintained. The sum of £3,400, raised by means of a loan, has been allocated for telephone reconstruction.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(*a*) Justice.

Eleven criminal cases were tried by the Supreme Court. Nine actions were filed in the Supreme Court. Only five appeals from the Magistrates' decisions were filed. The number of Causes filed in the Summary Jurisdiction amounted to 23, as compared with 51 in 1928.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 1, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 400. 706 persons were charged in 1929, as against 770 in 1928. Fines collected amounted to £133, a decrease of £58 on the preceding year.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 2, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 1,314, as compared with 1,234 in 1928. 1,081 persons were charged, as against 1,164 in 1928, and 848 were convicted. Fines amounted to £277.

(*b*) Police.

The strength of the Force remained as in 1928, namely, two officers and 52 other ranks; of these four other ranks were permanently employed at the Prison.

In May the Police and Prison Departments were entirely separated, one non-commissioned officer of Police being transferred to the Prison Department as Chief Warder, the remaining three constables were transferred to the Police.

The general health of the Force was good.

Discipline of the Force showed marked improvement.

Fire drill was carried out weekly.

The Police Recreation Room and Canteen continued to be well attended and greatly appreciated by the Force.

(*c*) Prisons.

At the beginning of the year the total personnel of the Prison consisted of 10, made up as follows :—

4 Constables (inclusive of the Keeper),
4 Warders,
1 Clerical Assistant,
1 Matron.

In May the Prison was separated from the Police Department, the personnel being :—

Sub-Inspector Police, Officer in charge of Prison,
1 Chief Warder,
4 Warders,
1 Assistant Warder,
1 Matron.

At the beginning of the year the number of prisoners was 20 male, 1 female.

The daily average was 27.28.

The highest number of prisoners at any one time was 45, the lowest 18.

The health of the prisoners was good and discipline good.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year the item of most importance was the raising of a loan of £25,510 for the purpose of installing electric light in the capital town of Kingstown, the reconstruction of the telephone system and road improvement. Work on the electric light and the telephone system had to be deferred to 1930, but considerable work on oiling the roads with colas was accomplished.

The usual maintenance of roads and by-ways was carried out. Feeders to the main roads received special attention. These feeders are of vital importance to the development of the fruit and vegetable trade of the Colony, leading as they do to the various land settlements and peasants' holdings.

Buildings.

The Fort Institutions (Leper and Poor House) were greatly improved and renovated.

Government Primary Schools received much-needed attention.

A dispensary was erected in the Island of Bequia.

Water Supply.

The water supply at Richmond Hill village and at the village of Stubbs were opened up and a more adequate supply obtained.

Tanks were erected in the Islands of Canouan and Mayreau with capacity of 6,000 and 5,000 gallons respectively.

Storm Damage.

On the leeward coast between Buccament Valley and Chateaubelair a large cloudburst took place, doing considerable damage to roads, habitations, and cultivation. Otherwise the Colony was exceptionally lucky as regards damage from the elements.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Colony at 31st December, 1929, was 51,995.

The birth-rate for the year was 35.31 per thousand, as against 38.75 per thousand in 1928.

Legitimate births numbered 497, and illegitimate births 1,339, the percentage of illegitimate births being 72.9 as against 72.2 in 1928.

The death-rate per thousand for the year was 19.41 as compared with 20.28 in 1928.

The deaths of infants under one year (exclusive of still-births) numbered 257, as against 251 in 1928.

There were 106 still-births, of which 15 were legitimate and 91 illegitimate.

There were 11 cases of enteric fever during the year, as against 10 in 1928 and 13 in 1927.

There were 305 cases of influenza recorded with 12 deaths.

There were 1,136 cases of diarrhoea in children under 2 years of age with 118 deaths.

The district returns show 723 cases of malaria with 8 deaths. 20 cases with one death were admitted into the Colonial Hospital. A small epidemic again occurred in the Buccament Bay settlement. Anti-malarial measures, similar to those taken in 1928, soon controlled the outbreak.

A course of lectures and demonstrations was given during the year for those desirous of qualifying as Sanitary Inspectors. Eight candidates took the course, 2 qualified and received local certificates of efficiency.

The Public Health Amendment Ordinance, No. 26, of 1929, increases the scope and power of the 1927 Bill.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1927, 1928, and 1929 :—

	1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*
Number of Schools	28	30	30
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	5,732	6,620	7,083
Average attendance	2,969	3,410	3,757
Government Grant-in-aid	£3,686	£4,066	£4,281
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 4*s.* 10*d.*	£1 3*s.* 10*d.*	£1 2*s.* 9*d.*

Eleven of the 30 regular schools belong to the Government which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the 19 other schools. The salaries of all teachers and the equipment, etc., of all primary schools are met from general revenue.

There are six other schools maintained by religious denominations which receive small Government grants totalling £87 10*s.* 3*d.*

There are two scholarships provided by the Government, one for girls and one for boys, which are open to all primary schools for entrance of primary school children to the Boys' Grammar School and the Girls' High School.

The Government maintain and finance a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School—and the Girls' High School. Fees charged are £2 per term for the boys and £2 per term for the girls.

There is an Island scholarship of £250 awarded biennially, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The cost of passages to and from England is also defrayed.

The Town Board of Kingstown also award two scholarships, valued at £6 each, per annum (one for boys at Grammar School and one for girls at Girls' High School).

The reorganization of primary education has occupied the attention of the Government during the year, resulting in the revision of the Code, more adequate salaries to teachers, the better equipment of all primary schools, and repairs to buildings. To meet these much-needed requirements a substantial increase in the amount allocated by Government will be forthcoming in 1930.

The date of termination of the school year has been altered from 30th September to 31st December.

A substantial increase in attendance is anticipated, thus, it is hoped, obviating the necessity of compulsory attendance.

There are also 10 privately-owned schools in the Colony, the most important being that of Mr. Eustace with an average attendance of 29 boys and 13 girls, totalling 42. This school is a valuable connecting link between the primary and secondary schools.

X.—CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The revenue collected during the year totalled £1,188, £777 being derived from Crown Lands and £411 from Land Settlement Lands.

Arrears amounted to £271. These arrears are largely due to market depression and will be paid up during the coming year.

In 1928 arrears amounted to £607.

One hundred and ninety-nine Title Deeds were issued.

No surveys were made by surveyors in private practice.

Fifteen surveys were carried out by the Government Department.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigration of indentured labour in the Colony.

Large numbers of men and women emigrate to Santo Domingo, Curaçoa, and Aruba. The exodus to Santo Domingo is on the decrease, but emigration to Curaçoa has greatly increased as the work on the oilfields attracts large numbers, the pay being exceptionally good, and the work appeals to the native. Domestic service with high wages attracts the female population.

The average wage of a labourer on an estate in St. Vincent is 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day and certain perquisites, such as mountain garden lands and the keeping of stock on the estate. Task work on the estates, whereby the labourer can easily earn up to 2*s.* a day, is more popular than daily work. By far the greater part of work on estates is done by women who receive from 6*d.* to 9*d.* per day.

During the year extensive road reconstruction has taken place and the demand for labour exceeds the supply.

A considerable amount of money is remitted by labourers to their families from Curaçoa and Aruba.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Banks.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is the only bank in the Colony.

The Government maintains a Savings Bank and pays interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

Agricultural Credit Societies.

There were twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies at the beginning of the year, but seventeen of these were closed down owing to the lethargy displayed by the peasants and also due to inertia and lack of proper organization.

It is hoped to re-organize and re-start these on progressive and active lines as they are undoubtedly of considerable use to the peasants and the land settlements.

Government Cotton Ginnery.

The purchase of Sea Island cotton and corn on a profit-sharing system is still carried out by the Government Cotton Ginnery and is greatly appreciated by the peasant proprietors.

Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

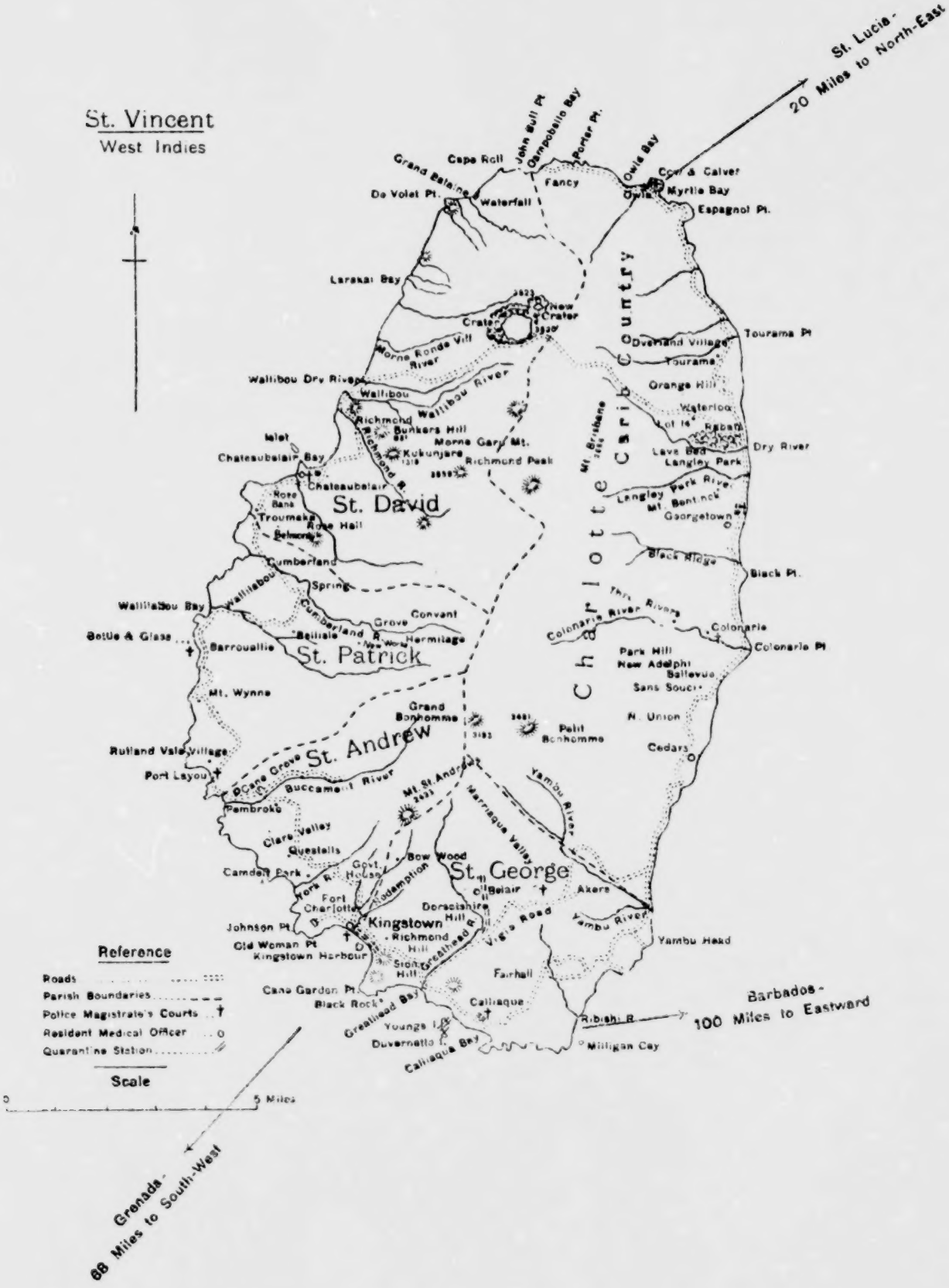
A Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau was inaugurated by the Government during the year and has proved an unqualified success. The Bureau purchases, and ships to England, Canada, etc., every kind of fruit and vegetable brought in by the inhabitants, charging 10 per cent. for handling.

Map.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

H. PEEBLES,
Administrator.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SAINT VINCENT,
3rd May, 1930.



(7442—21) Wt 6219—526 500 9/20 P. St. G 7/8

B

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*)

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929. (E.M.B. 18.) 9*d.* (11*d.*).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

[Crown Copyright Reserved.]

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1495.

ST. LUCIA

REPORT FOR 1929.

(For Report for 1927 see No. 1396 (Price 9d.) and for Report for 1928 see No. 1433 (Price 1s. 0d.)).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M.STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1930.

Price 1s. 0d. Net.

58-1495

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

COLONIAL FILMS.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3630.] 6*d.* (7*d.*).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1929. [Colonial No. 45.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL ENTOMOLOGICAL CONFERENCE. June, 1925. [Cmd. 2490.] 9*d.* (10*d.*)

EMPIRE CONFERENCE OF SURVEY OFFICERS, 1928.
Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 41.] 12*s.* 0*d.* (12*s.* 6*d.*).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928. [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s.* 0*d.* (6*s.* 5*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s* 9*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3*s.* 0*d.* (3*s.* 2*d.*).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1929.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Geography and History	2
Climate	4
Vital Statistics	5
Languages	5
Currency	5
Weights and Measures	5
I.—General	6
II.—Finance	7
III.—Production	8
IV.—Trade and Economics	11
V.—Communications	15
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	15
VII.—Public Health	16
VIII.—Education	17
IX.—Labour	18
X.—Miscellaneous	19
Map.	

Geography and History.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island, and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

It is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Columbus, during his fourth voyage, on the 18th June, 1502. There is, however, a tradition amongst the French that it was discovered on the 13th December of a later year by some shipwrecked French seamen, who named it St. Alouziel or St. Alousie after the martyred virgin Saint of that name, whose feast is commemorated on that date.

The island was then inhabited by the Caribs, and they remained in undisturbed possession for another century.

In 1605, 67 persons proceeding to Guiana by the English ship *Olive Blossom* were forced by famine to land in the island, and they remained "to take their fortune in the fruitful isle." They were not able to stay longer than a month, however, when, reduced to 19 by fights with the Caribs, they left in an open boat and reached the mainland of South America in sore distress. This is the first recorded instance of a landing by Englishmen in the island.

In 1626 a Commission was granted by Cardinal Richelieu to MM. d'Enambuc and du Rossay to establish a French Colony "in the islands of St. Christopher and Barbados and in the surrounding territories," which presumably included St. Lucia, and in 1627 the island was granted by the King of England, along with all the Caribbee Islands, to the Earl of Carlisle, who appointed Lord Willoughby of Parham to be Governor of Barbados and the other Caribbee Islands. In 1635 it appears to have been granted by the King of France to MM. de l'Olive and Duplessis.

In 1638 Captain Judlee of St. Kitts (acting in the name of Lord Willoughby) and three or four hundred men took possession of the island and attempted to effect a settlement in it, but in 1640 these early colonists were either massacred or expelled by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who sold it in 1650 to MM. Honel and du Parquet for the equivalent of £1,600. The Caribs made repeated attempts to expel the French, but failed, and finally, in 1660, they concluded a treaty of peace with the latter.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia and took possession of it. The English continued in occupation until the Peace of Breda, in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France and made a dependency of Martinique.

Throughout the eighteenth century recurrent struggles took place between the English and the French for possession of the island, the more important occurring in the latter half of the century. In 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton, but was returned to France by the Treaty of Paris in the following year. In 1778 it again surrendered to the British, who remained in occupation until 1783 when, by the Peace of Versailles, St. Lucia was once more restored to France. It was from Pigeon Island, off the north-western coast of St. Lucia, during the period of this occupancy that Rodney sighted the French Fleet of 36 sail of the line, under the Comte de Grasse, prior to giving them battle and defeating them in the memorable naval action of the 12th April, 1782. The island was again taken by the British in 1794, but they were forced by the French Republican party in the island, aided by insurgent slaves under "Citoyen" Victor Hughes, the Civil Commissary of Guadeloupe, to evacuate it in the following year. In 1796, after an obstinate and sanguinary struggle, that party laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war to a force 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie supported by a squadron under the command of Sir Hugh Christian. Sir John Moore, the subsequent hero of Corunna, took part in this operation as Brigadier-General Moore, and remained in the island as Governor thereafter. The British retained possession of the island until 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on the 22nd June, 1803, since when it has continued under British rule. As a result of the operations of 1778, 1796, and 1803, no fewer than thirteen British regiments have "St. Lucia" inscribed on their colours.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands.

The temperature seldom rises above 90° in the hot season, May to November, or falls below 70° in the cool season, December to May; the yearly average being about 83° noon shade temperature. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60°, and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

Temperature records during 1929 at the Botanic Station, Castries, show a mean noon temperature of 84.7° in the shade. The maximum temperature was 92° and the minimum 65°, a temperature range of 27°.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1929 was 102.04 inches. This was 11.79 inches above the

average for the last 39 years (=90.25 inches). Maximum precipitation occurred on 5th October, when 4.85 inches of rain fell at Castries. In the wetter parts of the Colony, however, the rainfall ranged from 6 inches to 13.5 inches on this date.

The weather generally was fair and cool, with few storms.

Vital Statistics.

On 31st December, 1928, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 56,917—males, 26,393 ; females, 30,524. On 31st December, 1929, the figure increased to 57,482—males, 26,801 ; females, 30,681. The natural increase during 1929 was 616, and during the year there was an excess of departures from as compared with arrivals in the Colony of 51. The total increase was 565.

The number of inhabitants per square mile in the Colony is computed at 246.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 100) totalled 1,898—males, 921 ; females, 977. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 31.2 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 2 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,282—males, 623 ; females, 659. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 20.5 per thousand of the population—an increase of .7 per thousand on the previous year.

Principal causes of death (other than still-births) were :—malaria, 63 ; syphilis, 80 ; bronchitis, 52 ; pneumonia, 54 ; gastro-enteritis, 89 ; worms, 105 ; and senile decay, 142. Two of these—gastro-enteritis and worms—are the causes of many of the infant deaths.

Languages.

English is, of course, the language of the Colony, but the large majority of the population speak a French patois. Notwithstanding the fact that primary education is imparted in English entirely it is still true that, in the elementary schools, most of the children have to be taught English before they can assimilate a knowledge of the rudiments of education. This is undoubtedly a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, but it can only be by persistent educational effort that the people as a whole will eventually learn to speak and think in the national language.

Currency.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10*s*. and 5*s*. are in circulation, as well as the notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

I.—GENERAL.

The year 1929 was one of steady progress and improvement in many directions. Notwithstanding the great financial stringency and the difficulty of finding money for very necessary works, it has been possible to do a good deal of useful work.

In agricultural matters there has been considerable development and there is abundant evidence of increased interest. Much new cultivation has been started, and, under the supervision of the newly-appointed Agricultural Instructor and Adviser, the peasant proprietors and small cultivators are going in for new crops and paying more attention to the old ones. Were it not for the deplorable condition of the sugar industry, the whole outlook would be much more favourable.

The export of fruit and vegetables is one branch of agricultural development which promises well for the future and steps are being taken to introduce at an early date measures for the proper inspection, grading, and packing of all fruit exported from the Island. The experimental shipments of fruit already made have met with varying success but, on the whole, they have proved that there is profitable business to be done in the future. There have been many difficulties in disposing of fruit and vegetables in the countries to which these articles are exported but, here again, a great deal has been learnt through recent experience and there is every hope that we shall be able to enter into satisfactory marketing arrangements in the near future.

The rebuilding of Castries was considerably advanced during the year and several fine buildings were completed and brought into use. Among these may be mentioned the new Government Offices, and those of Messrs. Peter and Company and Minvielle and Chastanet, the Good Shepherd's Hall, and the new cinema theatre erected by Mr. R. G. H. Clarke.

The coastal motor boat service was handed over to private enterprise as from June. This service is operated by the St. Lucia Navigation Company, by means of the M.L. *Soufriere* which was build in England. It is anticipated that this change will result in considerable saving to the Government.

Among the important events of the year was the establishment of two Air Services between the United States of America and South America. These are being carried out by Pan-American Airways, Incorporated, and the New York, Rio, and Buenos Aires Line, Incorporated. Both of these services have received permission to make St. Lucia a fuelling station and port of call. Pan-American Airways have been given permission to utilize a portion of the foreshore at La Toc as a landing place for their planes. Permission has also been given to the New York, Rio, and Buenos Aires Line to moor a pontoon in the harbour for the purpose of fuelling their planes. Both these concerns carry mails and passengers. The first

airplane to arrive at St. Lucia with mails belonged to Pan-American Airways and was piloted by Colonel Lindbergh on the 22nd September.

During the year arrangements were made for the erection in the Carnegie Library of a bronze tablet in memory of the men of St. Lucia who lost their lives in the Great War. This was unveiled on 31st July by His Honour the Administrator.

Another outstanding event of the year was the visit of the Sugar Commission appointed by the Secretary of State under the Chairmanship of Lord Olivier, P.C., K.C.M.G. The Commission called at St. Lucia on the 27th October, 1929, and returned on the 9th November, leaving on the 11th of that month. Their findings were subsequently published in Cmd. 3517.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.*	*Ordinary Expenditure.*	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.*
	£	£	£
1925	75,555	85,082	9,527
1926	83,379*	84,488	1,109
1927	82,491†	84,219	1,728
1928	85,351‡	87,235	1,884
1929	83,139§	86,434	3,295

Taxation was increased during 1929 by—

(1) The Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance, increasing the bulk of the *ad valorem* duties on imports by 50 per cent., and applying the surcharge of 25 per cent. to imports of wheaten flour.

(2) The Export Duties Amendment Ordinance, increasing the duty on lime oils.

(3) The Trade Licences Ordinance.

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £186,010 at the close of the year, being £13,449 less than at 31st December, 1928. A loan of £3,367 was raised during the year on behalf of the Castries Town Board for reconstructing the Castries Water Works. The accumulated Sinking Fund for the redemption of the Public Debt amounted to £54,688, as compared with £62,673 at the end of 1928.

---

* In addition £70,180 was received as proceeds of the issue of a Debt Reduction Loan.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,000.

‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,836.

§ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,000.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

In consequence of the difficulties experienced in disposing of the principal economic products at a reasonable profit, agriculturists have turned their attention to other crops. The supply of fruits and vegetables, and possibly dairy products, to the growing Canadian market, opens new possibilities to the producer. That this is being realized is shown in the steady growth in the export of these items which previously were shipped in a desultory fashion. Other alternative crops which are now being planted fairly extensively are coffea arabica (Jamaica Blue Mountain), pine-apples, papaw, nutmegs and other spices, pigeon peas and haricot beans.

The plant propagation service of the Agricultural Department has been expanded to meet this demand, and to create further demands for suitable products. At Union Station the site used for propagation has now been occupied nearly two years and has proved entirely satisfactory. More extensive developments are in preparation for the present year and an orchard plot of the principal trees recommended to the planter is being prepared in order to arrive at costs of production.

Sugar.—The year 1929 was a depressing one for the sugar industry owing to the low market value of raw sugar, and in consequence of the poor demand for fancy molasses many small growers have ceased to grow sugar cane. The area in cane is therefore less than formerly, being now about 4,300 acres as against 4,750 acres. One factory has planted the cane area in coconuts. The factories made a large crop of sugar cane, and produced 4,997 tons of sugar as against 4,042 tons in 1928, with a larger quantity of molasses. The amount exported for 1929 was 4,536 tons of sugar as against 4,100 tons in 1928. The average export price was, however, very low, being £12 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton of sugar.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Cwt.	£
1925	97,772	72,559
1926	95,140	65,444
1927	88,640	74,200
1928	82,000	63,050
1929	90,720	51,237

Sugar (Muscovado).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1925	8,614	4,774
1926	9,138	5,414
1927	3,560	2,235
1928	—	—
1929	—	—

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1925	153,413	7,818
1926	156,424	8,659
1927	156,050	7,634
1928	85,784	3,643
1929	127,273	3,047

Rum.—The quantity and value of rum exported during the last five years is shown below :—

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gals.	*Value.* £
1925	63	25
1926	37	11
1927	1,700	212
1928	1,323	218
1929	2,013	339

Practically all the rum produced in the island is consumed locally.

Cacao.—The cacao market has been poor and low prices were received during the year, ranging from 45*s.* to 52*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. The total crop was below the average, being affected by wet weather diseases and difficulties in drying the beans.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1925	10,444	22,339
1926	10,037	22,454
1927	12,183	30,560
1928	11,006	27,321
1929	8,906	18,864

Limes.—Although weather conditions were apparently not very favourable, a good lime crop was made and good prices were received for it. Concentrated lime juice varied in price from £28 to £20 per pipe c.i.f., handpressed lime oil realized prices ranging from 54*s.* to 74*s.* per lb., and distilled oil realized from 33*s.* to 25*s.* per lb. towards the end of the year.

Calculated in barrels of green limes the crops for the last five years are :—

Year.	*Quantity* Barrels.
1925	63,496
1926	59,415
1927	58,948
1928	30,107
1929	37,345

Coconuts.—The coconut production continues to increase and the quantity of nuts exported during 1929 was double that of the previous year. The export of copra was also greater. Owing to poor demand for coconut oil and soap the St. Lucia Oil Mills closed down towards the end of the year. The price of copra fell from £25 to £19 per ton c.i.f. Coconuts and coconut products exported during the last five years are :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1925	123,516	432
1926	118,501	381
1927	96,813	351
1928	141,667	499
1929	295,983	1,032

Coconut Oil.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1925	6,323	791
1926	19,081	3,847
1927	3,921	735
1928	931	184
1929	—	—

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1925	1,981	3,563
1926	1,591	1,808
1927	4,077	4,409
1928	6,301	8,690
1929	7,195	9,878

Coconut Meal.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Tons.	£
1925	12	106
1926	42	778
1927	7	88
1928	4	38
1929	1½	6

Bananas.—The exports during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Bunches.	£
1925	20,818	1,374
1926	46,209	4,356
1927	27,052	2,351
1928	5,543	338
1929	6,818	509

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1929, as compared with 1928, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1929.	1928.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	78,740	80,669
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	60,484	46,418
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	97,952	105,703
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including Parcel Post.	7,577	9,263
Total value ...	£244,753	£242,053

In the above table the total for 1929 is in excess of 1928 by £2,700 only. The decreases in Classes I, III, and IV are more than counterbalanced by the increase in Class II, which includes an increased amount of coal imported in 1929.

The values of imports for 1929 and 1928, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1929.	1928.
	£	£
United Kingdom	68,101	92,756
Other parts of the British Empire	66,922	67,297
Foreign Countries	102,230	73,959
Parcel Post	7,500	8,041
	£244,753	£242,053

The above table shows a decrease of no less than £24,655 or 26·58 per cent. in imports from the United Kingdom, and an increase of no less than £28,271 or 38·23 per cent. in those from Foreign Countries. Decreased importations of coal, sugar-manufacturing machinery, cotton goods, and manures account for the reduction in the former case, while increased importation of coal accounts in the main for the rise in the latter.

The values of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1928 and 1929 were as follows :—

Article.	1928.	1929.
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	7,518	4,610
Coal, bituminous	25,229	48,739
Cotton—		
Piece goods	10,930	10,269
Other manufactures ...	13,904	9,075
Fish, salted, dried, etc. ...	9,394	9,166
Flour, wheaten	25,367	25,455
Hardware	5,727	4,744
Lumber—spruce and white pine	5,793	1,680
Machinery, sugar manufacturing	10,519	4,268
Manures	2,625	5,421
Oil, edible	6,274	5,950

Of greatest interest in the above table is the item coal, which increased by no less than £23,510 or 93·19 per cent. in 1929. The considerable increase in manures (106·51 per cent.) evidences continuing efforts in the sugar industry despite falling prices. The imports of boots and shoes and sugar manufacturing machinery were much above the average in 1928, and so diminished in 1929. The increase in the import duty on flour (25 per cent. surcharge) made no appreciable difference in its consumption : the quantity imported was only 147 barrels less. The majority of the buildings destroyed by the Castries fire of May, 1927, having now been replaced, the demand for lumber was very much less in 1929.

That there are openings for British products is shown by the following table :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1929.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Cotton manufactures, piece goods	10,269	7,532
Manures	5,421	89
Iron and Steel manufactures ...	3,635	3,266
Wood and Timber—Shooks and Staves.	1,289	568
Bags and Sacks, empty ...	3,510	3,368
Butter and substitutes ...	3,353	1,215
Oleomargarine	2,309	54
Motor cars	1,636	882
Cement	2,409	1,413
Totals	£33,831	£18,387

Exports.

The values of exports in 1929, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1929.	1928.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	92,002	108,567
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	74,661	49,505
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	24,537	31,836
IV. Miscellaneous	357	730
V. Bullion and Specie	7,443	7,198
Total value ...	£199,000	£197,836

The decrease in the above table in Class I was due to reduced exports of cocoa, molasses, and green limes, and the reduced price obtained for sugar, 436 tons more of which was exported in 1929 and £11,813 less obtained. The increase in Class II was due to increased exports of bunker coal (£24,727), copra (£1,188), and logwood (£375). The decrease in Class III resulted from less exports of lime oil (£3,362), charcoal (£602), bay oil (88), bricks (£1,631), and metals (£999).

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

	Value in 1929. £	*Value in* 1928. £
Cocoa	18,864	27,321
Lime and Lime Products ...	20,440	29,687
Sugar	51,237	63,050
Fancy Syrup and Molasses ...	3,047	3,643
Logwood	2,713	2,338
Bunker Coal	60,138	35,411
Copra	9,878	8,690

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.	£		*Total.* 1929. £	*Total* 1928. £
United Kingdom—				
Domestic Exports		43,376		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).		77		
			43,453	56,529
Other parts of the British Empire—				
Domestic Exports		56,674		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie)		1,147		
			57,821	62,899
Foreign Countries—				
Domestic Exports		28,978		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).		168		
			29,146	35,244
Ships' Stores—Re-exports ...		996		
Bunkers—Re-exports		60,138		
			61,134	35,966
Totals			£191,554	£190,638

Coaling.—The coaling business, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch, and which, after being for many years a source of considerable wealth to the Colony had declined somewhat, now happily shows some signs of revival, and the exports of bunker coal in 1929 exceeded those of 1928 by 18,145 tons. Coaling affords an appreciable amount of irregular employment to a number of labourers living in the capital and its vicinity.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,224, of a total tonnage of 1,700,139. Of this total 667 were steamships and 557 sailing vessels. In addition to the above, 40 American seaplanes visited the Colony from September to December.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular fortnightly steamer service to other British West Indian Colonies and to Canada by means of the Canadian National Steamships, (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, (3) a monthly service to the United States of America and certain of the neighbouring Islands by steamers of the Furness Withy Company, and (4) a seaplane service twice a week to North and South America and certain neighbouring British and Foreign Colonies carried out by planes of Pan-American Airways, Incorporated, and the New York, Rio, and Buenos Aires Line, Incorporated. There are other frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America and direct to Europe.

Roads.—There are 125 miles of main roads, 144 miles of by-ways and 74 miles of unclassified roads. Of the total 167 miles are suitable for motor traffic.

Castries is connected with Soufriere and Vieux-Fort and other points on the leeward side of the Island by a motor-launch service. Until June, 1929, this was carried out by the Government but in that month it was undertaken by a private company under contract with the Government. On the windward side subsidized motor-bus services exist between Castries and Dennery and Vieux-Fort and Micoud.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Inland Telegraphs.—There is no telegraph system in the island.

Telephones.—The telephone system is operated entirely by the Government and consists of 110 miles of trunk lines and 204 miles of branch lines. There are ten exchanges and 210 subscribers.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the Royal Court, over which the Chief Justice presides, and by three District Courts, over which two Magistrates preside. The Royal Court has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction and also decides appeals from the District Courts. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of these bodies and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary Police duties, this Force assists in the administration of Poor Relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone-breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony during 1929, from the records returned, was good and showed a distinct improvement on that of the preceding year.

No epidemic occurred, and the incidence of typhoid, tuberculosis, and malaria was the lowest recorded for many years. Intestinal parasitic infestation, although fairly widespread, was not so great as in previous years, and with the appointment of a microscopist who is to operate in each District under the direct supervision of the District Medical Officer and who will be assisted by the District Sanitary Inspector it is hoped that permanent reduction of this ailment will result.

The Colony is divided into six Medical Districts, to each of which is attached a Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector, with Dispensaries in each District. In addition to these there is a Chief Medical Officer who is also Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, Health Officer and Bacteriologist; and there is a Chief Sanitary Inspector whose headquarters are at Castries but who makes regular visits of inspection all over the island.

The medical institutions consist of the Victoria Hospital, the largest and principal hospital in the Colony, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries, with a staff consisting of a Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, and local nurses and dispensers. Attached to this hospital is a private wing with six rooms for paying patients. There are three small casualty hospitals situated in Soufriere, Vieux-Fort, and Dennery, the towns next in importance to Castries. The Medical Department also maintains a Port Health Officer, a conveniently situated and suitably equipped Quarantine Station, and Pauper, Leper, and Lunatic Asylums.

Sanitation and Hygiene.—During the year a Child Welfare Association was formed, in connection with which clinics are being held at the Castries General Dispensary three times a week; and with the help of the energetic Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and her band of voluntary assistants very encouraging results have been obtained.

The routine work of the Department was carried out throughout the year along the established lines, and were supplemented by the following important measures :—

(*a*) The enforcement of the Bakeries Regulations, one of the principal of which is the medical examination and registration of itinerant sellers of bread and cakes and the provision by each of them of a standardized bread box, to prevent contamination by dust and flies.

(*b*) The installation of an unpolluted pipe-borne water supply at the village of Micoud.

(*c*) The erection of a model incinerator, with drying shed attached, in the old Marchand Cemetery.

The standard of sanitation reported upon in the previous year has been improved in many ways and fully justified the increase which was approved in the vote for Sanitary Services for the year 1929.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education.—There are 49 recognized primary schools, which are all denominational, assisted by Government grants-in-aid. Forty-two are under Roman Catholic management, four Anglican, and three Wesleyan. The teachers' salaries are paid almost entirely by Government from the grant-in-aid, which totals nearly £5,000 per annum, the managing religious bodies contributing just over £50 in 1929 towards the required sum. The grants-in-aid are administered by an Inspector of Schools, a Government Officer who supervises the expenditure under the ultimate control of the Governor in Council. Primary education is free and compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14 years, though school managers have the right to exact fees not exceeding one penny per week from each pupil if they desire to do so. It is probable that not more than 60 or 70 per cent. of the children of school age are actually attending.

Instruction is provided in reading, writing, arithmetic, dictation, recitation, and hygiene. English is the medium of instruction in the juvenile schools, and a combination of English and the local "Patois" in the infant schools, the "Patois" being utilized only when necessary to explain the meaning of English words. English is taught in the infant schools by means of object lessons, the children being taught simple English phrases and how to answer easy questions. In the lower standards of the juvenile schools, English is taught by means of object lessons, and the upper standards take English composition, English grammar and geography. Agriculture is taught in most of the juvenile schools to both boys and girls, many of the schools possessing excellent gardens, which are maintained by the teachers and pupils under the supervision of an agricultural instructor, who is a Government Officer. These gardens provide the pupils with

material for practical work and as a general rule a real interest is taken in them. Domestic economy and practical cooking are taught to the girls in some of the schools and the results obtained in these subjects are generally good. Government assistance is given periodically towards the provision of garden tools and cooking utensils.

Secondary Education.—A secondary course is provided for boys at St. Mary's College. The course now includes agricultural science and some commercial subjects. The school prepares pupils for the examinations of the Cambridge University Local Examinations Syndicate and for the Matriculation Examination of London University. St. Joseph's Convent School provides a secondary course for girls and prepares pupils for the Cambridge Local Examinations. The St. Lucia Scholarship of the value of £175 per annum, which was awarded by the Government biennially on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination, to candidates having the requisite residential, educational, and other qualifications, has been discontinued for the present owing to the Colony's financial difficulties, eight scholarships having been awarded up to the time of suspension in 1929.

Twelve scholarships at St. Mary's College are now awarded by the Government to boys attending primary schools, on the results of competitive examinations. These scholarships are tenable for one year and are then renewable from year to year for five years more.

IX.—LABOUR.

There is, generally, an ample supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony, the chief sources of employment being the sugar estates and other large plantations. The Public Works Department and the coal bunkering companies are also considerable employers of labour. There is a steady demand for tradesmen, but the supply is limited. Relations between employers and labourers have been generally satisfactory. A certain number of St. Lucia labourers are periodically recruited for work in Santo Domingo and, last year for the first time, in Venezuela. All arrangements in regard to this labour are made through the Government and the recruiting agents are required to enter into a bond for carrying out the terms of the contract made between them and the labourers. The continued depression of the sugar market is having its effect on sugar estates, resulting in a considerable reduction of labourers and consequent unemployment. There was thus, at the end of 1929, a surplus of labour for which no employment was available. New Public Works, such as drainage and road schemes, and agricultural extension aimed at developing peasant agriculture, are projects which will help to reduce unemployment.

X.—MISCELLANEOUS.

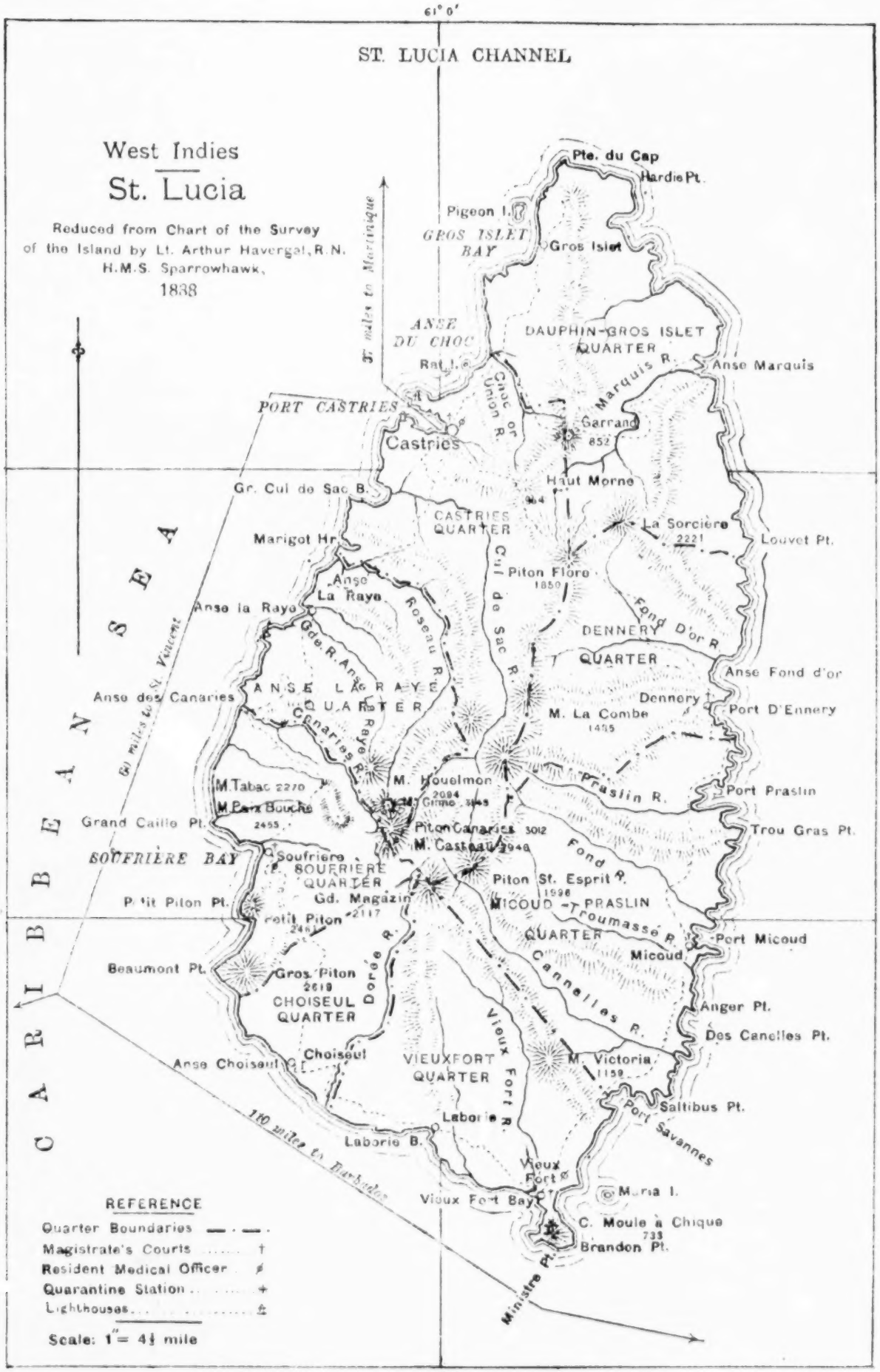
His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., was in residence in the Colony from the 19th January to the 4th February.

The following British ships of war visited the colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Heliotrope* in January.
H.M.S. *Durban* in January.
H.M.S. *Wistaria* in April.

H. J. PINK,
Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,
28th June, 1930.



(8058—21) Wt. 12725—1156 500 10/30 P. St. G. 8/9

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929. (E.M.B. 18.) 9*d.* (11*d.*).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
WEI-HAI-WEI.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

INCHES 1 2 3 4 5 6
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
10 FIRST STREET SE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540
METRIC 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

5

Pat 1
F1723
832

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

[*Crown Copyright Reserved.*]

No. 1511.

GRENADA

REPORT FOR 1929.

(*For Reports for 1927 and 1928 see Nos. 1391 and 1443 respectively (Price 9d. each).*)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.
1930.
Price 9d. net.

58-1511

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s*. 0*d*. (4*s*. 6*d*.).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s*. 0*d*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

COLONIAL FILMS.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3630.] 6*d*. (7*d*.).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s*. 0*d*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1929. [Colonial No. 45.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 7*d*.).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL ENTOMOLOGICAL CONFERENCE. June, 1925. [Cmd. 2490.] 9*d*. (10*d*.)

EMPIRE CONFERENCE OF SURVEY OFFICERS, 1928.
Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 41.] 12*s*. 0*d*. (12*s*. 6*d*.).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928. [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. 0*d*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 9*d*.).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3*s*. 0*d*. (3*s*. 2*d*.).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

JV33
.G7A4

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
	Geographical	2
	Historical	3
	Climate	3
	Language	4
	Currency	4
	Weights and Measures	4
I.	General	4
II.	Finance	6
III.	Production	7
IV.	Trade and Economics	9
V.	Communications	10
VI.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	11
VII.	Public Works	12
VIII.	Public Health	12
IX.	Educational Progress	14
X.	Land and Survey	14
XI.	Labour	15
XII.	Legislation	15
XIII.	Miscellaneous	16
	Map.	

Introduction.

Geographical.

Situated in the extreme south of the Carribean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land locked and deep watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
DEC 14 1932
DIVISION OF DOCUMENTS

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Historical.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ring-leaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period the climate, although not really unhealthy, may be described as debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available fans are gradually being introduced into houses and offices.

The highest temperature in 1929 was 90° on several days, and the lowest 69° also on several days. The mean of maximum temperature was 88° and the mean of minimum 70°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1929 was 75.95 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 72.92 inches.

Language.

The only language spoken is English. A small and decreasing number of agricultural labourers in the country districts speak a corrupt patois of English and French, but all understand and speak English.

Currency.

The currency is the same as in Great Britain, the monetary units being the same. Silver, however, is legal tender without limit, and there are also in circulation bank notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada of five dollars denomination. One or two of the business houses keep their accounts in dollars and cents, but the Government accounts are in sterling.

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures are of the Imperial standard except in the case of motor spirit, which is sold by the wine or American gallon.

I.—General.

In his address to the Legislative Council on the presentation of the Budget in December, His Excellency the Governor stated that "In spite of the fall in the prices for our two principal agricultural products, cocoa and nutmegs, the economic position of Grenada is still strong." This is shown by the fact that the actual surplus of Revenue over Expenditure for the year was £20,019. The fall in prices in cocoa and nutmegs does, however, give ground for anxiety and attempts are being made to improve the position by co-operation among producers. Grenada, fortunately, is but little affected by the crisis in the sugar industry, since the growing of canes on a large scale was abandoned years ago.

Owing to the continued satisfactory position, it has been possible to continue a progressive programme of Public Works. The total assets at the end of the year including a Reserve Fund of £50,000 amounted to £123,675.

The oiling of the main roads has been steadily continued and, so far as the Eastern Road is concerned, will be completed within a year or two. The Western Road, however, presents a much more difficult problem, but with the provision of a grant of £8,000 from the Colonial Development Fund, it is hoped to make a start during the present year.

The Queen's Park, the recreational centre for the town of St. George's, has been greatly improved and the Grand Stand, built

partly from Government funds and partly from public subscriptions, was completed during the year.

Among other works of importance carried out during the year were the extension of York House and the Boys' Secondary School and the building of a new Revenue and Post Office at Sauteurs.

The town of St. George's was lighted by electricity for the first time in August, but the regular supply of current was not commenced until December. Almost continuous service is now provided and a further extension to the St. Paul's district will shortly be undertaken. It is also proposed to utilize the power for an ice and cold storage scheme.

The long discussed proposals for a water-borne sewerage system for St. George's were carried a stage further by their submission to the Secretary of State with a view to seeking assistance from the Colonial Development Fund.

Subsequently Mr. Guy Howard-Humphreys of the firm of Messrs. H. Howard Humphreys and Sons, Consulting Engineers to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, visited Grenada and revised the scheme and the estimates. Dr. A. J. R. O'Brien, C.M.G., M.C., who was specially deputed by the Secretary of State to report on public health proposals prior to their submission for consideration by the Colonial Development Advisory Committee advised that, in view of the high cost of the proposals in proportion to the size of the town and of the possibility of the existing water supply being inadequate for this additional purpose, the scheme should be abandoned. Alternative proposals for conservancy in St. George's are under consideration.

An event of outstanding importance to the Medical and Health work of the Colony was the inauguration of an anti-malarial campaign under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation, International Health Board. Dr. H. H. Howard, Director of the Rockefeller International Health Division for the West Indies, visited Grenada in June and subsequently a malarial survey was carried out by Drs. Root and Andrews.

His Excellency Sir F. S. James, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., was on leave from 19th July to 23rd October, and the Government of the Windward Islands was administered in his absence by the Honourable Herbert Ferguson, C.B.E., Colonial Secretary of Grenada. Mr. Ferguson went on leave on 7th November. Mr. C. A. Pickwoad, late of the Colonial Audit Department, acted as Colonial Secretary from 19th November until 15th December, when he was compelled by ill-health to return to Europe.

Mr. B. H. Easter, M.B.E., B.A., acted as Colonial Secretary and Treasurer from 16th December.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

The total Revenue for the year amounted to £158,302.

The following table shows the total revenue during the past five years, with separate particulars of direct and indirect taxation :—

Year.	*Import Duties.*	*Export duties, Income Tax and other direct taxation.*	*Other Sources.*
	£	£	£
1925	67,342	59,454	19,422
1926	62,471	64,704	21,271
1927	68,523	66,473	20,512
1928	71,434	61,905	20,531
1929	70,763	64,192	23,347

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £138,193, being less than the revenue by £20,109.

The following table gives a comparison of revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*
	£	£	£
1925	146,218	112,467	33,751
1926	148,447	119,001	29,446
1927	155,508	131,413	24,095
1928	153,870	131,244	22,626
1929	158,302	138,193	20,109

No change took place during the year in the method of raising revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities at 31st December, 1929, was £123,675, comprising the following :—

	£
Invested Reserve Fund	50,000
Loan to Central Water Authority ...	15,045
Loans to District Boards	1,337
Public Works Stores	3,236
Colony Drug Stores	1,590
Telephone, etc., Stores	328
Land Settlement Advances	426
Queen's Park Pavilion Advances ...	959
Other surplus assets in liquid or readily available form	50,754
	£123,675

PUBLIC LOANS.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments, at the end of 1929, was £157,087.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock (Colony's share)	113,489	0	9
Do. (District Board's share) ...	10,180	19	3
	123,670	0	0
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	78,960	0	0
	202,630	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan ...	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market	6,366	0	11
	249,708	10	3
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	92,621	2	2
Net indebtedness	£157,087	8	1

Debentures under the local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,100 were redeemed during the year, and contribution to Sinking Fund of the Inscribed Stock Loan which had been discontinued in 1928, was resumed in 1929, on instructions from the Secretary of State.

III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for over 51 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crops exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1925	73,216	197,231
1926	83,384	223,290
1927	100,478	305,640
1928	91,444	274,461
1929	90,987	210,082

Owing to the prevalence of low prices there was a heavy fall in the value of cocoa exported.

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1925	21,762	145,861
1926	22,702	127,000
1927	21,238	103,444
1928	19,620	87,965
1929	22,666	100,323

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1925	3,843	39,606
1926	3,679	49,490
1927	3,733	59,145
1928	3,141	49,260
1929	3,765	55,766

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to improve the cultivation.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1925	3,252	16,500
1926	3,157	14,040
1927	3,788	15,890
1928	2,568	10,735
1929	2,945	14,905

Various subsidiary crops are grown, principally sugar, lime, and coconuts. Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and importation of raw sugar amounted in 1929 to 1,628,475 lb., of the value of £10,086.

The values of lime and coconut products exported in 1929 were £13,400 and £3,620 respectively.

An attempt is now being made to develop a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada. It has to be remembered that the remaining fertile land not already under profitable cultivation is limited, and development of new cultivation to any great extent could only be at the expense of uprooting other permanent crops.

Rum is manufactured at thirteen sugar estates, but none is exported, the production being barely equal to the demand for local consumption. The quantity made last year was 42,661.5 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a factory in St. George's, aided by a subsidy from the Government.

Forestry.

A Forestry Board is constituted under an Ordinance, and looks after the preservation of rainfall by protecting mountain ridges from being denuded. There is power under the Forestry Ordinance to declare rain reserves, the owners of the mountainous areas so dealt with being compensated by remission of land tax. A Forest Reserve of 2,485 acres is established on Crown Lands at Grand Etang near the centre of the island. The area is too small and too inaccessible for growing timber at a profit.

Mining.

There are no mines of any kind.

Fisheries.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £813,860, imports representing £396,661 and exports £417,199, leaving an apparent favourable trade balance of £20,538.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

Imports.

Article.	1929.	1928.	1927.
	£	£	£
Flour	47,743	46,069	46,273
Cotton piece-goods	29,645	29,091	32,071
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	24,821	18,883	8,881
Fish, dried	18,488	17,944	14,915
Rice	14,720	11,731	12,314
Boots and shoes	11,749	10,083	10,112
Sugar, unrefined	10,086	10,123	14,280
Motor spirits	9,964	9,842	9,203
Hardware	8,144	9,681	6,481
Motor cars	7,185	10,775	10,086
Motor parts	7,174	8,635	7,347
Kerosene oil	7,111	7,731	7,873

Exports.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under :—

Article.	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*
	£	£	£
Cocoa	210,082	274,461	305,640
Spices, nutmegs	100,323	87,965	103,444
Do. mace	55,766	49,260	59,145
Cotton, raw	14,905	10,735	15,890
Cotton seed	4,119	1,850	2,960
Lime oil	10,976	1,261	1,585

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1929 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports. £	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	136,069	34·4	164,086	39·5
United States of America ...	71,451	18·2	186,725	44·9
Canada	90,360	22·8	44,932	10·8
Other British Possessions ...	71,858	18·2	18,364	4·4
Other Foreign Countries ...	26,923	6·4	1,581	·4

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 37.9 and 43.7 respectively.

V.—Communications.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail passenger and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about ten to fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad and Barbados and other neighbouring islands.

The yawl, *Sulaire*, was purchased by the Governments of Grenada and St. Vincent early in the year and a service was carried on between Grenada and St. Vincent via the Grenadines. She was, however,

found expensive to run, and the service was discontinued. Alternative proposals for the maintenance of communication between the islands are under consideration.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board under a subsidy from the Government, is established in St. George's, and communicates direct with Barbados.

A subsidiary wireless station is installed at Carriacou and communicates with Grenada.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service—at present under reconstruction without interruption of business—has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges and 1,354 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1929 was 773.

The island is well supplied by a good system of main roads and by-ways kept in good repair by six motor road-rollers. All the main roads and practically all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic. The mileage of main roads is 115 and of by-ways 274.

There is a regular service of motor-buses between all the towns.

VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons.

(i) Justice.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. Thus in the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,643, as compared with an average of 2,546 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,643, the number of summary convictions was 1,866 and that of convictions in the Supreme Court 37, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,788 summary convictions and 21 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 163 as against 143 in 1928, and 146 in 1927.

Four cases of homicide occurred during the year, three of which were committed for trial in the Supreme Court. Of these, one was convicted of manslaughter and the other two were acquitted. There were no cases of offence against property with violence to the person.

(ii) Police.

The strength of the police force on 31st December, 1929, was one Officer in Command, one Inspector and 100 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 210, employed on special occasions, were also on the roll.

A strike of the police force occurred on the morning of 14th September, but they resumed duty later in the day. This action is much to be regretted and was apparently based on a false impression that no action was being taken regarding a petition which they had previously presented. In point of fact several measures for the improvement of the conditions of the force were already under consideration by the Secretary of State and have since been adopted.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, administration of poor relief, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a Fire Brigade and Government Band are under its management and control.

(iii) Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

During the year 163 persons were committed to the male prison and 26 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 34.79 and 5.2 respectively.

One death occurred, but the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

VII.—Public Works.

Among the principal public works undertaken during the year were the completion of a Grand Stand at Queen's Park, the widening of Beausejour Bridge, the extension of York House including Attorney-General's Chambers and Law Library, the widening of the northern approach to the town, additions to the Resident Surgeon's quarters, the extension of the Secondary School and new Revenue and Post Office at Sauteurs and quarters for junior officers at Grenville.

VIII.—Public Health.

Apart from mild epidemics of whooping cough and influenza, the incidence of disease during the year was subnormal. This was especially so in the case of enteric fevers of which there were 30 cases for the whole Colony, the average number for the previous decade being 91 cases per annum ; dysentery also showed a marked diminution. The influence of the hygienic campaign, which began with the introduction of the new Public Health Ordinance in 1926, is showing its effect in these returns and this is supported by vital statistics.

The estimated population of the Colony was 75,867.

The birth-rate for 1929 was 32.24 per 1,000 and the death-rate was 16.8 per 1,000. The majority of deaths occur at the two extremes of life, about 38 per cent. being among young children and aged persons.

Infant mortality showed a rate of 109 per 1,000 living births—the average rate for the previous ten years was 110.2 per 1,000, and the steady fall during the past four years is attributed to the activities of the Maternity and Child Welfare League, founded by Lady James in 1925, and to the establishment in 1926 of Medical Visiting Stations all over the Colony each with a resident nurse-midwife, of which there are 16, to whom a bonus is paid for each infant certified by the Medical Officer to have been materially assisted in its first year of life by the nurse.

The infant mortality rate for Grenada is not only lower than the average for the decade, but is the lowest in the West Indies ; child life during its first year in the tropics runs great risks of diarrhoea and enteritis which contribute heavily to the mortality rate but this is lower during 1929 than in previous years.

During the months of June, July, August, and September, the Rockefeller Foundation—International Health Division—conducted a malaria survey of the whole Colony. It is gratifying to find that the Report on this survey goes to prove that the previous opinion of the Chief Medical and Health Officer—that the incidence of malaria in Grenada was not nearly so high as reported—was correct. With the exception of the swampy areas surrounding the towns of Grenville and Sauteurs, the Colony was found to be remarkably free from malaria. This happy condition is particularly remarkable in the island of Carriacou.

An anti-malarial control campaign is being inaugurated following on this survey, which is expected to reduce the incidence of this disease decisively in the Grenville and Sauteurs areas.

Grenada is well supplied with hospitals and medical institutions, and when the Colony Hospital is provided with an X-ray installation which is hoped for during 1930, it will compare favourably with the hospitals of most West Indian Colonies.

The climate of Grenada is well suited to Europeans, and their children do well here ; extremes of great heat are uncommon and the atmosphere is only oppressive for short intervals during the rainy season—generally before a heavy down-pour, after which the air is much cooler. For the first six months of the year the climate will compare to advantage with that of the French and Italian Riviera.

There is a Central Hospital with 141 beds in St. George's, and smaller hospitals of 24 beds each in Carriacou and in St. Andrew's. In addition there are 14 District Visiting Stations, under the charge of District Nurses who are qualified as midwives.

A Maternity Welfare Centre is established in St. George's and continues to do most excellent work. A Clinic for children is regularly held by the District Surgeon of the Colony Hospital or one of the District Medical Officers. A trained nurse midwife,

employed by the League, visits mothers and advises as to the care and management of children, and in necessitous cases a regular supply of milk is provided.

The adult death-rate of Grenada is low, and the climate in general is healthy. Recreations include cricket, tennis, golf, bathing, fishing, and motoring.

IX.—Educational Progress.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education under the Presidency of the Director of Education.

Secondary.

There is a Government Secondary School for boys, at which the attendance now averages about 120. During the year additional buildings were taken over and renovated, provision being made for a Boarding establishment of about 20, and for a Manual Training Centre, both of which are now in operation.

The staff includes a qualified Science Master and science is now taught in a well-equipped laboratory.

Three secondary schools for girls receive a grant-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 90 to 100. No Matriculation examination was held during the year. For the Cambridge School Certificate (Senior Examination) there were 7 entries and 5 passes (boys) and 2 entries and 1 pass (girls). The total expenditure by the Government was £3,020.

Primary.

A scheme for the reorganization of the schools has been under discussion during the year.

The number of recognized primary schools remained the same, namely 58.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1929 was 13,235, the average attendance being 8,311 or 62.8 per cent.

The total expenditure by the Government was £9,541.

X.—Land and Survey.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall. Notwithstanding this, a Land Settlement Scheme was initiated by the Government upwards of twenty-five years ago, the main features of the scheme being the acquisition of properties offered for sale, which were then divided into small lots and re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The success of the scheme may be noted from the following table showing the number of holdings of land according to the Tax Rolls for the year 1929.

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 to 100 acres.*	*Over 100 acres.*
75,763	13,316	1,703	327	204	375	142

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

XI.—Labour.

Labour consists chiefly of employment on the estates—in working or ploughing the land, draining, weeding, cutlassing, pruning, manuring, and other land work, and reaping the produce. The labourers are employed in gangs, under personal charge and supervision. Labour is also employed on the public roads of the Colony, on general repair and surface oiling work.

The rates of pay are approximately as follows :—

£3 to £8 per month for overseers.
2s. to 4s. per day for drivers.
1s. to 2s. per day for labourers.

The daily rates quoted above are usually for " task " work, which may be completed by quick workers in from 3 to 4 hours. Labourers seldom work two tasks in a day, preferring to cultivate their garden lots, which are generally given by the estate proprietors to those who own no land of their own.

Other labour includes masons, carpenters, mechanics, bootmakers and chauffeurs, the work generally not being of a high standard. The pay of these is approximately as follows :—Masons, carpenters and mechanics, 2s. to 7s. per day ; chauffeurs £3 to £5 per month.

XII.—Legislation.

Of the five Ordinances passed during the year the principal were the following :—

No. 3 the Legitimacy Ordinance which provides for the legitimation of children by the subsequent marriage of their parents and confers on an illegitimate child and its mother the right to inherit from each other on intestacy.

No. 4 provides more reasonable hours of lighting vehicles.

No. 5 provides a much needed right of appeal against interlocutory judgments. In addition eight Bills were read a first time.

XIII.—Miscellaneous.

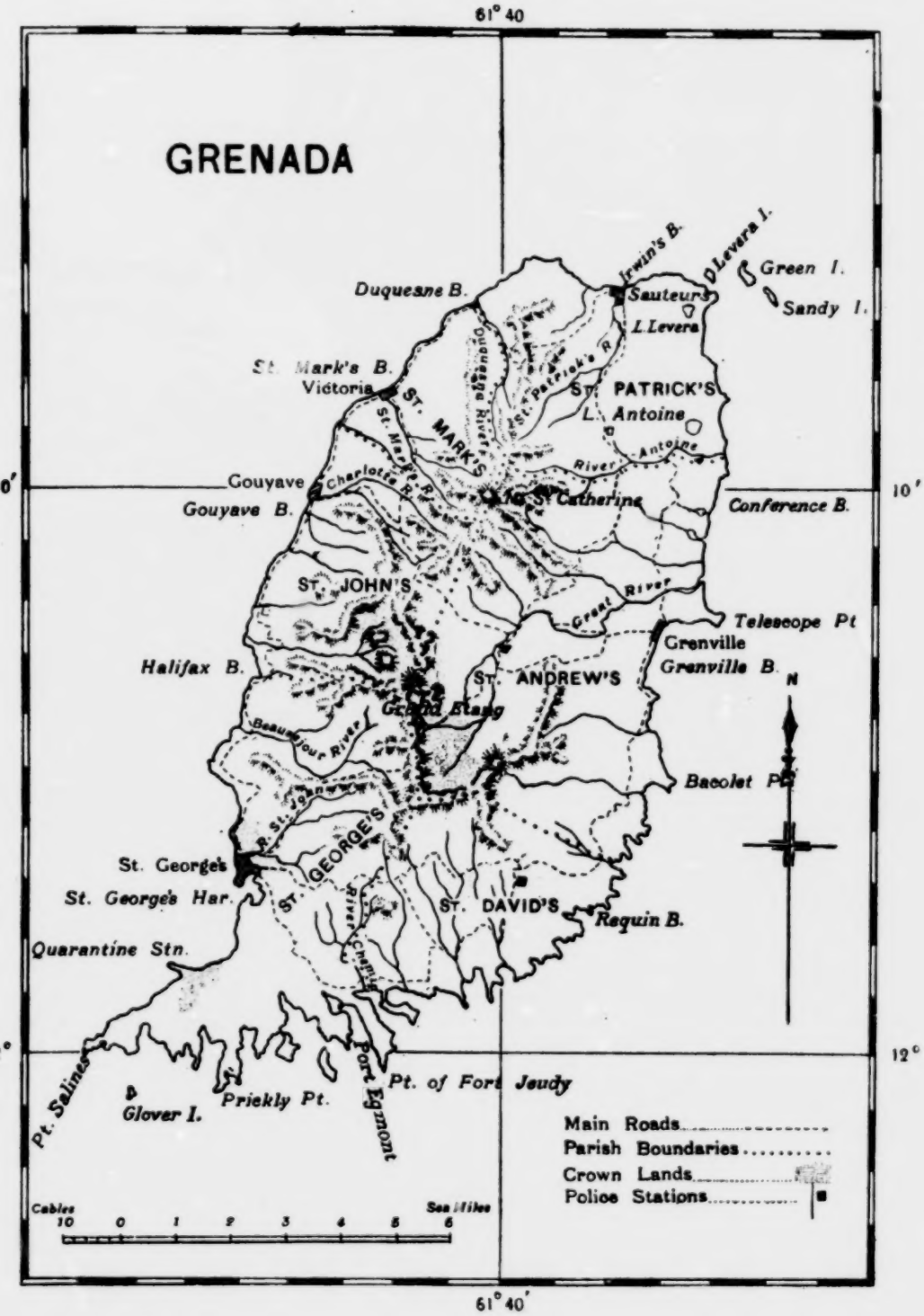
The Boy Scout and Girl Guide Organizations continue to progress.

There are now 15 troops of Scouts, Rovers, and Wolf Cub Packs. A Rover Sea Scout Crew has recently been started.

There are sixteen companies of Rangers, Girl Guides, and Brownies.

B. H. EASTER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

GRENADA,
14*th July*, 1930.



(8580—21) Wt. 18369—1603 500 12/30 P. St. G. 7/8

B

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929. (E.M.B. 18.) 9*d.* (11*d.*).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

[*Crown Copyright Reserved.*]

No. 1526.

ST. VINCENT

REPORT FOR 1930

(For Reports for 1928 and 1929 see Nos. 1436 and 1482 respectively (Price 9d. each).)

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.
1931.

Price 9d. net.

58-1526

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, AND MANDATED TERRITORIES. [Colonial No. 56.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

COLONIAL FILMS.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3630.] 6d. (7d.).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9d. (10d.).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9d. (10d.).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1929. [Colonial No 45.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 7d.).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928. [Cmd. 3268.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6s. (6s. 5d.).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3s. (3s. 2d.).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1930.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Geographical...	2
Historical	2
Language	3
Currency	3
Weights and Measures	3
Climate	3
I.—General	3
II.—Financial	5
III.—Production	6
IV.—Trade and Economics	9
V.—Communications	10
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	12
VII.—Public Works	13
VIII.—Public Health	13
IX.—Education	14
X.—Crown Lands and Surveys	15
XI.—Labour	15
XII.—Miscellaneous	15
Map.	

Geographical.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

Historical.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Currency.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas), and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony.

Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78° F. to 85° F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above sea-level, was 69·30 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 2·01 inches on 24th July.

I.—GENERAL.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Seton James, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., proceeded on leave of absence on 23rd May, prior to retirement.

In May, 1930, the Administrator of St. Vincent proceeded to Grenada, the seat of Government of the Windward Islands, to administer the Government thereof, pending the arrival of the newly appointed Colonial Secretary of Grenada, the Honourable H. R. R. Blood, who administered the Government of the Windward Islands from 5th June until the return of His Honour Charles W. Doorly, C.B.E., Administrator of St. Lucia, from leave on 3rd August, by whom the Government of the Windward Islands was administered

until the arrival of the newly-appointed Governor, His Excellency Sir Thomas Alexander Vans Best, K.B.E., C.M.G., late Lieutenant-Governor of Malta, on 25th September.

The Acting Governor, His Excellency H. R. R. Blood, visited St. Vincent from 18th to 23rd July.

His Excellency Sir Thomas Alexander Vans Best, K.B.E., C.M.G., paid a brief visit to the Colony on 4th December, chiefly in connection with the Horticultural, Industrial, and Animal Show which was held on the same date.

The Administrator of St. Vincent proceeded on leave of absence in June and the Honourable J. H. Jarrett, Attorney-General of Grenada, acted as Administrator from 14th May to 20th November, when Administrator H. Peebles returned.

The Inspector-General of the West Indian Local Forces visited the island on 24th April remaining six days, during which period he inspected the Local Forces.

It was with deep feelings of regret that news was received of the death of Brigadier-General G. C. Grazebrook C.M.G., D.S.O., Inspector-General of the West Indian Local Forces, in July.

In April, the United States Ships *Richmond* and *Memphis* paid a visit to the Colony, remaining some nine days. The greatest harmony existed between the Ships' company and the inhabitants. The visit of these two men-of-war was of great benefit to the island financially owing to the heavy purchases of fruit, vegetables, and stock by them.

On the 19th December the Arrowroot Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council as a private Bill but a Government measure. £33,000 was granted by the Colonial Development Fund to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association—£3,000 of this to be a free grant and £30,000 a loan free of interest for five years, to carry interest at 5 per cent. thereafter and repayable within 20 years.

The St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association is a body corporate to market arrowroot, to regulate and control the export thereof, and to improve the conditions under which arrowroot produced in the Colony shall be grown, manufactured, graded, and sold, and, in particular, to obtain for small growers the full ultimate value for this product.

The following schemes for assistance were approved by the Colonial Development Advisory Fund Committee :—

	£
Extension of Road Reconstruction Programme ...	10,000
Installation of Incinerators in the Small Towns ...	660
Erection of Dispensaries at Colonarie and Troumaca	550
Removal of Leper Colony to Chateaubelair Islet ...	1,094
Extension of Chateaubelair Township	6,490
Concreting of open drains in Kingstown and Small Towns	1,846
Provision of water supplies in Small Towns and Villages	3,751

II.—FINANCIAL.

The Colony is to be congratulated on its sound financial position.

	£
Net surplus at 1st January, 1930	13,870
Revenue in 1930	76,602
	£90,472
Expenditure in 1930	69,769
Surplus at 31st December, 1930	£20,703

The Surplus Assets of £20,703 is comprised of Loans to Boards £2,032, Unallocated Public Works Stores and other Stores £5,172, and £6,000 being the unspent balance of the sum of £8,000 received on behalf of the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, thus leaving £7,499 Liquid Surplus Assets at the close of the year.

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1926	60,243	59,282
1927	56,469	61,564
1928	64,593	60,441
1929	64,090	70,786
1930	76,602	69,769

The increase in revenue of £12,512 was mainly due to Excise Duty on rum—the increase of local production obviated importation—and £8,000 advanced towards the loan of £30,000 and a grant of £3,000 by the Colonial Development Fund.

The total expenditure for the year was £4,796 in excess of that estimated, but £1,017 less than the expenditure in 1929. The excess in expenditure over the Estimates was mainly due to increased pensions and amount advanced on behalf of the Colonial Development Fund to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association.

The principal items of revenue in the last five years were :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Import duties ...	26,683	24,649	28,137	26,440	28,484
Export duties ...	2,959	2,587	2,849	2,784	2,639
Excise duty on rum ...	6,479	4,685	4,137	5,183	6,700
Land and House Tax ...	4,124	3,442	5,760	6,640	6,576
Income Tax	3,014	2,480	2,702	3,055	2,677
Postage stamps ...	1,774	1,875	3,695	1,769	1,767
Liquor trade duty ...	3,013	2,820	3,127	2,710	3,148

The Public Debt of the Colony on the 1st January, 1930, was £38,650, of which £810 was redeemed during the year, made up as follows :—

	£	£
Debenture Holders—		
Colony's share	5,900	
Kingstown Board's share	2,240	
	——	8,140
Crown Agents Intercolonial Loan for Electric Light, Telephone, and Road Reconstruction, 1929		25,510
Colonial Development Fund for the Co-operative Arrowroot Association, 1930		5,000
		38,650
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of the above :—		
Colony's share	4,965	
Kingstown Board's share	871	
	——	5,836
Thereby leaving a net Public Debt of		32,814

The Loans raised during the year were :—

Kingstown Board for Additional Water Supply (Local)	1,400
St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, from Colonial Development Fund	5,000
	£6,400

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, 1903, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future disaster. The interest derived from this, namely, £750 per annum, is applied to the relief of the poor. This amount plus the Colony's Reserve Fund of £16,033 offers security both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

The Public Property Insurance Fund started during 1926 stands at £2,880.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Cotton.—Export of Sea Island cotton was good considering the small area planted under this crop. The yield was at the rate of 150 lb. per acre for the 1929–30 crop, when 1,758 acres were planted.

256,167 lb. of lint were exported ; this was 26,736 lb. less than 1929. The decrease was due to the small area planted.

Export of Marie Galante lint was 67,267 lb. In addition 49,316 lb. of seed cotton were exported. Converting seed cotton into terms of

lint, we find that 79,596 lb. were exported in 1930 and 87,484 lb. in 1929.

The area under cotton during 1930 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines was 3,955 acres of Sea Island and 1,041 acres of Marie Galante —as compared with 2,867 acres—1,758 of Sea Island and 1,109 of Marie Galante in 1929.

Arrowroot.—3,590,348 lb. of arrowroot were exported valued at £59,019. This shows a slight increase of 16,589 lb. when compared with that exported in 1929. The United Kingdom took 1,496,330 lb. and the United States 1,084,536 lb., figures very much on a par with those for 1929. The remainder of the crop was sent to Barbados, Canada, Germany, France, Curacoa, and islands of the British West Indies.

Since the writing of the last report the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association has been inaugurated to handle arrowroot in the same manner as wheat is handled by the Canadian Wheat Pool. Since its inauguration it has gained the confidence of arrowroot growers.

Sugar.—There was a decrease in the quantity of sugar and syrup exported. 819 tons of sugar valued at £9,209 and 183,786 gallons of syrup valued at £7,360 were exported. Sugar shows a decrease of 573,440 lb. and syrup 104,155 gallons over that of 1929. This was to be expected when one considers the condition of the world's sugar market. The manufacture of sugar was not profitable but the by-product, rum, helped to keep the industry alive. The market value of sugar was a little over £11 per ton.

Coconuts.—The production of copra was very much on a par with that of 1929. In 1930, 1,810 167 lb. of copra were produced, whilst in 1929, 1,879,558 lb. Returns from orchard crops vary from year to year and in the future an increased production on a par with that of recent years may be looked for. No doubt the severe drought accounted for the slight decrease. Copra was valued at £14 per ton.

Of the minor products there was an increase in the quantity of cassava starch, maize, peas, and beans produced.

In 1929, 2,776 proof gallons of rum were exported, in 1930 this has risen to 9,195 gallons.

The name of the Peasants' Bureau was changed to that of Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. During 1930 this Institute exported 1,794 crates of avocado pears, tomatoes, grape fruit, limes, mangoes, oranges, etc. In addition 15,036 lb. of cabbages, eschalots, guava jelly, onions, peanuts, etc., were shipped, and 765 gallons of lime juice and 10 lb. of honey were exported. Excellent reports were received from England on samples of canned tomatoes sent to that country.

The appended table shows the comparative amount of the annual exports of the principal commodities during the last five years :—

Articles.	1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.		1930.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£
Arrowroot ... ... lb.	3,291,553	45,807	3,195,478	53,309	3,870,420	64,508	3,573,759	59,563	3,590,348	59,019
Cassava Starch ... ,,	443,075	4,077	543,681	4,940	392,610	3,272	551,512	4,596	562,327	4,688
Cotton—Sea Island... ,,	589,499	63,175	446,274	39,204	349,246	28,549	282,903	24,261	256,167	30,377
Do.—Marie Galante ,,	30,275	1,514	53,381	2,669	36,214	1,358	63,274	2,373	67,267	2,523
Seed Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	56,092	468	108,999	1,250	35,858	312	97,069	701	49,316	306
Cocoa... ... ... ,,	174,599	2,461	135,490	2,267	179,918	2,998	156,405	2,928	180,373	3,761
Copra... ... ... ,,	762,563	9,826	1,198,441	10,083	1,505,093	12,543	1,879,558	11,396	1,810,167	11,312
Sugar—unrefined ... tons	—	—	840,000	6,947	2,080,960	14,190	1,075	14,095	819	9,209
Syrup and Molasses... gal.	337,099	16,523	171,063	10,459	167,044	9,478	287,941	12,586	183,786	7,360
Cotton Seed ... ... lb.	88,106	398	151,903	1,266	110,728	214	50	1	—	—
Peanuts ... ... ,,	190,978	2,370	263,509	3,219	334,098	4,176	358,890	4,486	288,980	3,610
Peas—Dried... ... ,,	50,185	476	38,719	352	96,386	876	176,791	1,671	215,827	1,816
Firewood ... cords	208	178	240	221	434	260	48	33	104	109
Whale Oil ... ... gal.	1,964	148	132	24	2,755	360	1,076	117	399	51
Cotton Seed Oil ... ,,	5,180	583	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hides and Skins ...	—	221	—	221	—	412	2,705	417	3,187	277
Vegetables, Fresh ...	—	2,107	—	1,915	—	3,468	—	3,148	—	2,591
Spices—Nutmegs ... lb.	20,190	887	21,025	695	17,623	709	18,345	764	33,299	1,120
Other kinds ,,	5,062	333	5,817	255	4,599	419	5,629	645	8,712	828
Corn ... ... ,,	91,059	388	98,879	618	49,982	299	42,032	239	47,925	210
Animals	—	5,243	—	4,398	—	6,931	—	4,875	—	5,156
Lime Juice ... ... gal.	10	1	—	—	—	—	635	39	765	47
Fruit—Fresh ...	—	290	—	328	—	388	—	1,062	—	507
Various, unspecified...	—	946	—	1,175	—	164	—	1,574	—	6,860
		£158,420		£145,815		£155,884		£151,570		£151,737

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. Island Produce.	Exports. Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1926	203,606	158,420	4,489	162,909
1927	172,097	145,213	602	145,815
1928	192,476	155,884	2,588	158,472
1929	186,439	151,207	363	151,570
1930	200,830	146,704	5,033	151,737

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	67,425	55,812	62,335	58,030	73,802
Canada	45,373	40,540	45,787	49,382	43,763
British West Indies ...	10,896	12,789	11,873	11,350	15,091
India	3,476	1,229	1,098	888	1,199
Newfoundland	6,071	4,471	5,301	5,106	4,473
Ceylon	62	107	324	397	451
Other British Colonies ...	3,816	5,126	8,730	10,459	9,395
United States of America	46,737	36,663	44,127	37,645	39,008
France	2,845	1,485	3,189	3,424	3,597
Denmark	450	774	857	693	752
Germany	1,875	1,836	1,741	2,169	2,162
Holland	675	582	999	1,011	1,285
Foreign West Indies ...	550	1,003	720	384	329
Other Countries	3,266	3,494	3,812	4,110	3,308
Unclassified, including Parcel Post.	10,089	6,186	*1,583	*1,391	*1,915
	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439	£200,830

* Does not include Parcel Post.

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	71,423	64,104	69,274	70,301	71,715
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	19,402	16,735	18,075	16,792	18,785
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	102,521	84,954	103,192	97,810	108,083
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	10,260	6,304	1,925	1,536	2,247
Class V.—Bullion and Specie.	—	—	10	—	—
	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439	£200,830

The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	33·12	32·43	32·38	31·12	36·75
United States of America	22·95	21·30	22·93	20·19	19·43
Canada	22·28	23·56	23·79	26·49	21·79
All other Countries ...	21·65	22·71	20·90	22·20	22·03

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

Country of destination.	*1926.* £	*1927.* £	*1928.* £	*1929.* £	*1930.* £
United Kingdom	92,576	68,452	68,930	62,000	64,800
Canada	10,992	10,276	16,435	15,446	15,816
Bermuda	221	305	292	434	429
British West Indies ...	36,716	35,619	39,653	41,252	38,814
British Guiana	649	747	272	788	532
United States of America	20,613	28,491	30,628	25,580	24,683
Other Countries	1,142	1,925	2,262	6,070	6,663

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total number of vessels entered for the year was 454, of a total tonnage of 634,407, as compared with 428, of 491,825 tonnage, in the previous year.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 218 as compared with 169 in 1929, showing an increase of tonnage in 1930 of 144,282 tons.

The total number of vessels cleared was 454, of a total tonnage of 635,502 tons, as compared with 430 of 490,766 tons in 1929.

The Colony is now served by a regular fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

The steamers of the Harrison, Furness Withy, Trinidad and Ocean Dominion lines paid calls during the year.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Roads.

The road system of the island consists of 34 miles of highway on the windward side from Kingstown to Georgetown and 28 miles on the leeward side from Kingstown to Chateaubelair.

The road from Kingstown to Georgetown on the windward side of the island is now being reconstructed and oiled. Thus in the near future an excellent motor road will be established. It is now possible to drive by motor car from Kingstown to Chateaubelair. About £3,300 is being spent on reconstruction and oiling on the leeward road.

The highway on the windward side is the main artery of traffic owing to the coast line having no facilities for shipping.

On the leeward side the sea is the natural and economical highway for produce. A sum of £10,000 was obtained from the Colonial Development Fund for the extension of road reconstruction and oiling, thus augmenting the loan of £10,000 raised during 1929.

There are some 280 miles of by-ways which act as feeders from the interior to the main roads. Special attention is being paid to these by-ways for the purpose of cart transport.

Postal.

The Central Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony.

There are 18 Post Offices in all in the Colony, including the Post Offices in the Lesser Grenadines of Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, and Union Island.

The mails on the windward portion of the island are conveyed to the eight Post Offices by motor mail car leaving Kingstown every other day and returning to Kingstown every other day.

There is a daily conveyance of mails to the leeward portion of the island by motor launch throughout the year.

A weekly service is maintained to the four out islands, but mails for the Lesser Grenadines are conveyed as often as sea transport is available.

198 steamers and 76 vessels brought mails to the Colony.

At present little use is made of the air mail service from Trinidad and St. Lucia.

There is no inland telegraph service but a very reliable telephone service exists throughout the Colony.

The West India and Panama Telegraph Company and the Pacific Cable Board have been merged into the Imperial and International Communications Limited.

The revenue derived from the Postal Department was £2,199, whilst the expenditure was £1,741.

Telephones.

The Government maintains a telephone system which links up Kingstown, the capital, with two exchanges in the windward district and one in the leeward district.

There are 142 private lines and 85 to Government Offices.

Approximately 200 miles of line is maintained. The work of reconstructing the system in Kingstown from the old earth return system to metallic return is being carried out and should be completed early in 1931.

The revenue derived from the telephone system was £1,205, whilst expenditure amounted to £1,452.

Electric Light.

This Department was formed on 1st February, 1930, and includes two branches—Electricity and Telephones—under the control of the Resident Engineer. The work of the Electricity Branch is, at present, purely constructional. It is anticipated that the town of Kingstown will be supplied with electric light early in 1931.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(*a*) Justice.

Eleven criminal cases were tried by the Supreme Court. Nine actions were filed in the Supreme Court. Only eight appeals from the Magistrates' decisions were filed. The number of Causes filed in the Summary Jurisdiction amounted to 33, as compared with 23 in 1929.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 1, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 490. 843 persons were charged in 1930 as against 706 in 1929. Fines collected amounted to £151, an increase of £18 on the preceding year.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 2, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 1,124 as compared with 1,314 in 1929. 1,335 persons were charged as against 1,081 in 1929, and 1,186 were convicted. Fines amounted to £327.

(*b*) Police.

The strength of the Force remained as in 1929, namely two officers and 51 other ranks. The general health of the Force was good and the discipline was at a high standard. The Force was inspected by the Inspector-General, West Indian Local Forces, once during the year and reported upon favourably. Fire drills were carried out weekly and all hydrants and fire appliances were regularly inspected. An increase of the rates of pay affecting all non-commissioned officers and the twenty senior constables was approved by the Secretary of State to take effect from 1st June. Thus the St. Vincent Police Force has been placed on an equal footing with the Police Forces in the other islands of the Windward Group.

The total expenditure was £4,700.

(*c*) Prisons.

The staff of the Prison consisted of :—

Superintendent of Prisons.
Keeper of Prisons.
1 Chief Warder.
1 Baker Warder.
3 Warders.
1 Clerical Assistant and Relief Warder.
1 Matron in charge of Female Prison.

The highest number of prisoners at any one time was 36, the lowest 15.

The daily average was 23·20.

The health of the prisoners was good throughout the year and discipline good.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year the items of most importance were the removal of the Carib settlement from the river bank at Rose Bank to adjacent land at Darvue, and the construction of two concrete jetties at Barrouallie and Chateaubelair to replace the wooden ones. The construction of a concrete jetty at Cumberland was also commenced.

Buildings.

Considerable and much-needed work was carried out on primary school buildings. The usual minor repairs to all Government buildings were carried out.

Water Supply.

The work of supplying Troumaca with a pipe-borne water supply was carried out and extended to Rose Hall and Rose Bank Villages.

Storm Damage.

The Colony was exceptionally lucky as regards damage from the elements. For the first time in six years no storm damage took place during the year.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Colony at 31st December, 1930, was 53,228.

The birth-rate for the year was 35·34 per thousand, as against 35·31 per thousand in 1929.

Legitimate births numbered 498, and illegitimate births 1,383, the percentage of illegitimate births being 73·5 as against 72·9 in 1929.

The death-rate per thousand for the year was 15·07 as compared with 19·41 in 1929.

The deaths of infants under one year (exclusive of still-births) numbered 166, as against 257 in 1929.

There were 110 still-births, of which 17 were legitimate and 93 illegitimate.

There were 10 cases of enteric fever during the year, as against 11 in 1929 and 10 in 1928.

There were 379 cases of influenza recorded with 5 deaths.

There were 1,060 cases of diarrhoea in children with 65 deaths in the districts.

The district returns show 458 cases of malaria with 9 deaths. 11 cases with one death were admitted into the Colonial Hospital.

A course of lectures and demonstrations was given during the year for those desirous of qualifying as Sanitary Inspectors. Seven candidates took the course, 6 qualified and received local certificates of efficiency. The entire staff of Sanitary Inspectors is now qualified.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is free but not compulsory.

On 31st December, 1930, there were 35 schools ; of these 11 belong to the Government which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the remaining 24 schools. The salaries of all teachers and the equipment of both Government and Denominational Schools are met from General Revenue.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1928, 1929, and 1930 :—

	1928.	*1929.*	*1930.*
Number of Schools	30	30	35
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	6,620	7,083	8,573
Average attendance	3,410	3,757	4,690
Government Grant-in-aid	£4,066	£4,281	£5,632
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 3*s.* 10*d.*	£1 2*s.* 9*d.*	£1 4*s.* 0*d.*

The increase in the number of pupils on the roll is due to the fact that the school-going age is lengthened by one year. Pupils are admitted at the age of 4, instead of at 5, as in the past.

The number in average attendance in 1930 was a little better than that in 1929. The chief factors militating against average attendance are employment of child-labour, and indifference of some parents and pupils.

The additional 5 schools which were formerly not regarded as Regular Schools are now classified as Infant Schools.

Two scholarships are provided by the Government, one for boys and one for girls, open to pupils of primary schools and tenable for four years at the Grammar School and the Girls' High School respectively.

The Government maintain and finance two secondary schools—the Grammar School and the Girls' High School. Fees charged at each school are at the rate of £2 per term. At 31st December the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 54 and at the Girls' High School was 69.

There is an island scholarship of the annual value of £250. This is awarded biennially, and is tenable for not less than three years and not more than five years at an approved University. The cost of passages to and from England is also defrayed.

The Town Board of Kingstown also award two scholarships of the annual value of £6 each. (One for boys at the Grammar School and one for girls at the Girls' High School).

All the Government and Denominational School buildings were painted during the year. The interiors of all were brightened with Empire Marketing Board posters. Nearly all school buildings need enlargement, many being congested.

There are also 10 private schools in the Colony, the most important being that of Mr. J. P. Eustace, with an average attendance of 18 boys and 5 girls.

X.—CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The revenue collected during the year totalled £853.

Arrears amounted to £305. These arrears are largely due to market depression and will be paid up during the coming year.

In 1929 arrears amounted to £271.

One hundred and eighty-two Title Deeds were issued.

No surveys were made by surveyors in private practice.

Ten surveys were carried out by the Government Department.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigration of indentured labour in the Colony.

The average wage of a labourer on an estate in St. Vincent is 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day and certain perquisites, such as mountain garden lands and the keeping of stock on the estate. Task work on the estates, whereby the labourer can easily earn up to 2*s.* a day, is more popular than daily work. By far the greater part of work on estates is done by women who receive from 6*d.* to 9*d.* per day.

In spite of the general world depression, unemployment among the labouring classes may be said to be negligible.

Labourers in large numbers returned from the oil refineries in Curacoa and the sugar estates of Cuba and Santo Domingo, but were able to find employment on the roads which are undergoing reconstruction and on the cotton plantations where larger crops are being put under cultivation. The help afforded by the expenditure of grants and loans from the Colonial Development Fund should maintain the level for some time.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Banks.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is the only bank in the Colony.

The Government maintains a Savings Bank and pays interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

Agricultural Credit Societies.

There are at present only four Agricultural Credit Societies. The whole question is being carefully gone into and the services of Professor Shephard of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture and Mr. G. A. Jones, Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture for the

West Indies, are being obtained with a view to starting new credit societies on a sound, progressive, and business footing. In no Colony in the West Indies are there brighter opportunities for the establishment of Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies than in St. Vincent. The Colony, owing to land settlement schemes and the keenness of the average peasant to settle on the land, is admirably suited to the successful establishment of these Societies. The failure in the past has been entirely due to lack of proper organization and administration.

Government Cotton Ginnery.

The purchase of Sea Island cotton and corn on a profit-sharing system is still carried out by the Government Cotton Ginnery and is greatly appreciated by the peasant proprietors.

Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

A Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau was inaugurated by the Government during 1929, and has proved a success. The Bureau purchases, and ships to England, Canada, etc., every kind of fruit and vegetable brought in by the inhabitants, charging 10 per cent. for handling.

Map.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

H. PEEBLES,
Administrator.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SAINT VINCENT,

23*rd April*, 1931.

(10630—21) Wt 5015—372 500 7/31 P. St. G 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929. (E.M.B. 18.) 9*d.* (11*d.*).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

[*Crown Copyright Reserved.*]

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1541.

GRENADA

REPORT FOR 1930

For Reports for 1928 and 1929 see Nos. 1443 and 1511 respectively (Price 9d. each.).

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.
1931.

Price 9d. net.

58-1541

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, AND MANDATED TERRITORIES. [Colonial No. 56.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

COLONIAL FILMS.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3630.] 6d. (7d.).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9d. (10d.).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9d. (10d.).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1929. [Colonial No 45.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 7d.).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928. [Cmd. 3268.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6s. (6s. 5d.).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3s. (3s. 2d.).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1930.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
Introduction :—		
	Geographical	2
	Historical	3
	Climate	3
	Language	4
	Currency	4
	Weights and Measures	4
I.	General	4
II.	Finance	5
III.	Production	7
IV.	Trade and Economics	9
V.	Communications	10
VI.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	11
VII.	Public Works	11
VIII.	Public Health	12
IX.	Educational Progress	14
X.	Land and Survey	15
XI.	Labour	15
XII.	Legislation	16
XIII.	Miscellaneous	16
	Map.	

INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Historical.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ring-leaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to the end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period the climate, although not really unhealthy, may be described as debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available, fans are gradually being introduced into houses and offices.

The highest temperature in 1930 was 90° on several days, and the lowest 70° also on several days. The mean of maximum temperature was 89° and the mean of minimum 71°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1930 was 54.06 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 72.27 inches.

Language.

The only language spoken is English. A small and decreasing number of agricultural labourers in the country districts speak a corrupt patois of English and French, but all understand and speak English.

Currency.

The currency is the same as in Great Britain, the monetary units being the same. Silver, however, is legal tender without limit, and there are also in circulation bank notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada of five dollars denomination. One or two of the business houses keep their accounts in dollars and cents, but the Government accounts are in sterling.

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures are of the Imperial standard except in the case of motor spirit, which is sold by the wine or American gallon.

Government is, however, taking steps to cause motor spirit to be sold by the imperial gallon from the beginning of 1932.

I.—GENERAL.

The prices of cocoa and nutmegs continued to fall throughout the year resulting in a shortfall of £4,495 in the estimated revenue. The total expenditure for the year, including expenditure under the Colonial Development Fund and special expenditure from surplus funds exceeded the actual revenue by £26,142.

The total assets on 31st December, including the reserve fund of £50,000, amounted to £97,532.

The first operations under the Colonial Development Fund were carried out during the course of the year, consisting of the reconditioning of six miles of the Western Main Road.

The oiling of the Eastern Road was continued.

The old female prison was transformed into a Government quarter, and a house was built on the Mount Royal site for the Colonial Secretary.

A building for a Fruit and Vegetable Bureau was constructed.

The Electricity Department operated successfully throughout the year.

Sir Thomas Alexander Vans Best, K.B.E., C.M.G., was appointed Governor of the Windward Islands, in succession to Sir F. S. James, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., in April, and assumed the duties of the Colony

on 25th September. Sir F. S. James went on leave from 20th May, and during the interregnum the Government of the Windward Islands was administered by Major H. W. Peebles, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Mr. H. R. R. Blood, M.A., who was appointed Colonial Secretary of Grenada in April; and by Mr. C. W. Doorly, C.B.E.

Mr. B. H. Easter, B.A., M.B.E., administered the Government of the Island from 16th January, 1930, to 2nd April, and from 17th to 23rd July, 1930; and acted as Colonial Secretary for various periods between January and July.

Mr. J. H. Jarrett, Attorney-General, and Mr. K. T. Rae, Superintendent of Agriculture, were appointed in January and February respectively.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue.

The total revenue for the year amounted to £141,946.

The following table shows the total revenue during the past five years, with separate particulars of direct and indirect taxation :—

Year.	*Import Duties.*	*Export duties, Income Tax and other direct taxation.*	*Other Sources.*
	£	£	£
1926	62,471	64,704	21,271
1927	68,523	66,473	20,512
1928	71,434	61,905	20,531
1929	70,763	64,192	23,347
1930	64,100	52,158	25,688

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £168,088, being more than the revenue by £26,142.

The following table gives a comparison of revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus.*	*Deficit.*
	£	£	£	£
1926	148,447	119,001	29,446	—
1927	155,508	131,413	24,095	—
1928	153,870	131,244	22,626	—
1929	158,302	138,193	20,109	—
1930	141,946	168,088	—	26,142

No change took place during the year in the method of raising revenue.

The expenditure for the year 1930 includes £6,639 on Public Works Extraordinary; £6,655 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act; and £11,061 on Special Expenditure.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1930, was £97,532, comprising the following :—

	£
Invested Reserve Fund	50,000
Loan to Central Water Authority ...	15,045
Loans to District Boards	1,208
Public Works Stores	4,140
Colony Drug Stores	1,738
Electricity and Telephone Stores ...	2,817
Land Settlement Advances	406
Queen's Park Pavilion Advances ...	1,022
Other surplus assets in liquid or readily available form	21,156
	£97,532

Public Loans.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments, at the end of 1930, was £152,625.

The particulars of the loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock (Colony's share)	113,489	0	9
Do. (District Board's share) ...	10,180	19	3
	123,670	0	0
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	76,110	0	0
	199,780	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan ...	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water Supply Extension Loan	3,598	19	5
	250,996	11	4
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	98,371	5	4
Net indebtedness	£152,625	6	0

Debentures under the local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £2,850 were redeemed during the year.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for over 51 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crops exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1926	83,384	223,290
1927	100,478	305,640
1928	91,444	274,461
1929	90,987	210,082
1930	84,863	192,543

Owing to the prevalence of low prices there was a heavy fall in the value of cocoa exported.

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1926	22,702	127,000
1927	21,238	103,444
1928	19,620	87,965
1929	22,666	100,323
1930	19,972	67,794

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1926	3,679	49,490
1927	3,733	59,145
1928	3,141	49,260
1929	3,765	55,766
1930	567	41,395

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to improve the cultivation.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1926	3,157	14,040
1927	3,788	15,890
1928	2,568	10,735
1929	2,945	14,905
1930	3,256	15,395

Various subsidiary crops are grown, principally sugar, lime, and coconuts. Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and importation of raw sugar amounted in 1930 to 2,366,368 lb., of the value of £12,629.

The values of lime and coconut products exported in 1930 were £10,059 and £4,278 respectively.

An attempt is now being made to develop a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada. It has to be remembered that the remaining fertile land not already under profitable cultivation is limited, and development of new cultivation to any great extent could only be at the expense of uprooting other permanent crops.

Rum is manufactured at thirteen sugar estates, but none is exported, the production being barely equal to the demand for local consumption. The quantity made last year was 45,671.5 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a factory in St. George's, aided by a subsidy from the Government.

Forestry.

A Forestry Board is constituted under an Ordinance, and looks after the preservation of rainfall by protecting mountain ridges from being denuded. There is power under the Forestry Ordinance to declare rain reserves, the owners of the mountainous areas so dealt with being compensated by remission of land tax. A Forest Reserve of 2,485 acres is established on Crown Lands at Grand Etang near the centre of the island. The area is too small and too inaccessible for growing timber at a profit.

Mining.

There are no mines of any kind.

Fisheries.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £705,311. mports representing £348,557 and exports £356,760, leaving an apparent favourable trade balance of £8,203.

IMPORTS.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

Article.	*1930.* £	*1929.* £	*1928.* £
Flour	41,999	47,743	46,069
Cotton piece-goods	25,812	29,645	29,091
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	15,946	24,821	18,883
Fish, dried	13,991	18,488	17,944
Rice	13,209	14,720	11,731
Boots and shoes	7,412	11,749	10,083
Sugar, unrefined	12,629	10,086	10,123
Motor spirits	8,603	9,964	9,842
Hardware	5,810	8,144	9,681
Motor cars	7,362	7,185	10,775
Motor parts	5,695	7,174	8,635
Kerosene oil	5,849	7,111	7,731

EXPORTS.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under :—

Article.	*1930.* £	*1929.* £	*1928.* £
Cocoa	192,543	210,082	274,461
Spices, nutmegs	67,794	100,323	87,965
Do. mace	41,395	55,766	49,260
Cotton, raw	15,395	14,905	10,735
Cotton seed	4,286	4,119	1,850
Lime oil	6,971	10,976	1,261

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1930 may be seen fro.n the following table :—

	Imports. £	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	117,716	34·0	164,700	46·1
United States of America ...	59,446	17·0	109,355	30·7
Canada	77,094	22·1	58,266	16·3
Other British Possessions ...	67,823	19·4	23,422	6·6
Other Foreign Countries ...	26,472	7·5	1,011	·3

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 34.4 and 39.5 respectively.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail passenger and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about ten to fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad and Barbados and other neighbouring islands.

The yawl *Sulaire*, purchased in 1929 by the Governments of Grenada and St. Vincent, was sold during 1930. Communication between Grenada and St. Vincent via the Grenadines and Carriacou was carried on to the end of the year by the sloop *Carib*, and a subsidized auxiliary vessel.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board is established in St. George's, and communicates direct with Barbados.

A subsidiary wireless station is installed at Carriacou and communicates with Grenada.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, at present under reconstruction without interruption of business, has been established by Government for many years. There are seven exchanges and 1,457 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1930 was 785.

The island is well supplied by a good system of main roads and by-ways kept in good repair by six motor road-rollers. All the main roads and practically all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic. The mileage of main roads is 115 and of by-ways 274.

There is a regular service of motor-buses between all the towns.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(i) Justice.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. Thus in the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,550, as compared with an average of 2,588 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,550, the number of summary convictions was 1,815 and that of convictions in the Supreme Court 26, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,816 summary convictions and 21 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 198 as against 163 in 1929, and 143 in 1928.

Four cases of homicide occurred during the year, three of which were committed for trial in the Supreme Court. Of these, one was found guilty of murder, but insane, one was convicted for manslaughter and the other was acquitted. There were no cases of offence against property with violence to the person.

(ii) Police.

The strength of the police force on 31st December, 1930, was one Officer in Command, one Inspector and 98 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 210, employed on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, administration of poor relief, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a Fire Brigade and Government Band are under its management and control.

(iii) Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year 114 persons were committed to the male prison and 37 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 34.5 and 3.5 respectively.

No deaths occurred ; the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Among the principal public works undertaken during the year were the completion of the Revenue and Post Office at Sauteurs and the extension of the Boys' Secondary School, the construction of a building for a Fruit and Vegetable Bureau, a Fire Station, Police Headquarters, a bridge over Tempe River, and the commencement of the building of Mount Royal and Sendall Residences. Seven and a half miles of main roads were oiled, and the reconditioning of the Western Main Road under the Colonial Development Fund was commenced, six miles being completed.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

With the exceptional drought during 1930—the driest year for thirty years—the effect of a small rainfall on public health was, on the whole, for good. The incidence of malaria was less, and although there was an epidemic of febrile respiratory catarrh, which might be called influenza, the incidence of respiratory diseases, such as pneumonia and bronchitis was not as high as in previous years. The mild epidemic of whooping-cough which started in 1929 was continued into the earlier part of the year, but its effects were slight, and added little to bronchial troubles among young children.

On the other hand, the absence of the usual heavy rains from July to November had a distinct influence on the incidence of intestinal diseases, especially among young children and infants, sending up the infant mortality rate to a degree not experienced for several years, through a number of deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis—much like "summer diarrhoea" during a hot dry summer in England. Enteric fever, which in 1929 had the lowest number of cases, 30, on record, was responsible for an increased number, 43 cases, owing to an outbreak of the disease starting among a large number of labourers employed in gangs on the Western Road repair scheme. There had only been 18 cases up to the end of September, and there were 25 more cases before Christmas. With the exception of seven cases directly associated with the labour gangs, the remaining sporadic cases were scattered over the town of St. George's and within a radius of two miles of the town. There was no epidemic, and measures of inoculation and sanitation with provision of pure water for the labour gangs soon terminated the outbreak, which was no doubt curtailed also by the heavy rain which fell in December.

Dysentery was not so prevalent during the year; there were only 16 cases notified—the lowest return on record.

The anti-malarial campaign—following on the receipt of the Report of the Rockefeller Malaria Survey of 1929, and an advisory visit by the Foundation's Malariologist, Dr. W. C. Earle, from Porto Rico—was started in July. The Medical Officer in charge of the campaign had been sent to Porto Rico to be instructed in field and laboratory work by the Bureau of Malaria Control there, and, on his return, his duties during the latter half of the year were the training of an anti-malarial team to carry out anti-larval measures with distribution of diluted Paris Green, and the instruction of District Nurses in the taking of blood films. A "zone of control" for these operations was laid out, on the advice of Dr. Earle, in the Grenville area, and the observations of the effect of Paris Green on anopheline breeding and the resulting incidence in malarial cases, as shown by blood examinations, were carried on up to the

end of the year. The period was too short in which to make any conclusive findings and it served principally as a period of training for the personnel employed.

The estimated population of the Colony was 76,967.

The birth-rate for 1930 was 32.63 per 1,000 and the death-rate was 15.8 per 1,000, the second lowest death-rate on record, the lowest being that of 1927, when the rate was 15.6 per 1,000.

Infant mortality showed a rate of 119 per 1,000 living births. The average rate for the previous ten years was 110.2, and the marked increase in 1930 was due principally to an increased number of deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis during the long drought. This increase would have been larger, had it not been for the care and attendance given to the infants of the poorer class by District Nurses, and in St. George's town by the nurse employed by the Maternity and Child Welfare League.

The number of infants certified by District Medical Officers to have been materially assisted in their first year of life by the District Nurses during 1930 was 670, or three times the number certified in 1928—the first year of the bonus scheme by which Nurses receive a *pro rata* bonus for each infant certified—and one-half as much again as the number certified in 1929.

Dr. A. J. R. O'Brien, C.M.G., M.C., M.D., D.P.H., visited Grenada in May, and as a result of his investigation great assistance for the advancement of schemes in connexion with public health improvements has been received in the form of grants from the Colonial Development Fund. These grants include :—

(1) £1,000 per annum for three years for drainage of swamps, as an anti-malarial measure ;

(2) £1,200 for new construction and improvements of District Visiting Stations ;

(3) £500 for new incinerator and steam disinfector ;

(4) £3,880 for hospital improvements—Colony Hospital and Bacteriological Laboratory £3,280, St. Andrew's Hospital £600 ;

(5) £450 for dental clinic ;

(6) £200 for a Visiting Station in the island of Petit Martinique.

Total ... £9,230.

In addition grants to an amount of £26,021 have been made for establishing new water supplies and for improvement and extension of existing supplies.

The hospitals and other medical institutions have functioned well throughout the year, and with the improvements to be carried out during 1931, the Colony Hospital (141 beds) and St. Andrew's

Hospital (24 beds) will be equipped for even better work than hitherto. Carriacou Hospital (24 beds), which was enlarged in 1929, receives patients not only for that island but also from Petit Martinique and the neighbouring St. Vincent Southern Grenadines.

The health of Europeans in Grenada is usually good, provided no liberties are taken with the ordinary rules of personal hygiene in a tropical climate, where the mean shade temperature never exceeds 85°F. and the average annual rainfall is 67 inches. Except for endemic diseases to which they are exposed largely through the slow development of an educated sanitary sense, the West Indian population enjoys for the majority a very good standard of health, and this has been improved during the last quinquennium.

IX.—EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education under the Presidency of the Director of Education.

Secondary.

There is a Government Secondary School (Boarding and Day) for boys at which the average attendance now averages about 130. Additional buildings have recently been acquired and the school now has a well-equipped science laboratory and gymnasium.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary school and the primary schools in a Manual Training Centre in St. George's.

The School now has its own playing fields.

Three secondary schools for girls receive a grant-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 80 to 120.

At the Matriculation Examination five out of the six candidates passed—one in the first and the remainder in the second division. Five boys and one girl passed the Cambridge School Certificate examination; twenty boys and eleven girls passed the Cambridge Junior.

The total expenditure by Government was £3,106.

Primary.

A new Primary Education Ordinance was drafted and the Code revised during the year. A Bill providing for pensions for head teachers has also been prepared.

The number of recognized primary schools remained the same, namely, 58.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1930 was 13,250, the average attendance being 8,260 or 62.3 per cent.

Plans for a new Model School in Carriacou have been drawn up.

Evening classes in shorthand and typewriting have been fairly well attended.

The total expenditure by the Government was £9,996.

X.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature is the number of small-holdings in Grenada. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various Land Settlement Schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The land holdings, according to the Tax Rolls, are as follows :—

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*
15,770	13,173	1,686	306	210	395

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

XI.—LABOUR.

Labour consists chiefly of employment on the estates—in working or ploughing the land, draining, weeding, cutlassing, pruning, manuring, and other land work, and reaping the produce. The labourers are employed in gangs, under personal charge and supervision. Labour is also employed on the public roads of the Colony on general repair and surface oiling work.

The rates of pay are approximately as follows :—

£3 to £8 per month for overseers.
2s. to 4s. per day for drivers.
1s. to 2s. per day for labourers.

The daily rates quoted above are usually for " task " work, which may be completed by quick workers in from 3 to 4 hours. Labourers seldom work two tasks in a day, preferring to cultivate their garden lots, which are generally given by the estate proprietors to those who own no land of their own.

Other labour includes masons, carpenters, mechanics, bootmakers and chauffeurs, the work generally not being of a high standard. The pay of these is approximately as follows :—Masons, carpenters, and mechanics, 2s. to 7s. per day ; chauffeurs, £3 to £5 per month.

XII.—LEGISLATION.

In the year 1930, 26 Ordinances were passed, 18 of which were amending Ordinances and Appropriation Ordinances (3); of the others the most important were the following :—

Electricity Supply Ordinance—No. 12, provides for electric light and electrical energy for the town of St. George and its environs.

Registration of Clubs Ordinance—No. 13, makes provision for the registration of clubs and the sale of intoxicating liquors therein.

Exportation of Fruit Ordinance—No. 22, provides for the establishment of a Government Bureau for the grading and packing of all fruit and vegetables to be exported from the Colony. The Bureau to be under Government supervision and all packages shipped therefrom to bear a Government label in order to give overseas markets a guarantee for reliable purchasing.

Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance—No. 26, follows generally the Imperial Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Act of 1930.

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

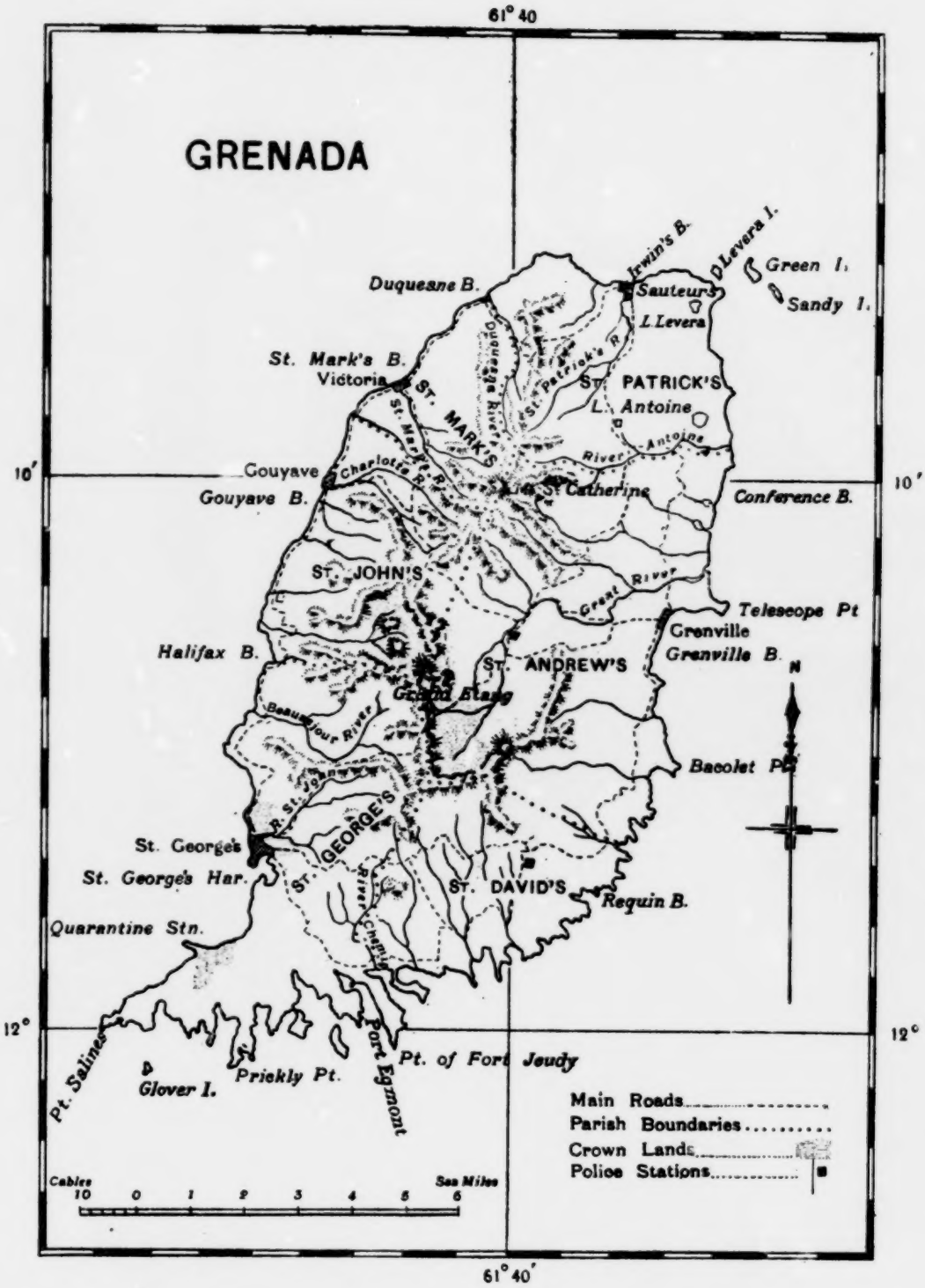
The Boy Scout and Girl Guide Organizations continue to progress.

There are now 15 Scout Groups which include Rovers, Wolf Cubs, and Sea Scouts.

There are 21 companies of Rangers, Girl Guides, and Brownies.

H. R. R. BLOOD,
Administrator.

GRENADA,
11*th July*, 1931.



(11690—21) Wt. 11679—980 500 9/31 P. St. G. 7/8

B

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929 (E.M.B. 18.) 9*d.* (11*d.*).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1552.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1930.

(For Reports for 1928 and 1929 see No. 1438 and No. 1495, respectively, Price 1s. 0d. each.)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1931.

Price 1s. 0d. net.

58-1552

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, AND MANDATED TERRITORIES. [Colonial No. 56.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

COLONIAL FILMS.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3630.] 6*d.* (7*d.*).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3261.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1929. [Colonial No 45.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE AND IN THE MACHINERY FOR DEALING WITH COLONIAL QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER, 1924, TO NOVEMBER, 1928. [Cmd. 3268.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s.* (6*s.* 5*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 2*d.*).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1930.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY	2
CLIMATE	3
VITAL STATISTICS	3
LANGUAGES	4
CURRENCY	4
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	4
I.—GENERAL	4
II.—FINANCE	5
III.—PRODUCTION	6
IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS	10
V.—COMMUNICATIONS	13
VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS	14
VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH	15
VIII.—EDUCATION	16
IX.—LABOUR	17
X.—MISCELLANEOUS	18
MAP.	

Geography and History.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island, and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

A note on the history of St. Lucia will be found in the Report for 1929—Colonial Reports No. 1495.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands.

The temperature seldom rises above 90° in the hot season, May to November, or falls below 70° in the cool season, December to May; the yearly average being about 83° noon shade temperature. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60°, and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

Temperature records during 1930 at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, show a mean noon temperature of 85.5° in the shade. The maximum temperature was 91° and the minimum 69°, a temperature range of 22°; air temperatures generally were higher.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1930 was 68.87 inches. This was 20.84 inches below the average for the last 40 years (89.71 inches). Maximum precipitation occurred on the 25th July, when 2.29 inches of rain fell at Castries. In the wetter parts of the Colony, however, the rainfall ranged from 1.70 inches to 5.04 inches on this date.

The rainfall throughout the year was below normal, low precipitation occurring during the usual wet season beginning in June, and continuing up to the end of the year. No severe drought took place owing to moderate showers throughout the dry season.

The weather generally was fine and warm with few storms.

Vital Statistics.

On 31st December, 1929, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 57,482—males, 26,801; females, 30,681. On 31st December, 1930, the figure increased to 58,494—males, 27,432; females, 31,062. The natural increase during 1930 was 1,074. The number of persons leaving the Colony exceeded the number of arrivals by 62. The net increase in population was therefore 1,012.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 250.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 130) totalled 2,151—males, 1,091; females, 1,060. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 34.5 per thousand of the population—an increase of 3.3 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,077—males, 519; females, 558. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 16.1 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 4.4 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were:—malaria, 35; pulmonary tuberculosis, 15; phthisis, 40; syphilis, 54; diseases of the heart, 68; bronchitis, 36; pneumonia, 25; gastro-enteritis, 73; worms, 97; infantile debility, 26; senile decay, 115; and debility, 38.

Languages.

English is, of course, the language of the Colony, but the large majority of the population speak a French patois. Notwithstanding the fact that primary education is imparted in English entirely it is still true that, in the elementary schools, most of the children have to be taught English before they can assimilate a knowledge of the rudiments of education. This is undoubtedly a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, but it can only be by persistent educational effort that the people as a whole will eventually learn to speak and think in the national language.

Currency.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10*s*. and 5*s*. are in circulation, as well as the notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

I.—GENERAL.

Owing to the depressed condition of the markets for most of the Colony's staple products, the year 1930 was one of great financial stringency. On the sugar estates especially retrenchment in every direction became essential and this resulted in much unemployment and in an appreciable diminution of the Colony's trade.

In spite of this, however, agriculture as a whole continued to develop, particularly in the direction of the cultivation of fruit and vegetables for export to the Canadian and other markets. An important step forward in this connexion was the enactment in September of a Fruit Inspection Ordinance providing for the proper grading and packing of fruit and vegetables prior to shipment. Plans were also laid for the establishment in Castries of a Central

Packing-house and Cold Storage out of a grant generously provided by the Colonial Development Fund Committee. Another indication of the growing importance of this promising young industry was the holding in St. Lucia, in December, of a Conference of delegates from neighbouring Colonies and the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture to consider questions connected with the co-ordination of the efforts of the various islands and the control generally of the fruit trade. Comprehensive and far-reaching recommendations were made by this Conference and if adopted they should go far towards starting the industry on a sound basis.

A very successful Agricultural Exhibition, the first for many years, was held in the grounds of the Botanical Gardens on the 3rd February. It was opened by the Governor, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.C.M.G., and was largely attended. The members of a delegation to the West Indies from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, who arrived in the Colony that day, were also present.

An important change in the administration of the law was the amalgamation, in October, in the interests of economy, of the offices of Chief Justice and Magistrate of the First District on the lines of a similar combination which has existed for many years, and has worked satisfactorily, in the neighbouring Colony of St. Vincent. Appeals from the Judge sitting as Magistrate are heard by a Commissioner, and the preliminary magisterial investigation in indictable cases is taken by an Assistant Magistrate.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.*	*Ordinary Expenditure.*	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.*
	£	£	£
1926	83,379*	84,488	1,109
1927	82,491†	84,219	1,728
1928	85,351‡	87,235	1,884
1929	83,139§	86,434	3,295
1930	82,588‖	91,453¶	8,865

* In addition, £70,180 was received as proceeds of the issue of a Debt Reduction Loan.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,000.

‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,836.

§ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,000.

‖ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £6,664 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £2,400 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

¶ Includes £5,140 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

Taxation was increased during 1930 by the Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance, increasing the import duties on sugar as follows :—

Refined—

From 4*s*. 2*d*. to 10*s*. 2*d*. per 100 lb. (British Preferential Tariff).
From 6*s*. 3*d*. to 15*s*. 4*d*. per 100 lb. (General Tariff).

Unrefined—

From 2*s*. 1*d*. to 5*s*. 1*d*. per 100 lb. (British Preferential Tariff).
From 3*s*. 2*d*. to 7*s*. 8*d*. per 100 lb. (General Tariff).

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £183,510 at the close of the year, being £2,500 less than at the 31st December, 1929, while the accumulated Sinking Fund for its redemption amounted to £61,057, as compared with £54,688 at the end of 1929.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The total value of agricultural produce exported in 1930 was £111,095 as against £129,031 in the previous year. This is the lowest export value since 1914, when it was £99,657. This is directly due to the low market prices of the important staples, sugar, cacao, limes, and coconuts, and not to any serious decline in production. Production was in fact well maintained under the very adverse conditions which existed.

The planting community are giving more attention to the cultivation of fresh fruit and vegetables. The erection of the Cold Storage and Packing Station which is to be undertaken and completed during 1931, will result on most estates in more extensive raising of fresh produce for marketing, as an auxiliary crop to the established staples. This tendency is shown in the gradual change taking place on cacao, lime, and coconut estates where fruit planting is being substituted for the usual extensions of those staples.

Sugar.—The area in sugar-cane remains at about 4,300 acres. This area includes land which, on some sugar estates, has been inter-planted with coconuts and on which sugar-cane will cease to be grown within the next few years. The crop for 1930 was good, the total amount of sugar manufactured being 5,153 tons as against 4,997 tons in 1929, although the export value was much lower. The average export price was £9 10*s*. 0*d*. per ton of sugar c.i.f., which was below the cost of production.

A larger quantity of factory molasses was made and exported or converted into rum, but little trade was done in fancy syrups by the smaller growers.

The following figures show the exported quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1926	95,140	65,444
1927	88,640	74,200
1928	82,000	63,050
1929	90,720	51,237
1930	91,352	45,289

Sugar (Muscovado).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1926	9,138	5,414
1927	3,560	2,235
1928	—	—
1929	—	—
1930	—	—

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1926	156,424	8,659
1927	156,050	7,634
1928	85,784	3,643
1929	127,273	3,047
1930	157,254	2,872

Rum.—The quantity and value of rum exported during the last five years is shown below :—

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gals.	*Value.* £
1926	37	11
1927	1,700	212
1928	1,323	218
1929	2,013	339
1930	1,583	278

Cacao.—The market for cacao continued poor generally throughout the year. The better grades realized from 45*s.* to 50*s.* per cwt. The crop was good, being favoured by drier weather, and an increased export is shown below. This crop is not now attractive to small growers in the coastal areas owing to the losses caused by disease and the failure to apply manures owing to low prices. In the highlands it continues to be planted in new land, with cash crops of

tannias and plantains. Whilst maintaining the standard of the established cacao, the larger growers are giving more attention to fresh fruit, and particularly to citrus.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1926	10,037	22,454
1927	12,183	30,560
1928	11,006	27,321
1929	8,906	18,864
1930	10,449	19,261

Limes.—Weather conditions were ideal for this crop, and a good crop season was experienced in spite of the disabling effect of falling markets. Concentrated lime juice fell in value from £20 to £9 per pipe c.i.f. Handpressed lime oil averaged 50*s*. per lb. and distilled lime oil 30*s*. per lb. throughout the year.

Calculated in barrels of green limes the crops for the last five years are :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1926	59,415
1927	58,948
1928	30,107
1929	37,345
1930	25,970

Coconuts.—The production of coconuts continues to increase and the exports of copra have correspondingly improved. Prices were poor, however, and the value of coconut products was lower than for the last four years. Copra averaged from £22 to £15 per ton c.i.f. during the year. A small beginning was made in exporting choice dry nuts to Canada, and this should be a useful alternative to copra making. Green water-nuts have also been shipped in cold storage. Coconuts and coconut products exported during the last five years are :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1926	118,501	381
1927	96,813	351
1928	141,667	499
1929	295,983	1,032
1930	268,078	862

Coconut Oil.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1926	19,081	3,847
1927	3,921	735
1928	931	184
1929	—	—
1930	—	—

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1926	1,591	1,808
1927	4,077	4,409
1928	6,301	8,690
1929	7,195	9,878
1930	8,002	7,428

Coconut Meal.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1926	42	778
1927	7	88
1928	4	38
1929	1½	6
1930	—	—

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The production and export of fruit and vegetables attracted more attention during the year, and was stimulated by the visits of Canadian brokers and importers. The following shipments were made :—

	Quantity exported to						*Value.*	
Article.	Canada.	Bermuda.	U.K.	U.S.A.	Other places.	Total.	1929.	1930.
							£	£
Green limes Brls.	40	509	66	1,169	24	1,808	1,758	3,218
Grapefruit Crates ...	54	163	10	—	19	246	21	65
Oranges ,, ...	97	299	—	—	Unknown.		129	223
Other Citrus ,, ...	25	49	—	—	—	74	—	40
Avocado Pears, crts.	111	1,357	—	—	160	1,628	225	366
Mangoes ,,	118	409	24	—	Unknown.		1,385	915
Pineapples ,,	5	31	2	—	11	49	83	18
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,560	1,573
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,159	6,418

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1930, as compared with 1929, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1930.	1929.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	65,569	78,740
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	55,212	60,484
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	65,600	97,952
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including Parcel Post.	6,871	7,577
Total value ...	£193,252	£244,753

The above table shows a decrease of £51,501 in the total imports for 1930 as compared with those of 1929. In Class I the articles principally accountable for the decrease were flour, £5,906 ; unrefined sugar, £1,446 ; and dried or smoked fish, £1,330. In Class II coal was down £3,390. In Class III the main decreases were machinery (sugar), £3,604 ; manures, £2,344 ; iron and steel manufactures, £2,230 ; empty bags and sacks, £2,087 ; cotton piece-goods, £1,848 ; hardware, £1,284 ; rolling stock, £1,201 ; railway material, £1,193. In Class IV Parcel Post was down £671.

The values of imports for 1930 and 1929, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1930.	1929.
	£	£
United Kingdom	46,077	68,101
Other parts of the British Empire	47,907	66,922
Foreign Countries	92,439	102,230
Parcel Post	6,829	7,500
	£193,252	£244,753

The above table discloses a general decline which in the case of the United Kingdom was 32.34 per cent. ; in that of other parts of the British Empire 28·42 per cent. ; and in that of foreign countries 9·58 per cent. The decline in the case of the Parcel Post was 8·94 per cent.

The values of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1929 and 1930 were as follows :—

Article.	1929. £	1930. £
Coal, bituminous	48,739	45,349
Cotton—		
Piece-goods	10,269	8,421
Other manufactures ...	9,075	10,023
Fish, salted and dried, etc. ...	9,166	8,267
Flour, wheaten	25,455	19,549
Manures	5,421	3,077
Oil, edible	5,950	6,296

The decline exhibited by the above table is due mainly to the universal fall in prices. In the case of cotton (piece-goods), for example, while the value of imports was £1,848 less, the quantity was 36,638 yards more, and in that of fish, also, while the value was £899 less, the quantity was 40,192 lb. more.

The following table is given as suggestive of openings for British products :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1930. £	*Imports from British Empire.* £
Cotton manufactures, piece-goods	8,421	6,137
Manures	3,077	1,129
Wood and Timber—Shooks and Staves.	857	112
Butter and substitutes ...	3,211	11
Oleomargarine	2,047	26
Motor cars	1,300	262
Totals	£18,913	£7,677

Exports.

The values of exports in 1930, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1930. £	1929. £
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	80,782	92,002
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	52,783	74,661
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	26,085	24,537
IV. Miscellaneous	267	357
V. Bullion and Specie	12,731	7,443
Total value ...	£172,648	£199,000

In Class I of the above table the falling off was due to the decreased exportation of concentrated and raw lime juice, £6,596, and to the fall in the price of sugar, £5,948 less being received for 632 cwt. more. The falling off in Class II was due to decreased exports of bunker coal, £16,740; logwood, £2,620; and copra, £2,450. The rise in Class III was due to increased exports of cinematograph films, £1,935, and distilled lime oil, £1,702.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

	Value in 1930. £	*Value in* 1929. £
Cocoa	19,261	18,864
Lime and Lime Products ...	23,619	20,440
Fancy Syrup and Molasses ...	2,872	3,047
Sugar	45,289	51,237
Logwood	93	2,713
Bunker Coal	43,398	60,138
Copra	7,428	9,878
Charcoal...	2,140	2,505

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.	£	*Total.* 1930. £	*Total.* 1929. £
United Kingdom—			
Domestic Exports	61,654		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	162	61,816	43,453
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic Exports	29,518		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	3,426	32,944	57,821
Foreign Countries—			
Domestic Exports	19,913		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	257	20,170	29,146
Ships' Stores—			
Domestic Exports	10		
Re-exports	1,579	1,589	996
Bunkers—			
Re-exports		43,398	60,138
Totals		£159,917	£191,554

Coaling.—The coaling business, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch, was less brisk than might have been expected from the encouraging record of 1929, when 43,047 tons of bunker coal were taken by 113 steamers and 3 warships. The quantity taken in 1930 fell to 31,306 tons, a decrease of 11,741 tons or 27·27 per cent. Coaling, though not the flourishing trade that it was in bygone years, still affords an appreciable amount of irregular employment to a number of labourers living in Castries and its vicinity.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,129, of a total tonnage of 1,762,628 tons. Of this total 668 were steamships and 461 sailing vessels. In addition, 172 American seaplanes visited the Colony during the year.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means :—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A monthly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian islands by the steamers of the Furness Withy Company.

(4) A fortnightly service to and from the Southern British West Indian Colonies by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Company.

(5) A weekly seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports en route, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

There are other frequent mail opportunities via Barbados, America, and also direct, to Europe.

Roads.

The road system of St. Lucia is divided into three classes :—main roads, by-ways, and unclassified roads.

Main roads are maintained by the Public Works Department and connect all towns and villages with the capital. The total length of this class of road is 127 miles, of which 110 are suitable for vehicular traffic, and 10 miles have been reconstructed and oiled. The most important of these is the Castries to Soufriere Road connecting Dennery, Micoud, Vieux-Fort, Laborie, Choiseul, and Soufriere with the capital, and it is motorable throughout.

By-ways form a secondary network connecting the interior with main roads and are controlled by Road Boards appointed by the Government. Three of these Boards are functioning satisfactorily with 113 miles of road under their supervision. Two of them have been superseded and the 35 miles formerly controlled by them are maintained by Public Works Department. 56 of the 148 miles of by-ways are motorable.

Unclassified roads have a total length of 74 miles and are little more than bridle tracks over which vehicular traffic is not as yet practicable.

Castries is connected with Soufriere and Vieux-Fort and the intermediate ports on the leeward side of the island by a motor launch service, run by a private company under contract with the Government. Subsidized motor bus services exist between Castries and Dennery and Vieux-Fort and Micoud on the windward side.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Inland Telegraphs.

There is no telegraph system in the island.

Telephones.

The whole island is connected up by telephone and the system is maintained entirely by the Government. Besides the main exchange in Castries there are 9 sub-exchanges situated in each of the towns and villages, and from all of these, branch lines connect subscribers. The total length of the lines is 327 miles of which 110 miles are trunk lines and 217 miles are branch lines.

The number of subscribers at the end of the year was 234.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the Royal Court, over which the Chief Justice presides, and by three District Courts, over which two Magistrates preside. The Royal Court has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction and also decides appeals from the District Courts. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of these bodies and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary Police duties, this Force assists in the administration of Poor Relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The

institution has its own bakery which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone-breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony during 1930 was maintained throughout the year at a very satisfactory standard.

No epidemic occurred, and there was an appreciable decrease in the incidence of typhoid and malaria. It is gratifying to note that satisfactory results have attended the efforts of the microscopist who was appointed to combat helminthic conditions, the returns for this year being somewhat lower than in the previous year.

The Colony is divided into six Medical Districts, to each of which is attached a Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector, with dispensaries in each District. In addition to these there is a Chief Medical Officer who is also Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, Health Officer and Bacteriologist. A Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also included in the staff of the Department, has his headquarters at Castries and makes regular visits of inspection throughout the island.

The Medical Institutions include the Victoria Hospital, the largest and principal hospital in the Colony, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries. The staff of this institution consists of a Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and local nurses. Attached to this hospital is a private wing with six rooms for paying patients. There are three small Casualty Hospitals situated in Soufriere and Vieux-Fort, the towns next in importance to Castries, and in the village of Dennery. The Medical Department also maintains a Port Health Officer, a conveniently situated and suitably equipped Quarantine Station, and Pauper, Leper, and Lunatic Asylums.

The Child Welfare Association which was formed during the previous year continued to function very successfully. Towards the end of the year a branch of the Association was established at Soufriere, the second largest town in the Colony, and another branch of the Association is to be formed in the village of Dennery. A Sewing Guild was also formed in connexion with this Association.

During the year Dr. A. J. R. O'Brien, C.M.G., M.C., Secretary of the Colonial Advisory Medical and Sanitary Committee, visited the Colony for the purpose of investigating Public Health conditions and of making suggestions and advising as to needs and requirements in this direction.

Following on consultation with Dr. O'Brien an application was made for a grant of £10,540 from the Colonial Development Fund for the following Public Health Improvement services :—

Repair and renovation of the Castries market.
A new fish market for Castries.
Model cottages in Castries and Soufriere.
Incinerators, markets and slaughter-houses in towns and villages.
A water supply for the Dennery casualty hospital.
A public latrine at Choiseul.
A motor ambulance.
A pipe-borne water supply to the Lunatic Asylum.

This grant was generously approved and most of the works involved were commenced before the end of the year. When complete they will be a very great boon to the community and should greatly improve the sanitary amenities of the Colony.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education.

There are 49 recognized primary schools in the Colony. None of them are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of head teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. Further, it is possible for a head teacher to add up to 26 per cent. to his salary by means of bonuses, awarded on the results obtained at the annual examination of the schools. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1930, the Government paid a total of £5,049 to the school managers for salaries : to this sum the total amount added by the managers was £48. The school buildings (the estimated annual rental value of which is £1,494) are the property of the churches, who spent, during 1930, £235 on repairs and furniture for them.

A law enforcing compulsory attendance at school between the ages of 6 and 14 is in existence, but it is doubtful if more than 60 per cent. of the children concerned attend school. A rigid enforcement of the provisions of the law would call for larger buildings and more teachers, both impossible at present owing to the financial condition of the Colony. The work of Attendance Officers is performed by the Police.

The usual primary school syllabus is followed but the lack of trained teachers and the prevalence of a French patois militate against the best results. An effort is being made to meet the first of these defects by a regular series of lectures to teachers in Castries given by the Inspector of Schools. As regards the second, in the

country districts at any rate, the patois is the only language used by the children outside school.

Agriculture is taught and school gardens kept. The Agricultural Department advises in this work, and the standard is high.

Secondary Education.

There are two Secondary Schools, St. Mary's College for boys under the direction of the Curé of Castries, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to 14 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the Primary Schools. The Castries Town Board award two similar scholarships. There are no scholarships at St. Joseph's Convent School.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. St. Mary's College is given £400 and St. Joseph's Convent £175.

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils. Elementary Agricultural Science is taught at St. Mary's College, and certain commercial subjects may be taken at both schools.

The Government offers a scholarship of the annual value of £175, tenable at a British University in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination.

A certain number of Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available.

IX.—LABOUR.

There is, generally, an ample supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony, the chief sources of employment being the sugar estates and other large plantations. The Public Works Department and the coal bunkering companies are also considerable employers of labour. There is a steady demand for tradesmen, but the supply is limited. Relations between employers and labourers have been generally satisfactory. A certain number of St. Lucia labourers are periodically recruited for work in Santo Domingo and Venezuela. The depression in the sugar industry is, however, reflected in the reduced demand for cane-cutters, resulting in surplus labour and unemployment. To some extent this was offset by employment provided by works undertaken with the assistance of grants and loans from the Colonial Development Fund.

X.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Seton James, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., Governor of the Windward Islands, was in residence in the Colony from the 19th January to the 17th March.

His Excellency retired on the 25th July and was succeeded by Sir Thomas Alexander Vans Best, K.B.E., C.M.G., who assumed the administration of the Government of the Windward Islands on the 26th September. The latter visited St. Lucia from the 26th to the 27th October for the purpose of taking the oaths.

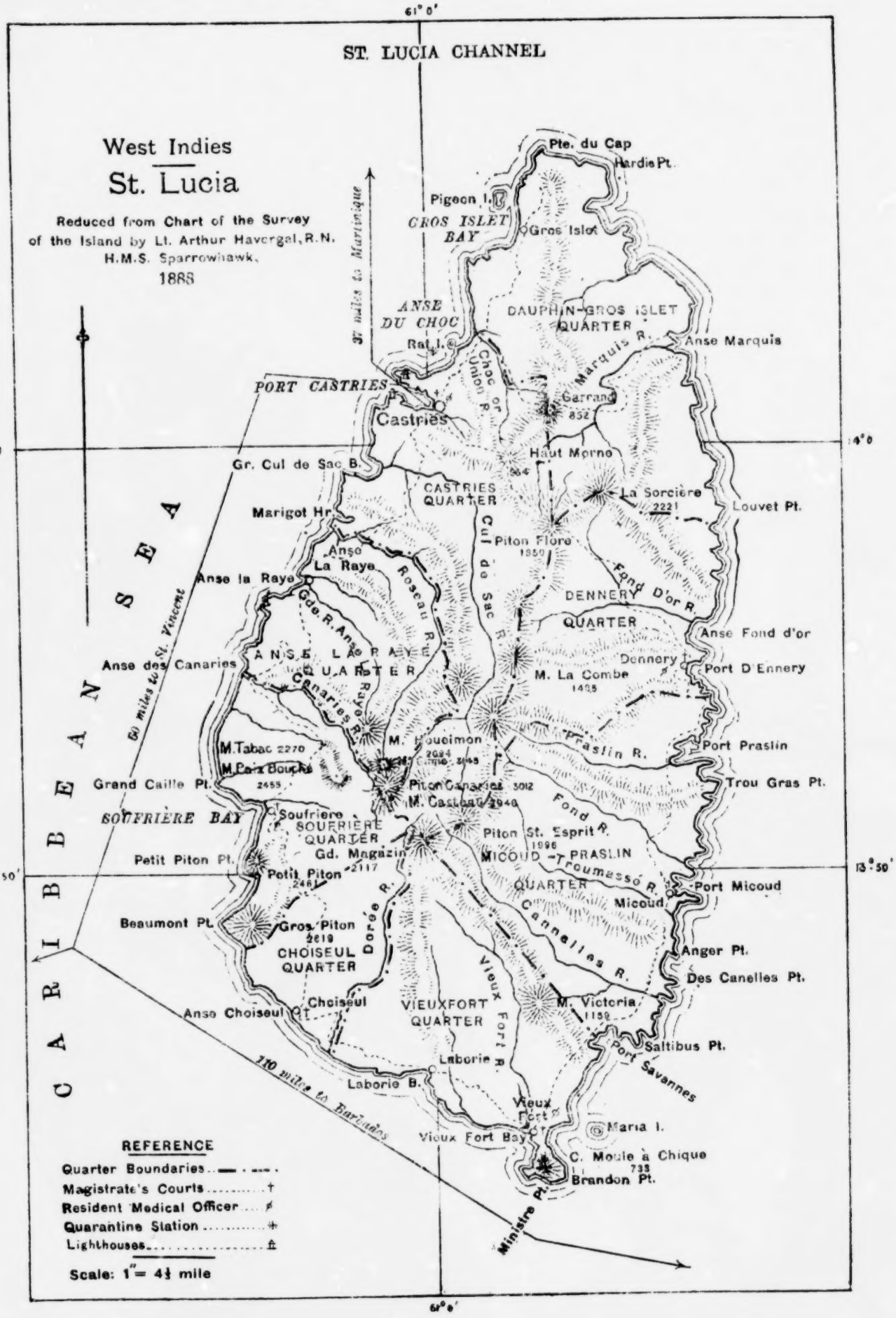
The following British ships of war visited the Colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Wistaria* in March (twice).
H.M.S. *Heliotrope* in May and June.

The United States Ship *Sacramento* also called at Port Castries. She arrived on the 5th June and left on the 7th June.

GUY N. W. BOYES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
SAINT LUCIA,
14th September, 1931.



(12521—21) Wt. 16947—1428 500 12/31 P. St. G. 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6d. (7d.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6d. (7d.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 9d.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6d. (7d.).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6d. (8d.).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6d. (8d.).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 3d.).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929. (E.M.B. 18.) 9d. (11d.).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 10d.).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 11d.).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 3d.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 3d.).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 4d.).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

All Prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT,

OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1577

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

ST. VINCENT, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1482 and 1526 respectively (Price 9d. each))

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1932

Price 1s. 3d. Net

58-1577

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, 1929. [Colonial No. 45.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

EMPIRE CONFERENCE OF SURVEY OFFICERS, 1928.
Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 41.] 12*s.* (12*s.* 6*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE. [Colonial No. 65.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.
Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.
Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... ... £1 10*s.* (£1 10*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 11*d.*).

REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCE OF COLONIAL DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURE, JULY, 1931. [Colonial No. 67.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITION AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES AND MANDATED TERRITORIES. [Colonial No. 56.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.
Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.
Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

'IRAQ.
Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931. [Colonial No. 58.] 5*s.* 6*d.* (5*s.* 11*d.*).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1931.

CONTENTS.

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, including History and Climate	2
II.	Government	3
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	6
VII.	Commerce	9
VIII.	Wages and the Cost of Living	10
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	11
X.	Communications and Transport	12
XI.	Banking, Currency, Weights, and Measures	13
XII.	Public Works	14
XIII.	Justice and Police	14
XIV.	Legislation	19
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	24
XVI.	Miscellaneous	27
	Map.	

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING HISTORY AND CLIMATE.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78°F. to 85°F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above sea level, was 95·77 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 4·20 inches on 7th October.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council, and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created instead composed of twelve members, three *ex officio*, three nominated by the Crown, and six elected by the people.

This Constitution also was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, four *ex officio* members, one nominated unofficial member and three

elected members. The island is divided into three Electoral Districts, each returning one elected member. An election takes place every three years, the last being held in May, 1931.

There is also an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. Every person other than *ex officio* members vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

Municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board consisting of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race is as follows :—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans) ...	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1930 and 1931 :—

	1930.	1931.
	(Census returns).	
Estimated population	53,228	47,961
Births, excluding stillbirths	1,771	1,852
Birth-rate per 1,000	35·34	41·09
Stillbirths	110	119
Percentage of live births to stillbirths ...	5·85	6·04
Death-rate per 1,000	15·07	21·23
Deaths of children under one year (excluding stillbirths)	166	281
Mortality per 1,000 births	94	152
Marriages	148 (2·78 per 1,000).	232 (4·23 per 1,000).
Emigration	4,046	2,732
Immigration	4,200	3,403

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The year 1931 was definitely unhealthy, the death-rate rose to 21·23 per 1,000 as compared with 15·07 in 1930. A serious outbreak of enteric fever occurred in the Buccament Valley. Altogether 77 cases, with 16 deaths, were definitely attributed to the epidemic. The original source of infection was traced to a returned labourer from Curacao.

Table "A" sets forth the sickness recorded in the districts, as well as the number treated in the institutions.

Table "B" shows the principal causes of death in the island of St. Vincent.

TABLE "A"

	1930.	1931.
Attendances at dispensaries	30,556	34,997
Colonial Hospital—In-patients	1,081	1,191
,, ,, Out-patient casualties ...	316	304
Casualty Hospitals (2) In-patients	103	73
Pauper, Lunatic, and Leper Asylums ...	179	184
Totals	32,235	36,749

TABLE "B"

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*		*Percentages on total deaths.*	
	1930.	1931.	1930.	1931.
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	57	92	7·11	9·04
Senility	110	110	13·72	10·81
Bronchitis	43	71	5·36	6·97
Ascariasis	44	58	5·49	5·70
Tuberculosis	49	47	6·11	4·62

It is impossible to differentiate but, as the whole Colony is purely agricultural, practically all the sickness is amongst the labouring class.

There are thirteen dispensaries in the six Medical Districts including one in the St. Vincent Grenadines. The District Medical Officers attend at each dispensary at least twice a week.

Thanks to the Colonial Development Fund considerable improvement should manifest itself due to the laying down of water-supplies

in practically all the important villages on the leeward and windward coasts. It is hoped that baths will ere long be available at most of the primary schools.

Living conditions of the labouring class are on the whole good, due to the fact that the majority of labourers have either a small-holding or provisions land in the mountains. The famous bread-fruit tree is to be seen in large numbers throughout the Colony.

The absence of any cyclonic disturbance was a strong factor in the production of edible crops.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Taken as a whole the housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in the country villages the houses are of the most primitive form—mud and wattle with cane-trash roofs. The same applies to the housing of the labourers on many estates. In most cases the estate rents a house-spot to a labourer with the result that the worst possible house is erected. The estate owner assists the labourer by renting him mountain lands to grow his provisions and in many cases a certain amount of grazing land for his cow, etc. It is a matter of moment that the Sanitary Authority has now stepped in and passed rules governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses. The enforcement of sanitary laws will have most beneficial effect on the future housing problem.

Thanks to the Colonial Development Fund a model village of fifty houses, each 20 feet by 10 feet, each house erected in a fenced-in lot of 75 feet by 50 feet, is being established at Chateaubelair and Georgetown. These neat, sanitary houses, each having its own lavatory and kitchen, are being purchased by the labouring class on easy terms spread over twenty yearly payments, and costing in all under £55.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

There are no minerals found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The following table gives the kind of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown by peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentage used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products produced.

Crop.	Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage used.		Estimated value.
		Plantations.	Peasants.	Locally.	Exported.	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	456,089	57	43	—	100	25,463
2. Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	33,809	27	73	—	100	704
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	161,680	75	25	10	90	2,629
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	3,732,327	80	20	3	97	46,262
5. Cassava ... ,,	610,553	75	25	4	96	3,808
6. Sugar ... ... tons	700	100	—	28	72	7,140
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	288,674	75	25	30	70	10,894
8. Copra ... ... lb.	1,842,477	98	2	—	100	8,121
9. Maize ... ... ,,	100,000	55	45	83	17	450
10. Groundnuts ... ,,	176,892	85	15	8	92	1,131
11. Peas and beans ,,	35,418	65	35	50	50	577
12. Sweet potatoes ,,	2,825,600	30	70	75	25	7,064
13. Plantains ... stems	4,410	20	80	40	60	441
14. Tannias ... lb.	265,440	15	85	50	50	829
15. Yams ... ... ,,	105,600	15	85	50	50	287
16. Miscellaneous vegetables. ,,	111,600	20	80	25	75	232
17. Bananas ... stems	1,300	25	75	50	50	184
18. Tomatoes ... lb.	90,390	55	45	34	66	817
19. Oranges ...	158,500	40	60	90	10	280
20. Grapefruit ...	42,090	40	60	90	10	130
21. Coco-nuts ...	264,500	20	80	75	25	1,098
22. Limes ... ... brls.	2,683	50	50	95	5	1,341
23. Mace ... ... lb.	2,596	60	40	—	100	229
24. Nutmegs ... ,,	11,963	60	40	—	100	281
25. Ginger ... ... ,,	1,645	5	95	10	90	16

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers by the Government Cotton Ginnery for their cotton; it is ginned, baled and shipped for them; when sold 5 per cent. is deducted for handling charges and the remainder paid *pro rata* to them.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

9. Maize is purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery to which a Granary is attached. The maize is shelled, kiln-dried, and stored. When sold, 5 per cent. is deducted for handling charges and the remainder divided *pro rata* among vendors.

18. Tomatoes produced by peasants for export are graded, wrapped, packed, and shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. After account sales have been received, 10 per cent. is deducted for handling charges. The remainder is paid *pro rata* as a bonus to vendors.

Other fruit such as Avocado pears, limes, oranges, etc., is also shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

21. Not converted into copra.

Livestock.

In the agricultural census of 1931 the following numbers of animals appear as being in the island. Appended thereto are the estimated values with the estimated numbers owned by plantations and peasants, also the numbers exported with their values for 1931.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1931.*	*Value of Exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	1,574	2,933
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	42	189
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,370	829
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	29	34
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	522	309
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	4	36
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	2	29

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. Apart from this there are small whaling stations situated on some of the small islands. In 1931, 1,591 gallons of whale oil valued at £221, were exported, and 565 turtle shells, valued at £360, were sent out of the Colony. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, on others they work on their own holdings. They are usually paid so much per task, in other cases they are paid by the day.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is on a par with that performed on plantations. Broadly speaking all peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they cultivate their own lands in a similar manner. They receive advice from Agricultural Officers.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, and who own land, are 2,763. Of this number, 2,614 possess areas from 1–10 acres, 116 from 10–20 acres, and 31 from 20–30 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and also for export.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses some excellent pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. Some years ago the Government possessed a stud farm, consequently the animals attached to this have left their mark on the existing farm animals.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is run in conjunction with a modern sugar factory on a plantation. In 1931, 37,920 gallons of rum were distilled; of this 7,780 gallons were exported and were valued at £1,167, 24,800 gallons were consumed locally and the value of this in bond was £3,720.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £290,657, of which £177,492 represent imports and £113,165 represent exports, as against a total in 1930 of £352,567 of which imports and exports were represented respectively by £200,830 and £151,737, thereby showing a total trade decrease for 1931 of £61,910 due principally to reduced values consequent on the trade depression throughout the world.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. *Island Produce.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1927	172,097	145,213	602	145,815
1928	192,476	155,884	2,588	158,472
1929	186,439	151,207	363	151,570
1930	200,830	146,704	5,033	151,737
1931	177,492	111,597	1,568	113,165

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	55,812	62,335	58,030	73,802	74,256
Canada	40,540	45,787	49,382	43,763	34,346
British West Indies ...	12,789	11,873	11,350	15,091	10,078
India	1,229	1,098	888	1,199	418
Newfoundland	4,471	5,301	5,106	4,473	3,087
Ceylon	107	324	397	451	861
Other British Colonies ...	5,126	8,730	10,459	9,395	6,869
United States of America ...	36,663	44,127	37,645	39,008	34,850
France	1,485	3,189	3,424	3,597	3,301
Denmark	774	857	693	752	132
Germany	1,836	1,741	2,169	2,162	2,012
Holland	582	999	1,011	1,285	1,223
Foreign West Indies ...	1,003	720	384	629	272
Other Countries	3,494	3,812	4,110	3,308	4,079
Unclassified, including Parcel Post.	6,186	*1,583	*1,391	*1,915	*1,708
	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439	£200,830	£177,492

* Does not include Parcel Post.

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	64,104	69,274	70,301	71,715	56,227
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	16,735	18,075	16,792	18,785	15,497
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	84,954	103,192	97,810	108,083	103,928
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	6,304	1,925	1,536	2,247	1,840
Class V.—Bullion and specie.	—	10	—	—	—
	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439	£200,830	£177,492

The following are the percentages, in the last five years, of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	32·43	32·38	31·12	36·75	41·83
United States of America ...	21·30	22·93	20·19	19·43	19·64
Canada	23·56	23·79	26·49	21·79	19·35
All other Countries ...	22·71	20·90	22·20	22·03	19·18

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Country of destination.	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	68,452	68,930	62,000	64,800	44,600
Canada	10,276	16,435	15,446	15,816	12,334
Bermuda	305	292	434	429	526
British West Indies ...	35,619	39,653	41,252	38,814	23,625
British Guiana	747	272	788	532	205
United States of America ...	28,491	30,628	25,580	24,683	28,072
Other Countries	1,925	2,262	6,070	6,663	3,803

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are :—females 7d.–10d. per day, males 1s. 3d.–2s. per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by task, this varies from 10d.–1s. A task usually means 5–6 hours' work. Such labourers as these are often provided with house-spots at pepper-corn rent and land for cultivation, and pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land. Trees which produce mangoes, pears, and breadfruit, and plants bearing other edible fruit are

often found wild or can be obtained for the reaping. Fish are caught in the sea or rivers and cost practically nothing to the person who catches them.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the number in their families.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

On 31st December, 1931, there were 36 elementary schools. Of these, 13 belong to the Government which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. The religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the remaining 23 schools. The salaries of all teachers and the equipment of both Government and denominational schools are met from general revenue. Of the denominational schools 9 are Anglican, 12 Wesleyan, and 2 Roman Catholic.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1929, 1930, and 1931 :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Number of schools	36	35	36
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	7,653	8,573	8,838
Average attendance	4,086	4,690	4,730
Percentage of average attendance...	53·39	54·70	53·51
Government grant-in-aid	£4,284	£5,632	£6,240
Cost per head of average attendance	£1 1*s.* 0*d.*	£1 4*s.* 0*d.*	£1 6*s.* 0*d.*

The school-going age extends from 4 to 15 years.

The Government maintain and finance two secondary schools—the Grammar School and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of £2 per term. At 31st December the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 68 and at the Girls' High School was 75.

There is an island scholarship of the annual value of £250. This is awarded biennially and is tenable for not less than three years and not more than five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the seat of learning is also defrayed.

There are no technical schools but the recently organized "Industrial School" offers instruction in carpentry, book-binding and needlework to small classes of boys and girls drawn from the primary schools, and under its auspices "evening classes" for persons desiring lessons in shorthand and typewriting are also held.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movements are spreading and doing much to bring new ideas of social service to the island. Small amateur bands provide music for ceremonial occasions.

Provision for maintenance in the event of accident or sickness is offered by the Friendly Societies operating under Friendly Society Ordinance No. 49 of 1843. This is the only form of insurance against sickness.

The Thompson Home, a philanthropic institution, provides food and shelter for the "genteel poor" and the same class receive under the Graham Trust Bequest free treatment at the Colonial Hospital.

Opportunities for recreation, reading and social intercourse have been recently widened, especially in the rural districts. The Sun Ray Club at Questelles, and the Volunteer Club in Kingstown have been recently started as well as an Aquatic Club at Villa, three miles from Kingstown.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads of the Colony are divided into two sections, viz., leeward and windward as shown below. The principal means of communication between the leeward coast and the capital, Kingstown, is by means of motor launch and canoes, and that of windward by motor vehicles.

The reconstructing and oiling of the road from Kingstown to Georgetown is being continued, also improvements to certain byways.

Roads.	*Mileage. Total.*	*Oiled mileage.*	*Macadamized mileage.*	*Earth mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Road ...	26	4	6	16	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Kingstown District roads.	4	1¼	3⅞	—	Motor vehicles.
Windward Road ...	24½	9	15½	—	do.
Vigie Road	11	—	9	2	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Byways.					
Leeward	64⅜	—	3	61⅜	Carts and animals
Windward	112¾	—	15	97¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Road in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	do.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	67	—	—	67	do.

Postal.

There is a Central Post Office situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony, and there are 18 District Post Offices.

A daily mail service is maintained on the windward coast by motor bus leaving Georgetown at 8 a.m. and Kingstown at 2 p.m.

On the leeward coast mails are conveyed daily by motor launch. Mails are conveyed to Bequia three times a week by sailing boat, and once a week to the Southern Grenadines by the Government Sloop *Carib*.

Wireless service is carried out by the Imperial and International Communications Company, Limited.

Telephones.

A telephone service is maintained by Government which links up Kingstown, the capital, with two exchanges in the Windward District and one in the Leeward District.

The reconstruction of the system in Kingstown from earth return to metallic return was completed in August.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

Steamers of other lines also call at various other periods.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

Banking.

1. Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) with a note circulation of £16,932. It is estimated that the amount of coin in circulation amounted to between £4,000 and £6,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 3 per cent. per annum, particulars of which are unknown.

2. The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1931, was £6,927.

3. The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1931, was £14,338. Interest at 3 per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coin of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is four shillings and two pence of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The following works were undertaken from assistance under the Colonial Development Fund :—

1. Erection of two new dispensaries, including fittings, at Colonarie and Troumaca.
2. Provision of pipe-borne water-supplies at Chateaubelair (an extension to the existing system), Colonarie, Stubbs, and Coulls Hill.
3. Erection of incinerators at Barrouallie and Calliaqua.
4. Concreting of drains at Georgetown, Calliaqua, and Barrouallie.

Considerable improvements were carried out at the Fort Institutions so as to help in brightening the lives of the unfortunate inmates.

Other works of importance included :—

(1) Construction of a new school at Union Island (Southern Grenadines)—now a Government school—to replace the wattle and daub school which was an Anglican school.

(2) Construction of nurse's quarters at Union Island.

(3) Extension of the petroleum warehouse.

(4) Construction of a tank at Brighton School and renovation of an old one at Canouan (Southern Grenadines) to augment the water-supply in that island.

(5) Extension of the Government Printing Office.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

ORGANIZATION OF JUSTICE.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which district is comprised of the following :—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie, and Georgetown (on the windward coast), and the island of Bequia.

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which district is comprised of the Southern Grenadines,—Union Island, Mayreau, and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

STATISTICS OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS (First and Second Districts).

FIRST DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	11	19	136	166
Malicious injury of property ...	—	—	12	12
Praedial larceny	1	2	17	20
Offences against property ...	3	10	38	51
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	1	—	5	6
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	18	10	187	215
Other offences	21	63	383	467
	55	104	778	937

Convictions.

Result of convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	98	12	9	19	5	174	264	581
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	11	—	1	6	—	10	15	43
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	18	—	1	7	—	1	12	39
Whipping	1	—	1	4	—	—	13	19
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	8	—	5	2	—	2	79	96
	136	12	17	38	5	187	383	778

Second District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	21	20	194	235
Malicious injury of property ...	—	3	8	11
Praedial larceny	6	16	136	158
Offences against property ...	10	16	43	69
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	2	2
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	27	24	241	292
Other offences	58	81	614	753
	122	160	1,238	1,520

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	161	7	109	36	2	241	553	1,109
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	2	1	1	4	—	—	2	10
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	7	—	9	3	—	—	20	39
Whipping	13	—	16	—	—	—	15	44
Bound over	11	—	1	—	—	—	24	36
	194	8	136	43	2	241	614	1,238

Police.

Organization of the Police Force.

Personnel.—The authorized strength of the Force as provided for in the Estimates, 1931, was :—

Officers :

Chief of Police	1
Sub-Inspector of Police	1
Total	2

Other Ranks :

Sergeants	3
Corporals	5
Lance Corporals	6
First Class Constables	10
Second Class Constables	10
Third Class Constables	14
Recruits (i.e., Constables with less than one year's service)	3
Total	51

On 31st December, 1931, the Force was up to strength. There are nine stations in the Colony besides the Police Headquarters in Kingstown. All are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia Island and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular daily except on Sunday or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Two officers and thirty-four non-commissioned officers and men are kept at Headquarters, the remaining seventeen non-commissioned officers and men being at the out stations.

Being under a semi-military organization that part of the Force stationed at Headquarters is organized and trained as a platoon of riflemen.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period the constable is deemed to continue enrolled for a further like period and so on from time to time unless he shall have signified his intention to resign before the end of such period.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise :—

(1) The record office, warders' mess-room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery, and bath-room for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper floor being occupied by the prison chapel and warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four large associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing sixteen single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery and a store-room and a weighing-room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one main building, the ground floor being divided into three associated cells and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison; during the last four years there have only been seven, and six of these for only short periods. When they are, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning, etc. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was not good. Many of them suffered from venereal disease and ulcers. In nearly all the cases of those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks they leave prison in better health than that in which they arrived.

The most prevalent diseases among the prisoners while serving sentence are common colds and constipation.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the Ordinances passed, together with a table indicating the changes introduced, and of the subsidiary legislation issued :—

1931.

ORDINANCES.

No.	*Short Title.*
1	Export Duties (Amendment).
2	Kingstown Board (Amendment).
3	St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association Loan.
4	Legislative Council (Elected Members) Amendment.
5	Arrowroot (New Market Fund) Repeal.
6	Pensions (Amendment).
7	Customs Duties (Amendment).
8	Land and House (Additional) Tax.
9	Police (Amendment).
10	Supplementary Appropriation.
11	Income Tax (Amendment).
12	Loan (Electric Lighting).
13	Education (Amendment).
14	Export Duties (Amendment No. 2).
15	Arbitration (Foreign Awards).
16	Infirm Paupers and Immigrants Regulation (Amendment).
17	Passenger Boats (Amendment).
18	Pensions (Amendment No. 2).
19	Arrowroot (New Market Fund) Continuation Repeal.
20	Exportation of Fruit.
21	Scholarship (Amendment).
22	Emigrants Protection (Amendment).
23	Appropriation.
24	Export Duties (Amendment No. 3).

TABLE SHOWING THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION OF 1931.

Ordinances affected.	*Subject.*	*How affected.*	*By what Ordinance.*
Cap. 49	Education	S.2. amended by addition of definition of "Head Teacher."	
		Insertion of additional Section 19.	13 of 1931
Cap. 51 ...	Scholarship	S.6 amended by the deletion of the word "July" wherever it occurs therein and the substitution therefor of the word "June."	
		S.7 repealed and replaced ...	21 of 1931

TABLE SHOWING THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION OF 1931—*Contd.*

Ordinances affected.	*Subject.*	*How affected.*	*By what Ordinance.*
Cap. 55 ...	Infirm Paupers and Immigrants Regulation	S.4 (2) amended by the insertion of the words "if a native of a British West Indian Island or British Guiana and the sum of twenty pounds if a native of any other place" after the word "pounds" in line 2 thereof	16 of 1931
Cap. 110 ...	Legislative Council (Elected Members)	S.3 (1) amended to abolish re-registration of persons whose names are already on register of voters for time being in force	4 of 1931
Cap. 136 ...	Pensions	S. 13 repealed. S. 2 amended by the substitution of the words "not later than" for the word "within." S. 4 repealed and replaced ...	6 of 1931
Cap. 184 ...	Customs Duties ...	(*a*) of Item 37 in the first Schedule repealed and replaced. Second Schedule amended by addition of words "Electrical apparatus of all kinds for communication or illumination" and by the deletion of the words "oil lubricating and crude" and the substitution of the words "Oil :—crude fuel." S.2 (*b*) amended by the deletion of the words "Pacific Cable Board" and the substitution therefor of the words "Imperial and International Communications Company, Limited" ...	7 of 1931
Cap. 186 ...	Export Duties ...	Second Schedule amended by deletion of duty on sugar and syrup	1 of 1931
Cap. 186 ...	Export Duties ...	Second Schedule amended by deletion of duty on copra ...	14 of 1931

TABLE SHOWING THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION OF 1931—*Contd.*

Ordinances affected.	*Subject.*	*How affected.*	*By what Ordinance.*
Cap. 186 ...	Export Duties ...	Export duty on copra re-imposed. Second Schedule amended ...	24 of 1931
Cap. 187 ...	Arrowroot (New Market Fund) ...	Ordinance repealed	5 of 1931
Cap. 192 ...	Income Tax	S. 7 amended by addition of proviso covering cases where commissioners have permitted alteration in period of assessment	11 of 1931
Cap. 201 ...	Passenger Boats ...	S. 20 repealed and replaced widening Governor's power to make regulations ...	17 of 1931
Cap. 209 ...	Kingstown Board ...	Addition of new subsections to sections 41 and 44 respectively providing for assessment of traders who start new or branch businesses after usual assessment period	2 of 1931
10 of 1927	Emigrants Protection	S.8 amended by deletion of word "ten" in line one of subsection (4) and substitution therefor of the word "five"	22 of 1931
24 of 1929	Police Pensions ...	S.2 (2) amended by deletion of the words "within six months" in line seven and substitution therefor of the words "not later than one month"	9 of 1931
14 of 1930	Arrowroot (New Market Fund) Continuation	Ordinance repealed	19 of 1931
6 of 1931	Pensions	S. 2 repealed and S. 13 of Pensions Ordinance replaced. S. 3 repealed and replaced ...	18 of 1931
14 of 1931	Export Duties ...	Ordinance repealed	24 of 1931

ORDERS IN COUNCIL, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS.

Date.	*Subject.*
	Orders in Council.
1931.	
24th Feb.	Under the Magistrates Ordinance (Appointing the second Friday and Saturday in each month Court days for the islands of Mayreau and Canouan respectively).
4th April	Under the Cotton Protection Ordinance (Declaring Close Season for St. Vincent and the Northern Grenadines).
16th ,,	Under the Cotton Protection Ordinance (Declaring Close Season for St. Vincent and the Northern Grenadines, and revoking Order in Council of 4th April, 1931).
25th ,,	Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Extending Part 4 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance to di-hydro-morphinone and its respective salts and to any preparation, admixture, and extract containing di-hydro-morphinone).
14th Sept.	Under the Customs Ordinance (Prohibiting exportation of all arrowroot tubers, plants and bulbs).
1930.	**Rules, Regulations, &c.**
12th Dec.	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Providing for adoption of system of " Small Packets ").
1931.	
24th Jan.	Under the Census Ordinance (Regulating the Census of 26th April, 1931).
,, ,,	Under the Arrowroot Ordinance (Regulating the grading of arrowroot delivered to the Association).
,, ,,	Under the Electricity Supply Ordinance (Prescribing conditions for supply of electricity).
29th ,,	Under the Electricity Supply Ordinance (Fixing scale of charges for meters, lighting purposes and power purposes).
,, ,,	Under the Electricity Supply Ordinance (Fixing scale of charges for the supply of electricity for domestic purposes).
24th Feb.	Under the Cotton Protection Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations 4 and 5 of 22nd October, 1927, governing the ginning, treatment, &c., of seed cotton and cotton seed).
,, ,,	Under the Scholarship Ordinance (Providing for the medical examination of any person to whom a scholarship has been awarded, before leaving the Colony).
25th April	Under the Motor Car Ordinance (Fixing fares for hire of motor cars).
28th ,,	Under the Legislative Council (Elected Members) Ordinance (Fixing hours for the taking of the poll).
16th May	Under the Electricity Supply Authority (Provision of poles by certain consumers).
,, ,,	Under the Electricity Supply Authority (Conditions governing the grant of certificates of competency).

Date.	*Subject.*
29th May	Under the Electricity Supply Ordinance (Amendment of special flat rate approved by the Governor in Council on 29th January, 1931).
18th June	Under the Education Ordinance (Amendment of Code of Regulations for Primary Schools).
3rd July	Under the Public Health Ordinance (Prescribing measures to be adopted for control of any epidemic, endemic or infectious disease).
23rd ,,	Under the Electricity Supply Authority (Fixing scale of charges for power purposes).
14th Sept.	Under the Pensions Ordinance (Repealing paragraph 1 of the Regulation made by the Governor in Council on the 20th day of October, 1930).
12th Oct.	Under the Shop Hours Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule to the Regulations made by the Governor in Council on 15th February, 1930).
4th Nov.	Under the Census Ordinance (Amendment of Regulation 14 of the Regulations made by the Governor in Council on 24th January, 1931).
9th Dec.	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Collection of commission on money orders payable by St. Vincent and Barbados).
21st ,,	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Empowering the Colonial Postmaster to fix rates for conversion into currency of money orders exchanged between St. Vincent and the Dominion of Canada).
,, ,,	Under the Telephone Ordinance (Amendment of "business hours" at Exchanges).
,, ,,	Under the Secondary Education Ordinance (Amendment of Rules for the control and management of the St. Vincent Grammar School).
,, ,,	Under the Shop Hours Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule to the Regulations made by the Governor in Council on 20th December, 1930, and repealing Regulation made on 12th October, 1931).
	Proclamations.
7th Feb.	Appointing the 20th day of April, 1931, as the day for the holding of a general Election for Members of the Legislative Council.
9th ,,	Proclaiming the dissolution of the Legislative Council on 3rd April, 1931.
,, ,,	Proclaiming the extension of time for payment of taxes in respect of the year 1930 without fines, in District No. 6.
12th ,,	Proclaiming the coming into operation of the Legitimacy Ordinance, 1930, on 1st March, 1931.
28th April	Proclaiming 26th May, 1931, as a Bank Holiday.
9th May	Convocation of the Legislative Council on 20th May, 1931.
19th Oct.	Proclaiming 26th October, 1931, as Thanksgiving Day.
3rd Dec.	Proclaiming 11th December, 1931, as a Bank Holiday.

There has been no factory legislation, compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years, excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1931	68,550 ...	... 79,543
1930	68,602 ...	... 67,769
1929	64,090 ...	... 70,786
1928	64,593 ...	... 60,442
1927	56,469 ...	... 61,564

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1931, amounted to £67,845 of which, £2,030 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £21,000 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which General Revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £5,748.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1931, amounted to £3,710 which were non-liquid and are earmarked for Unallocated Stores and Loans to Boards.

The main heads of taxation are :—

		£
Import Duties ...	yield for 1931	27,970
Export Duties ...	,, ,, ,, ...	2,266
Licences	,, ,, ,, ...	2,911
Excise Duties ...	,, ,, ,, ...	6,200
Land and House Tax	,, ,, ,, ...	5,756
Income-tax ...	,, ,, ,, ...	2,310
Stamp Duties ...	,, ,, ,, ...	809
Estate Duties ...	,, ,, ,, ...	3,732
Trade Duties ...	,, ,, ,, ...	2,951

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows :—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Flour, wheaten	4*s.* per 196 lb.	5*s.* per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s.* „ 100 „	1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* „ „ „	1*s.* 6*d.* „ „ „
Machinery	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined / unrefined ...	1*s.* 9*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* 7½*d.* per 100 lb.
Hardware	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured ...	4*s.* 8*d.* per lb.	7*s.* per lb.
„ unmanufactured	1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.	1*s.* 9*d.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	6*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor cars (wholly British)	—	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts—except tyres—(wholly British).	—	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	2½*d.* per gal.	4*d.* per gal.
Meats, salted, etc.... ...	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Metals	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter and substitutes ...	8*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	12*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

In addition to the above a further duty of 12½ per cent. of such duties is levied.

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 10 per cent. preferential tariff and 15 per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per gallon proof is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1931 was £6,200.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £809 in 1931, the summary of the rates is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for		2	0
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange			1
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property, for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards... ...			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof... ...		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax of two shillings per acre or part of an acre on land and a graduated scale of from 2s. on houses of which the annual rental value does not exceed £5, to £4 per cent. on houses whose annual rental value exceeds £20. The revenue from this source amounted to £5,756.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of one shilling on amounts not exceeding £1 and five per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands and Surveys.—The revenue collected during the year amounted to £556.

Arrears amounted to £458 as compared with £305 in 1930. This is largely due to financial depression, but steps are nevertheless being taken for recovery in certain cases.

Diagrams were prepared on 18 title deeds.

No surveys were carried out by surveyors in private practice.

Fifteen surveys were carried out by the Government Department.

During the year His Excellency the Governor visited the Colony on 16th March and remained for one month. He also paid a brief visit of four days in June.

His Excellency proceeded on leave of absence on 18th June and resumed on 22nd September. During His Excellency's absence Mr. C. W. Doorly, C.B.E., Administrator of Saint Lucia, administered the Government.

The Third Session of the Legislative Council was formally opened on 20th May.

A matter of considerable moment to the community was the inauguration of the electric lighting of the town of Kingstown which came into operation in May, 1931. This new service tends to have far-reaching effects on the future development of the town of Kingstown, as not only has electric light been almost universally installed but electric power is now available for the Arrowroot Association, Electric Bakery, etc.

To the great delight of the inhabitants His Majesty's Ships *Rodney* and *Adventure*, ships of the Atlantic Fleet, visited the Colony. Captain R. M. Bellairs, C.B., C.M.G., in command of H.M.S. *Rodney*, threw the ship open to scouts, girl guides and primary school children. This courtesy had far-reaching effects and the appreciation and thanks of those who were privileged to go over the ship were unbounded.

In September H.M.S. *Danae* visited the Colony, remaining a week. For the first time for many years the island of Bequia was visited by one of His Majesty's ships, H.M.S. *Dauntless* remaining there for six days.

The people of Saint Vincent have the right to be proud that in the face of world-wide depression this Colony has held its own financially, and, at the same time, many social and much needed improvements have been carried out. Thanks to the generosity of the Home Government, many improvements have been carried out—water-supplies to all main villages, improved roads, sanitary schemes and the erection of dispensaries in outlying villages. All these have been accomplished due entirely to the financial assistance forthcoming from the Colonial Development Fund Committee.

The Arrowroot Association which was founded in 1930 with funds from the Colonial Development Fund has proved of untold benefit to all classes of the community. A ready market was found for the entire island crop.

Thanks to the schemes undertaken, unemployment was not known during the year. For any person really willing to work, work was available.

H. PEEBLES,

Administrator.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SAINT VINCENT,
31*st May*, 1932.

(15970—2s) Wt. 9253—583 625 8/32 P. St G. 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1931. Cmd. 3914. 9*d*. (10*d*.).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927-29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Report on the Cultivation, Treatment and Prospects of Rice in British Guiana. (E.M.B. 32.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

The Dissemination of Research Results among Agricultural Producers. (E.M.B. 33.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

The Demand for Empire Butter. (E.M.B. 34.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Relative Values of Cod Liver Oils from various sources. (E.M.B. 35.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

The Behaviour and Diseases of the Banana in Storage and Transport. (E.M.B. 36.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

The Demand for Canned Fruits. (E.M.B. 37.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Report of Proceedings of the Imperial Wool Research Conference, 1930. 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1d.).

Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1930, to May, 1931. (E.M.B. 41.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.) 1*s*. (1*s* 2*d*.).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s*. (£1 1*s*. 9*d*.).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B 46.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 11*d*.).

All Prices are net. Those in parentheses include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1590

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

ST. LUCIA, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see No. 1495 and No. 1552 respectively, Price 1s. 0d. each.)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1932

Price 1s. 3d. Net

58-1590

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE AT OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and Copies of Trade Agreements. [Cmd. 4174.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1931. [Colonial No. 71.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 8*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 65.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.
Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.
Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... ... £1 10*s.* (£1 10*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 11*d.*).

REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCE OF COLONIAL DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURE, JULY, 1931.
[Colonial No. 67.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITION AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES AND MANDATED TERRITORIES.
[Colonial No. 56.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.
Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.
Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

'IRAQ.
Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931.
[Colonial No. 58.] 5*s.* 6*d.* (5*s.* 11*d.*).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1931.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
I.	Geography, including Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	7
VI.	Production	8
VII.	Commerce	12
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	15
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	16
X.	Communications and Transport	18
XI.	Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures	20
XII.	Public Works	20
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	21
XIV.	Legislation	26
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	28
XVI.	Miscellaneous	31
	Map.	

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island, and has a population, according to the census of 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs, and continued in their possession till 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663, Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession till the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, d'Orleans, made a grant of the island to Marshall d'Estrees, and in 1722, the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island, and it was declared neutral.

In 1744, the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained till the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French till 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782, Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay, in St. Lucia, with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse, when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops, 12,000 strong, under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia, and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms, and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens ; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, was 85·3° F. in the shade. The maximum was 91° F., and the minimum 65° F., showing a range of 26°. The hot season extends from May to November, and the cool season from December to May. On Morne Fortuné, just above Government House, where a portion of the garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60° F., and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

The weather generally was fine, with few storms of any kind.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, was 101·08 inches, and this was 32·21 inches above that of the previous year, and 10·60 inches above the average rainfall for the last 42 years.

The maximum precipitation for Castries was 3·38 inches on 5th July, but in the higher districts 5·62 inches were recorded on 10th October. The distribution was favourable to the majority of crops, but cacao, especially in the high lands, suffered from pod diseases which were increased by excessively wet conditions.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 21st March, 1924, which came into operation on 1st December, 1924, a partly elective Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of six exofficio

members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. On 12th February, 1931, that Order in Council was amended to provide that the Council should consist of three ex-officio members, three nominated official members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. This island is divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. The first election under this Constitution was held in March, 1925. Law is administered by a Chief Justice, from whom in civil cases there is an appeal to the West Indian Court of Appeal, and two Magistrates, whose decisions are liable to review by the Judge. In criminal cases tried in the Superior Court facts are decided upon by a jury of twelve as in England.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, who also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

On 31st December, 1930, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 58,494—males 27,432 ; females 31,062. On 31st December, 1931, the figure increased to 59,676—males 28,187 ; females 31,489. The natural increase during 1931 was 696. The number of persons entering the Colony exceeded the number of departures by 486. The net increase in population was therefore 1,182.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 256.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 122) totalled 1,911—males 958 ; females 953. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 29·9 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 4·6 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,215—males, 601 ; females 614. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 18·2 per thousand of the population—an increase of 2·1 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were :—malaria, 89 ; pulmonary tuberculosis, 21 ; phthisis, 24 ; syphilis, 50 ; diseases of the heart, 49 ; bronchitis, 66 ; pneumonia, 51 ; gastro-enteritis, 114 ; worms, 56 ; infantile debility, 45 ; and senile decay, 160.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The health of the Colony as a whole has continued satisfactory and no epidemic occurred in any form. An increase was noted in the incidence of malaria due to the continuous rainfall throughout the year, but there has been no marked increase with regard to other diseases. The returns of tuberculosis and typhoid show a decrease on the preceding year's records, the latter distinctly so. Five cases only of typhoid were notified as compared with 15 for the previous year.

The Colony is divided into six medical districts, to each of which are attached a Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector, with dispensaries in each district. The Medical Department is administered by a Chief Medical Officer who is also Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, Health Officer, and Bacteriologist. A Chief Sanitary Inspector who is also on the personnel of the Department has his headquarters at Castries and makes regular visits of inspection throughout the island.

The medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital, the largest and principal hospital in the Colony, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries. The staff of this institution is made up of an Assistant Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and local nurses. Attached to this hospital is a private apartment, designated "The Baron Wing," with six rooms for paying admissions. There are three small casualty hospitals situated in Soufriere and Vieux Fort, the towns next in importance to Castries, and in the village of Dennery. The Medical Department also maintains a Port Health Officer, a conveniently situated and suitably equipped Quarantine Station, and Pauper, Leper, and Lunatic Asylums.

A plant for lighting the Victoria Hospital by electricity was installed during the year and has been a great improvement and convenience to this institution.

A new Public Health Ordinance was introduced during the year. The principal object of this Bill is to replace the Board of Health by a Central Sanitary Authority for the whole Colony and to co-ordinate the activities necessary for combating diseases in the interest of public health, the executive functions being performed by the Chief Medical Officer, at the same time preserving the jurisdiction of the Castries Town Board.

With the assistance of the Colonial Development Fund the following public health improvement services have been completed:—

Repair and renovation of the Castries market.
A new fish market for Castries.
Model cottages in Castries.

The erection of an incinerator in Castries and Dennery; markets, slaughter houses, and fish stalls in Vieux Fort, Micoud, and Dennery.

A water-supply for Dennery Casualty Hospital.

A pipe-borne water-supply for the Lunatic Asylum.

A public latrine at Choiseul.

A motor ambulance has also been provided.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

A very large part of the capital town of Castries was destroyed by fire in 1927. Much of the town has now been rebuilt and the new buildings are, in the main, handsome and substantial, a very large part of the new buildings having been carried out in concrete or masonry; many of these new buildings are private dwellings.

The housing of the poorer classes is not entirely satisfactory, but a good lead has been given by Government in the building of model cottages. This was made possible by grants from the Colonial Development Fund. It is intended, in the first instance, to erect thirty such model cottages in Castries and twelve in the town of Soufriere. It is hoped that private builders will follow the example of Government and that a considerable improvement in housing conditions will result.

In the rural districts housing is of a primitive character, but climatic conditions do not call for anything very elaborate.

The usual procedure in the case of rural dwellers is to rent or purchase a small plot of land and to erect thereon a small hut or cottage. A garden is sometimes planted to provide vegetables, etc., for the family, but more usually another plot is either purchased, rented, or otherwise appropriated for this purpose. Cooking is frequently done in the open air and washing is done in the nearest stream or river. From the European point of view it is all very primitive, but the people are happy and there is very little disease that could be directly attributed to housing conditions; moreover, the people are extremely conservative in the matter of housing and look with suspicion on anything in the way of innovation. Overcrowding is perhaps the most objectionable feature, but again, it is difficult to effect improvement in the face of the objection of the people themselves, and education in matters of hygiene is the only real hope of improvement in this respect.

Owing to its low-lying position the town of Castries is not sewered, and the sanitary arrangements leave something to be desired. The town is, however, surrounded by hills on which the better class houses are built and in the majority of cases these houses are furnished with septic tanks and flush sanitation.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The chief products of St. Lucia are sugar, cocoa, copra, and limes; but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e., oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples for the Bermuda, Canadian, and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and the contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price of sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory, at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory, usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The export value of sugar shows a serious reduction when compared with the previous year. The production in 1930 was 5,135 tons as against 4,572 in 1931. This is partly due to one factory reducing the area under canes and extending that under coconuts. 4,567 tons valued at £45,289 were exported in 1930, as against 3,975 tons valued at £35,534 exported in 1931.

The factory molasses produced was chiefly utilized for manufacturing rum for local consumption; very little trade was done in fancy molasses for export.

The following figures show the exported quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years:—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	88,640	74,200
1928	82,000	63,050
1929	90,720	51,237
1930	91,352	45,289
1931	79,460	35,554

Sugar (Muscovado).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	3,560	2,235
1928	—	—
1929	—	—
1930	—	—
1931	—	—

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1927	156,050	7,634
1928	85,784	3,643
1929	127,273	3,047
1930	157,254	2,872
1931	24,837	1,194

Rum.

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gals.	*Value.* £
1927	1,700	212
1928	1,323	218
1929	2,013	339
1930	1,583	278
1931	—	—

Cacao.—Although the market prices were exceedingly low during the year the crop was maintained. 10,419 cwt. with a value of £14,125 were exported, the market falling from 45*s.* per cwt. to 32*s.* and 26*s.* during some months of the year. As a result cultural operations and expenditure on estates were reduced to a minimum and in a few cases small areas were cleared and planted with citrus. The preparation of best estate cacao has been improved and market reports show that St. Lucia " planters' cacao " has gained a fair reputation.

The large proprietors generally market their crop direct, but the peasant more usually sells his crop, after preparing it for market, to the local factors. The sale of cacao by the peasants is governed by the Minor Products Ordinance and the factors are licensed and registered.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	12,183	30,560
1928	11,006	27,321
1929	8,906	18,864
1930	10,449	19,261
1931	10,419	14,125

Limes.—Weather conditions are very favourable, and a record crop of limes was reaped, the yield showing a return to pre-withertip days. The total exported crop was equal to 46,308 barrels of fruit. Market prices for lime oils, ranging from 40*s.* to 60*s.* per lb. for handpressed, and 30*s.* to 36*s.* per lb. for distilled, were satisfactory, but the prices for concentrated and raw lime juice were so low that a large quantity of the raw juice was thrown away after extracting the oils.

The crops for the last five years calculated in barrels of green limes are :—

Year.	*Quantity.*
	Barrels.
1927	58,948
1928	30,107
1929	37,345
1930	25,970
1931	46,308

Coconuts.—The coconut crop continues to increase steadily and a record output of 9,951 cwt. of copra was exported, an increase of 24 per cent. on the previous year; also a record number of nuts was exported, being an increase of 37 per cent. on the previous year.

The market for copra was unusually variable during the year. Prices commenced at £15 10*s* 0*d.* per ton c.i.f., rising to £16, and falling in March and April to £13. During September the price fell as low as £11 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton, but recovered rapidly and closed at £15 17*s.* 0*d.* per ton.

Trial shipments of selected nuts were sent to London and were well received, netting about 8*s.* 2*d.* per bag. Green and dry nuts were shipped to Canada and Bermuda.

The total value of coconut products exported was £7,047.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Number.	£
1927	96,813	351
1928	141,667	499
1929	295,983	1,032
1930	268,078	862
1931	367,350	1,178

Coconut Oil.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1927	3,921	735
1928	931	184
1929	—	—
1930	—	—
1931	—	—

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	4,077	4,409
1928	6,301	8,690
1929	7,195	9,878
1930	8,002	7,428
1931	9,952	5,869

Coconut Meal.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1927	7	88
1928	4	38
1929	1½	6
1930	—	—
1931	—	—

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The serious state of the world's markets in the main crops of the island has compelled planters to turn their attenion to alternative crops, and much effort has been given in recent years to the production of fruit and vegetables. This has been encouraged by the fact that St. Lucia is eminently suited for the production of all kinds of tropical fruits, and the fact that there is a ready and growing market in the Dominion of Canada. Every encouragement is given by Government to the peasant producer as well as to the larger proprietor.

The production of oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples has made such strides in recent years that it has now become necessary to provide legislation to control the grading, packing, and marketing of the fruit, and the year 1931 was marked by the opening of a Government Fruit Packing Depot and the provision of cold storage. All fruit destined for the United Kingdom, the Canadian and the Bermuda markets is now packed under the supervision of Government Inspectors and the fruit must be up to an approved standard before it is permitted to leave the Colony. Crates, boxes, and other packages have been standardized and the industry is on a thoroughly sound basis.

Very valuable assistance is given by Government, through the Agricultural Department, by the establishment of experimental grounds and nurseries from which proved and standardized varieties of fruit trees, etc., are supplied to growers at a very low rate. Agricultural instructors are also employed for the benefit of peasant cultivators.

The following shipments were made :—

	Quantity exported to						*Value.*	
Article.	Canada.	Bermuda.	U.K.	U.S.A.	Other places.	Total.	1930.	1931.
							£	£
Green limes Brls.	154	1,832	228	Unknown.	Unknown.		3,218	5,418
Grapefruit Crates	—	79	14	—	do.	do.	65	36
Oranges ,, ...	—	271	—	—	do.	do.	223	169
Mangoes ,, ...	204	3,464	68	—	do.	do.	915	2,172
Avocado Pears, Crts.	34	2,789	—	—	do.	do.	366	567
Pineapples ,,	1	62	—	—	do.	do.	18	23
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,613	1,558
Total... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,418	9,943

Stock.—The general run of stock in the island is poor, but Government is about to introduce pedigree bulls, rams, and boars with a view to improvement.

A dairying enterprise was commenced in 1931 but so far the products have not been sufficient to supply local demand and the industry is not sufficiently advanced to make further comments necessary.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1931, as compared with 1930, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1931.	1930.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	52,682	65,569
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	14,536	55,212
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured	69,127	65,300
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including Parcel Post.	7,004	6,871
Totals	£143,349	£193,252

The above table shows a decrease of £49,903 in the total imports for 1931 as compared with those of 1930, due chiefly to a decrease of no less than £40,190 in the importation of coal (Class II). The principal decreases in Class I were flour, £4,388; fish, £2,187; edible oil, £1,019. Machinery was responsible for a moderate increase in Class III.

The values of imports for 1931 and 1930, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1931.	1930.
	£	£
United Kingdom	48,874	46,077
Other parts of the British Empire	41,012	47,907
Foreign Countries	46,473	92,439
Parcel Post	6,990	6,829
Totals	£143,349	£193,252

The above table discloses a 6 per cent. increase in the imports from the United Kingdom and decreases of a little over 14 per cent. and 49 per cent. respectively in the imports from other parts of the British Empire and foreign countries. The decrease in the latter case was largely due to the falling off in coal imports, and to an adverse rate of exchange at the latter part of the year.

The values of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1930 and 1931 were as follows :—

Article.	1930.	1931.
	£	£
Coal, bituminous	45,349	5,159
Cotton—		
Piece-goods	8,421	7,541
Other manufactures ...	10,023	10,826
Fish, salted and dried, etc. ...	8,267	6,080
Flour, wheaten	19,549	15,161
Hardware—other kinds ...	3,519	5,495
Oil, edible	6,296	5,277

The drop in coal, previously referred to, is plainly seen in the above table. The decreases in cotton (piece-goods), salted and dried fish, wheaten flour, and edible oils were all due to fall in prices, as in each case greater quantities were imported in 1931.

The following table is given as suggestive of openings for British products :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1931.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Cotton manufactures, piece-goods	7,541	5,199
Manures	2,646	233
Motor cars	3,244	1,592
Oleomargarine	2,025	59
Soap, common	4,171	2,429
Totals	£19,627	£9,512

Exports.

The values of exports in 1931, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1931.	1930.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	65,563	80,782
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	31,596	52,783
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	27,915	26,085
IV. Miscellaneous	118	267
V. Bullion and Specie	6,732	12,731
Totals	£131,924	£172,648

There was, as is shown in the above table, a decrease in total exports in 1931 of £40,724 as compared with 1930, cocoa (Class I) realized £5,136 less than in 1930 owing to the continued drop in prices, as the difference in quantities exported was infinitesimal. Sugar yielded £9,735 or 21·50 per cent. less. The quantity exported was 13 per cent. less. The decrease of £21,187 in Class II was almost entirely due to less coal being exported.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

Article.	*Value in* 1931.	*Value in* 1930.
	£	£
Cocoa	14,125	19,261
Lime and lime products ...	26,125	23,619
Fancy syrup and molasses ...	1,194	2,872
Sugar	35,554	45,289
Bunker coal	24,004	43,398
Copra	5,869	7,428
Charcoal...	2,031	2,140

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.		*Total.* 1931.	*Total.* 1930.
United Kingdom—	£	£	£
Domestic exports	19,110		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	1,022	20,132	61,816
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic exports	49,705		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	3,241	52,946	32,944
Foreign countries—			
Domestic exports	26,791		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	212	27,003	20,170
Ships' Stores—			
Re-exports		1,067	1,589
Bunkers—			
Re-exports		24,044	43,398
Totals		£125,192	£159,917

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch, experienced a very sharp decline in 1931 as a result of the general economic depression. The quantity of bunker coal taken was only 16,248 tons by 61 steamers and 1 warship, as against 31,306 tons by 109 steamers and 4 warships, in 1930. There are a number of labourers in and around Castries who depend on the coaling trade for employment, to whom 1931 must have been a most disappointing year.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

No index figure covering the cost of living has ever been kept in the Colony so that no comparison can be made.

The wages of agricultural labourers are framed and paid principally by the "task," and a man labourer so working can earn from 1*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* per day. Female labour under similar conditions can earn from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day. At these rates it is somewhat difficult to induce labourers to work for more than five days per week.

Agricultural labourers working for a weekly wage earn at a rather lower rate than the foregoing.

On other industries the average rates are as follows :—

Factories :—

Sugar	Men 2*s*. to 2*s*. 6*d*. per day.
Lime	Artisans 2*s*. 6*d*. to 5*s*. per day

Amongst the clerical and shop assistant classes the average weekly wage for a man does not exceed 30*s*., but such a one in St. Lucia is probably better off than is the same class of worker in, say, Great Britain. His taxation is less, and is, perhaps, less oppressive since his Municipal Taxes are lighter and his Government Taxes are chiefly indirect. (Incomes under £100 are not liable to Income-Tax). Due to climatic conditions clothing is usually of light washing material and is very much cheaper than are the heavy tweeds, etc., necessary in Great Britain. Rents are lower, but his house is not so substantial and up to date as would be necessary in England. On the whole, the standard of living, amongst this class, compares very favourably with the same class in Great Britain.

Imported food-stuffs are considerably more expensive than in Great Britain. The following current retail prices are given as examples :—

Bread	4*d*. per lb.
Butter	2*s*. 8*d*. per lb.
Cheese	2*s*. per lb.
Bacon	2*s*. 4*d*. per lb.
Sugar	Granulated 3*d*., Lump 6*d*. per lb.
Flour	2½*d*. per lb.
Beer	10*d*. per reputed pint.
Jam	1*s*. 4*d*. per lb.
Potatoes	1½*d*. to 2*d*. per lb.
Cabbage	4*d*. per lb.
Mutton	1*s*. 8*d*. per lb.

Local mutton and beef is sold at 9*d*. and 8*d*. per pound respectively, regardless of cut, but it is generally of indifferent quality.

Local vegetables are varied and in most cases very good. Prices vary from time to time, even from day to day, but are not usually unreasonable. The chief local vegetables are :—sweet potatoes, yams, string beans, lima beans and other varieties of legumes, bread fruit, tannia, etc.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 50 recognized primary schools in the Colony. None of them are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of head teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average

attendance of the school. Further, it is possible for a head teacher to add up to 26 per cent. to his salary by means of bonuses awarded on the results obtained at the annual examination of the schools. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1931, the Government paid a total of £5,174 0*s.* 9*d.* to the school managers for salaries: to this sum the total amount added by the managers was £33 15*s.* 0*d.* The school buildings (the estimated annual rental value of which is £1,487 12*s.* 0*d.*) are the property of the churches, who spent, during 1931, £261 19*s.* 8½*d.* on repairs and furniture for them.

An attempt has been made during the year to formulate a scheme for the adjustment of teachers' salaries, it being felt that much hardship was caused by the manipulation of salaries to bring them within the fixed annual vote of £5,000. A committee under the chairmanship of the Inspector of Schools was appointed to consider this question. The recommendations of the committee included (*a*) a fixed salary to be attached to the head teachership of each school with a semi-seniority proviso for appointment; (*b*) abolition of the bonus system; (*c*) responsibility for sewing to be assumed by the staff of schools concerned, without extra remuneration; (*d*) a grant fixed in each school in aid of the payment of assistant teachers. In arriving at the figures, etc., the average attendance of the past five years was considered, together with the possibilities of increase or decrease in each individual school.

Agriculture is taught and school gardens are kept. The Agricultural Department advises in this work, and the standard is high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to 14 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools. The Castries Town Board award two similar scholarships. There are at present no scholarships awarded to primary school children available at St. Joseph's Convent School, but it is anticipated that such will be provided in 1932.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1931 St. Mary's College received £463 12*s.* 0*d.*, and St. Joseph's Convent £175 0*s.* 0*d.*

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils. Elementary Agricultural Science is taught at St. Mary's College, and certain commercial subjects may be taken at both schools.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination.

A certain number of Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association continued its valuable work during 1931. The Association is controlled by a committee of ladies and gentlemen and issues an annual report.

The Association does not receive direct financial aid from Government, but assistance is given by the provision of medicines, etc., free of charge, and the Government Medical Officers give their services to the clinics voluntarily.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia ; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football and cricket flourish and there is keen competition in both of these games, but it is to be regretted that they are almost entirely confined to the capital. Football amongst the primary school boys was stimulated in 1931 by the presentation of a shield for competition amongst them.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided. The social amenities of St. Lucia were enhanced in 1931 by the establishment of a golf club. A nine hole course has been laid out at the Vigie and a club house has been established. Visitors are permitted to play upon the payment of moderate green fees.

There is a cinema in Castries but the installation provides for silent pictures only. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted with electric lighting and the hall is occasionally used by itinerant entertainers, and also occasionally for the production of amateur theatricals.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,068, of a total tonnage of 1,432,999 tons. Of this total 536 were steamships and 532 sailing vessels. In addition, 112 American seaplanes visited the Colony during the year.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means :—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A monthly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness Withy Company.

(4) A fortnightly service to and from the Southern British West Indian Colonies by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Company.

(5) A weekly seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports en route, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

There are other frequent mail opportunities via Barbados, America, and also direct, to Europe.

Roads.

Internal communications are maintained by an excellent road system capable of carrying the very considerable amount of motor and other wheeled transport which exists.

The towns, villages, and the majority of the large estates are connected to the capital by main roads which are, for the greater part of their surface, oiled. These main roads are maintained by the Public Works Department and cover a distance of 127 miles, approximately.

A secondary system, classed as by-ways, leads from the main roads into the interior, providing access to the valleys and a means of transport for the peasantry. These by-ways are maintained partly by Road Boards, appointed by Government, and partly by the Public Works Department. The Boards supervise a length of 113 miles and the Public Works Department 35 miles; the whole of the maintenance costs are borne by Government. Fifty-six miles of by-ways are motorable.

A third system of roads, known as unclassified roads, also exists. These roads give access into the interior to pioneers and are unfit for vehicular traffic. They have a length of 74 miles and are maintained by the Public Works Department. As soon as circumstances warrant it they are made fit for vehicular traffic and are then turned over to the by-way or main road classification.

Motor Boat Service.

There is a daily coastal motor boat service along the western, or leeward, coast of the island. This vessel is operated by a private company subsidized and working under agreement with Government.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Telephones.

The Government provides telephonic communication throughout the island. The system comprises nine exchanges and 334 miles of wire of which 110 are trunk lines and 224 branch lines. The number of subscribers at the end of 1931 was 219 of which 163 were connected to the main exchange in Castries.

The service operates throughout the day and night.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

Branches of Barclays (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada are maintained in the Colony; they conduct all classes of banking business including Savings Banks. There is also a Government Savings Bank.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the island, but United States gold is also legal tender. The Banks referred to above issue currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government to the full value of the issue.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department controls all works paid from general revenue and supervises the maintenance of roads and bridges, the repairs to Government buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the Harbour and care of dredging plant. It also supervises the Government telephone system and the Crown Lands Department. There is a stores department which maintains a stock of materials, valued at £3,000, used on the above works; there is also a work yard in which artisans in most trades are employed.

During the year 1931 the following works were carried out:—

Roads and Bridges.—61,649 superficial yards of roads were covered with macadam, 230 culverts constructed with concrete, cylinder pipes were either repaired or reconstructed, and two small bridges of approximately 20 feet span were rebuilt. The amount expended on the maintenance of roads and bridges was £6,706.

Great assistance in alleviating distress caused by unemployment was given by a supplementary vote expended on the improvement and reconstruction of three sections of roads which either tapped productive areas or were the main means of access to the interior.

Buildings.—The usual standard of repair was maintained at a cost of £736. The works carried out were mainly protective measures, painting, etc. Owing to the utilizing of the Government Printery as a cold storage plant, the Government acquired a site and a new Printery was constructed at a cost of £610.

Electricity was installed at both Government House and the Victoria Hospital. The plants, which were similar, consisted of engines and accumulators.

In 1929 a storm destroyed sections of the wharves and during the year under review the last section was reconstructed. This section was rebuilt with greenheart piles and waling pieces, the holes filled with coral rocks and the entire wharf area was covered with coral dredgings. The expenditure incurred was £122.

At the request of the Castries Town Board a section of the Chaussee Road, approximately 3,000 square yards, was reconstructed, rolled, and oiled, and the amount expended was £359.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the Royal Court, over which the Chief Justice presides, and by three District Courts, over which two Magistrates preside. The Royal Court has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction and also decides appeals from the District Courts. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of these bodies and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary Police duties, this Force assists in the administration of Poor Relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone-breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

The criminal statistics for 1931 are as follows :—

1. Crimes reported or known to the Police, and Persons proceeded against on Charge of Crime.

Crime.	Crimes Reported or Known to the Police.			Persons Proceeded Against.				
	Total.	Not brought before a Magisterial Court for want of Evidence.	Brought before a Magisterial Court.	Number.			Apprehended.	Summoned.
				Total.	M.	F.		
1. Homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person	141	1	140	141	89	52	64	77
3. Praedial larceny	65	—	65	71	63	8	56	15
4. Other offences against property ...	181	25	156	186	135	51	171	15
5. Other crimes	593	—	593	751	400	351	187	564
	980	26	954	1,149	687	462	478	671

2. Persons dealt with in Summary Courts for Crimes and Offences.

Crime or Offence.	Number.			Discharged.		Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.				
								Sentences.			
	Total.	M.	F.	For want of Prosecution.	On the Merits of the Case.		Total.	Imprisonment.	Whipping	Fine.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Homicide	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person ...	345	194	151	28	71	11	235	9	1	181	44
3. Praedial larceny ...	108	96	12	3	15	—	90	27	7	53	3
4. Malicious injuries to property	4	3	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	2	—
4. Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property)	211	155	56	30	42	10	129	24	8	72	25
5. Other crimes ...	98	74	24	9	33	6	50	1	1	38	10
Abusive language ...	245	116	129	34	24	—	187	—	1	147	39
Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies ...	12	10	2	5	4	—	3	—	—	3	—
Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony... ...	233	137	96	19	33	—	181	—	1	149	31
Miscel. minor offences	549	295	254	50	89	—	410	14	9	286	101

3. Persons for Trial in the Superior Court.

Crime or Offence.	Number.			Sex.		Not Tried (Nolle Prosequi, etc.)	Found Insane before Trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.						
									Sentences.						
	Total.	In Circuit Courts.	In Resident Magistrates' Courts.	M.	F.				Total.	Death.	Penal Servitude.	Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Fine.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Murder of wife or concubine															
Murder of child															
Murder other than wife, concubine, or child ...															
Manslaughter	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
2. Attempted murder ...															
Rape	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Offences against property with violence to the person	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	*1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against property	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
5. Other crimes	14	—	—	12	2	5	—	—	9	—	5	—	—	1	3
6. Abetment of Rape ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Whipped with the cat.

4. Comparative Table.

Comparative Table showing the number of convictions for various crimes and offences for the last four years.

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. Offences against the person	221	231	187	235
2. Praedial larceny	91	116	98	90
3. Malicious injuries to property	5	—	1	2
3. Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property)	77	88	116	129
4. Other crimes	109	105	80	50
Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies	5	6	6	3
Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony	173	171	208	181
Miscellaneous minor offences	465	621	294	410
The number of convictions in the Superior Court :—				
1. Murder of wife or concubine	—	—	—	—
1. Murder of child	—	—	—	—
1. Murder other than wife, concubine or child	—	—	—	—
1. Manslaughter	1	1	—	1
2. Attempted Murder	—	—	—	—
2. Rape	3	—	1	—
2. Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person ...	6	8	2	—
3. Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—
4. Offences against property with violence to the person	—	—	—	1
4. Other offences against property	7	12	7	3
5. Other crimes	1	—	11	9
6. Abetment of Rape...	—	—	—	—

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following legislation was enacted in 1931 :—

Ordinances.

27th January	...	No. 1.—An Ordinance to regulate the grant of pensions and other allowances to non-commissioned officers and privates of the Police Force.
7th February	...	No. 2.—An Ordinance to amend the Shipping Ordinance No. 40, 1916 Revision.
7th February	...	No. 3.—An Ordinance to amend the Plants Protection Ordinance, No. 14, 1916 Revision.
7th February	...	No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Pensions and Gratuities.
7th February	...	No. 5.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
7th February	...	No. 6.—An Ordinance to regulate the grant of pensions and other allowances to Prison Officers.
6th June ...	...	No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend the Agricultural Credit Societies Ordinance No. 10, 1916 Revision.
27th June...	...	No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Legal Practitioners.
27th June	...	No. 9.—An Ordinance to repeal the Census Ordinance.
27th June	...	No. 10.—An Ordinance to give effect to a certain Convention on the Execution of Arbitral Awards.
27th June	...	No. 11.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Saint Lucia for the year one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one.
27th June	...	No. 12.—An Ordinance to legalize the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year 1930 in addition to the sums granted by the Appropriation Ordinance No. 6 of 1930.
27th June	...	No. 13.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
31st October	...	No. 14.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
31st October	...	No. 15.—An Ordinance to amend the Rural House Tax Ordinance, No. 121, 1916 Revision.
14th November	...	No. 16.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Medical and Dental Practitioners, the practice of Midwifery and the qualifications of Chemists and Druggists.
14th November	...	No. 17.—An Ordinance relating to Public Health.
12th December	...	No. 18.—An Ordinance to amend the Royal Court Amendment Ordinance, No. 4 of 1921.
12th December	...	No. 19.—An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance.
12th December	...	No. 20.—An Ordinance to regularize the Collection of Water Rates in certain towns and villages and to indemnify certain persons with respect thereto.
12th December	...	No. 21.—An Ordinance to amend the law regulating the Emigration of Persons from Saint Lucia.

Proclamations.

24th January	...	No. 1.—Appointing 4th April, 1931, as the date of the dissolution of the Legislative Council.
24th January	...	No. 2.—Appointing 20th April, 1931, as the date of the election of members for the Legislative Council.

13th June	...	No. 3.—Declaring the unclassified road leading from Guesneau to Paix Bouche to be a public bye-way.
25th July	...	No. 4.—Acquiring a certain portion of land being the site for model cottages in the town of Castries.
19th September	...	No. 5.—Appointing Monday the 5th October, 1931, to be a bank holiday, for offering general thanksgiving after the reaping season.
24th October	...	No. 6.—Appointing 4th November, 1931, the date for the consecration of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in the Parish of Castries, to be a public holiday.
14th November	...	No. 7.—Royal Court Criminal Session. 1.12.31.
28th November	...	No. 8.—Acquiring certain portions of land being the site for a new bridge over the Dennery River.
4th December	...	No. 9.—Appointing 14th December, 1931, to be a half-holiday.

Orders in Council.

7th February	...	No. 1.—Sugar (Local Consumption) Ordinance, 1920, No. 23—fixing the manufacturers' and retail prices at which usine sugar locally manufactured shall be sold locally.
7th March	...	(Royal) Saint Lucia (Legislative Council) Amendment Order in Council, 1931.
4th April ...	...	No. 2.—Applying Part III of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1926, to dihydromorphinone and its salts and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of dihydromorphinone.
11th July	...	(Royal) Arbitration (Foreign Awards) No. 1 Order, 1930.
11th July	...	(Royal) Arbitration (Foreign Awards) No. 2 Order, 1930.
22nd August	...	No. 3.—Guarantee Fund Ordinance, No. 91, 1916 Revision—addition of "Chief Packer, Government Fruit and Vegetable Depot" to the list of officers coming under—

Notices.

10th January	...	No. 1.—Diseases of Animals Ordinance, No. 17, 1916 Revision—rescission of the restriction *re* importation of animals from St. Kitts and Nevis.
24th January	...	No. 2.—Customs—Prohibiting the importation of solid rubber tyres for attachment to any mechanically propelled vehicle.
21st February	...	No. 3.—District Court—fixing the building known as the Drill Hall as a place for holding sittings of the First District Court.
21st February	...	No. 4.—Royal Court—fixing the fourth Friday in any month as the day for hearing appeals.
11th July	...	No. 5.—District Court—fixing the building known as the Royal Court as a place for holding sittings of the First District Court.
24th December	...	No. 6.—Customs—prohibiting the importation of any pistol, etc., in the form of a stylographic pen or pencil and any cartridge containing any tear gas.
24th December	...	No. 7.—Public Health Ordinance—coming into operation of.

Rules.

7th February	...	No. 1.—Post Office—Air Mail letter rates.
4th April	...	No. 2.—Commercial Code—fees in respect of United Kingdom Designs.
13th June	...	No. 3—Scholarship—Medical Examination.
11th July	...	No. 4.—Education—amending the age for Probationers Examination.

25th July	...	No. 5.—Education Rules—amendment.
8th August	...	No. 6.—Education Rules—amendment.
28th September	...	No. 7.—Public Works—closing or limiting the use of any road.
3rd October	...	No. 8.—Volunteer Ordinance—Rules in connexion with.
17th October	...	No. 9.—Pensions—appointment of pensioner to another office in the service of the Colony.
30th October	...	No. 10.—Post Office—Parcel Post Rates.
12th December	...	No. 11.—Rules—Dennery Market.

By-laws.

4th April	...	No. 1.—Building Amendment—making every building used as a bakery fireproof.

There is at present no legislation in the Colony covering factories or compensation for accidents; there is however an Ordinance on the subject of Workmen's Compensation under consideration, this will be introduced into the Legislative Council at an early date.

There is no legislation covering provision for sickness, old age, etc.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.*	*Ordinary Expenditure.*	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.*
	£	£	£
1927	82,491*	84,219	1,728
1928	85,351†	87,235	1,884
1929	83,139‡	86,434	3,295
1930	82,588§	91,453¶	8,865
1931	98,902‖	103,893**	4,991

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £191,218 at the close of the year, while the accumulated Sinking Fund for its redemption amounted to £55,444, which (in accordance with new instructions) represented the middle market value of securities held.

---

* Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,000.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,836.

‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,000.

§ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £6,664 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £2,400 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

‖ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,700 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £20,462 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

¶ Includes £5,140 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

** Includes £16,026 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

The assets of the Colony, amounting to £24,455 12*s.* 8*d.* are made up as follows :—

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—		
In hands of Sub-Accountants	347 16 0	
,, ,, Crown Agents (Current Account) ...	185 11 0	
At Barclays Bank (Current Account)	1,089 11 11	
		1,622 18 11
Investments—		
On account of Savings Bank	6,751 19 11	
,, ,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,169 14 7	
,, ,, Baron Trust Fund	102 15 6	
,, ,, Soufriere Water-works Reserve Fund	95 1 5	
,, ,, Dennery ditto	135 5 8	
,, ,, Castries ditto.	309 17 9	
,, ,, Public Buildings Insurance Fund	758 2 6	
,, ,, Castries Fire Relief Loan ...	1,084 11 0	
		10,407 8 4
Loans—		
Castries Town Board for Cemetery	139 14 5	
,, ,, ,, ,, Streets (from P.B. Insurance Fund)	2,850 0 0	
,, Water Authority for Water-works ...	600 0 0	
Town of Soufriere for Market, etc.	288 0 0	
,, Vieux Fort for Sea-wall	264 0 0	
,, ,, ,, Water-works	100 0 0	
Village of Dennery for Water-works	288 0 0	
,, ,, Choiseul for Market, etc.	54 0 0	
,, ,, Canaries for River-wall	72 0 0	
Lime Factory	727 11 7	
		5,383 6 0
Stores—		
Public Works Materials and Stores	2,086 1 3	
Colony Drug Store	862 1 4	
		2,948 2 7
Advances—		
Choiseul Village Fund	44 11 5	
Dennery Village Fund	125 0 0	
Vieux Fort Village Fund	56 1 6	
Lime Factory Working Account	511 17 7	
Post Office Account	902 0 9	
Other advances	1,347 2 3	
		2,986 13 6
Drafts and Remittances Account		1,106 3 4
Total Assets ...		£24,455 12 8

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-Tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax and on incomes over £100 the first £100 is free from

taxation; the remainder is taxed according to the following Schedule :—

For every pound of the first £100	... ...	4*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, next £200	... ...	6*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £300	... ...	1*s*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £400	... ...	1*s*. 6*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	... ...	2*s*. 3*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	... ...	3*s*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	... ...	3*s*. 9*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	... ...	4*s*. 6*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	... ...	5*s*. 6*d*.
,, ,, ,, of the rest of the chargeable income		5*s*. 6*d*.

The only other source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows :—

Of an annual rental of :

Over £5 and not over £7 10*s*.	... ...	7*s*. 6*d*.
,, £7 10*s*. and not over £10	... ...	10*s*.
,, £10 and not over £12 10*s*.	... ...	15*s*.
,, £12 10*s*. and not over £15	... ...	20*s*.
,, £15 and not over £20	... ...	28*s*.
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed annual rental value.		

In the case of the towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed eight per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is Import Duty. There is a Preferential Tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shewn.

There is an Excise Duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an Export Duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the F.O.B. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1930 and 1931 was as follows :—

	1930.	1931.
	£	£
Import Duties	36,534	36,748
Export ,, ...	1,760	1,907
Spirit Licences	884	835
Distillery Licences	112	113
Animals, Vehicles and Guns	665	652
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boats, etc. ...	851	722
Excise Duty on Rum	7,828	7,012
Trade Duty on Spirits	3,672	3,350
Stamp Duty	1,748	1,305
Income-Tax	3,223	2,522
Succession Duty	276	1,652
Rural House Tax	1,426	1,196

Taxation was increased during 1931 by raising the import duties on flour, oil (illuminating and motor spirit), and spirits (gin, rum and whisky).

Taxation on the other hand was decreased in 1931 by exemption from the Rural House Tax of houses of an assessed annual rental of £5 and under.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Thomas Alexander Vans Best, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, was in residence in the Colony from 30th January to 14th March and from 24th to 26th September.

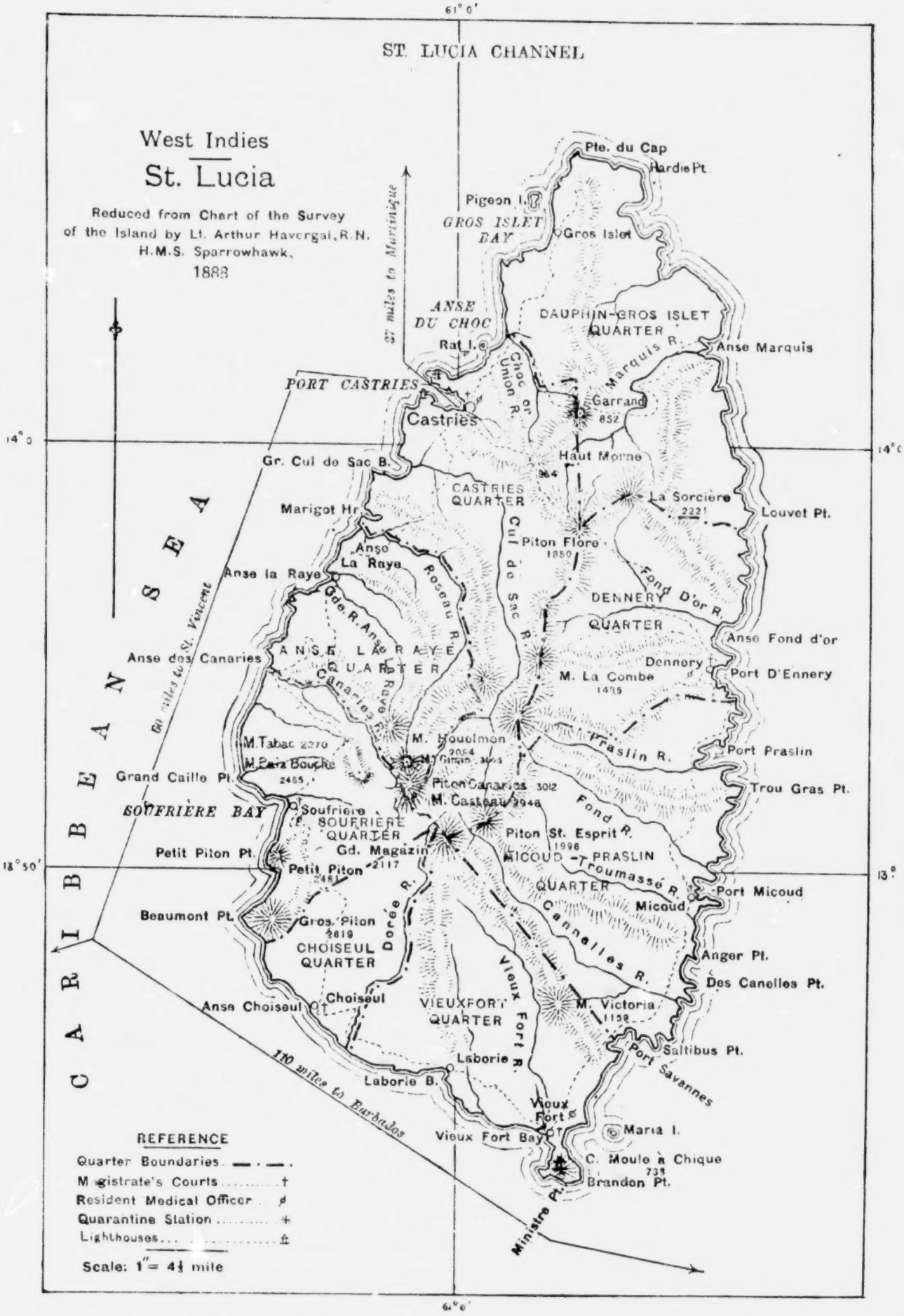
The following British ships of war visited the Colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Dorsetshire* in February.
H.M.S. *Norfolk* in February.
H.M.S. *Hawkins* in February.
H.M.S. *York* in February.
H.M.S. *Dauntless* in July.

His Majesty's Canadian Ship *Champlain* also called at Port Castries. She arrived on 9th and left on 16th February.

H. J. PINK,
Acting Administrator.

GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
SAINT LUCIA,
2nd September, 1932.



(16813) Wt.14962—792 500 11/32 P.St. G.7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d*. (10*d*.).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927-29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Report on the Cultivation, Treatment and Prospects of Rice in British Guiana. (E.M.B. 32.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

The Dissemination of Research Results among Agricultural Producers. (E.M.B. 33.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

The Demand for Empire Butter. (E.M.B. 34.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Relative Values of Cod Liver Oils from various sources. (E.M.B. 35.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

The Behaviour and Diseases of the Banana in Storage and Transport. (E.M.B. 36.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

The Demand for Canned Fruits. (E.M.B. 37.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Report of Proceedings of the Imperial Wool Research Conference, 1930. 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1d.).

Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s*. (£1 1*s*. 9*d*.).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B 46.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 11*d*.).

All Prices are net. Those in parentheses include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT, OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1605

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

GRENADA, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1511 and 1541 respectively (Price 9d. each.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1933

Price 1s. 0d. Net

58-1605

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE AT OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and Copies of Trade Agreements. [Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

CONFERENCE OF EMPIRE SURVEY OFFICERS, 1931.
Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND IN THE COLONIAL SERVICES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 8*d*.).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 9*d*.).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 65.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, MANDATED TERRITORIES, &c.
[Colonial No. 72.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.
Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.
Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITION AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIES, PROTECTORATES AND MANDATED TERRITORIES.
[Colonial No. 56.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.
Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.
Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 11*d*.).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s*. (5*s*. 9*d*.).

'IRAQ.
Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931.
[Colonial No. 58.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Report on the Administration of, 1931. [Colonial No. 74.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 8*d*.).

REPORT BY H.B.M. GOVERNMENT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN FOR THE YEAR 1931.
[Colonial No. 75.] 8*s*. (8*s*. 4*d*.).

All prices are net, and those in parentheses include postage.

Obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,

At Addresses shown on the Front Cover, or through any Bookseller.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1931.

CONTENTS.

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	10
VI.	Production	11
VII.	Commerce	13
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	14
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	14
X.	Communications and Transport	15
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	16
XII.	Public Works	16
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.	Land and Survey	22
	Map.	

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to the end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period the climate, although not really unhealthy, may be described as debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available in St. George's, fans are gradually being introduced into houses and offices. The highest temperature in 1931 was 92° on 13th April, and the lowest 70° on several days. The mean of maximum temperatures was 90° and the mean of minimum 71°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1931 was 107·12 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 72·67 inches.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

Grenada forms, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada.

Since 1877 the Government has been assisted by two Councils styled the Executive and Legislative Councils. The former consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, *ex officio*, and such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of appointment of Unofficial Members is six years. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of certain officials and of a wholly nominated unofficial element, the Governor (or Officer Administering the Government) being President with an original and a casting vote.

By an Imperial Order in Council dated 21st March, 1924 (which came into effect by Proclamation on 1st December, 1924), the official element was increased to eight and the unofficial fixed at three Nominated and five Elected Members. The duration of the Council is three years.

The present Official Members are the Governor (President with an original and a casting vote) the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, *ex officio*, the Chief Medical and Health Officer, the Superintendent of Public Works, the Director of Education, and the Commissioner of Carriacou.

Municipal affairs are in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of Nominated and Elected Members. The numbers vary between 8 and 14 according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local government are the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Board of Secondary Education, the Board of Primary Education, and the Forestry Board.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921 was composed of :—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were females and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's the capital at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1931, was estimated at 78,662. The estimated totals at the end of the preceding 5 years were :—

1926	71,621
1927	73,319
1928	75,214
1929	75,867
1930	76,967

The following table indicates the birth- and death-rates per 1,000 during the past decade :—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1922	29·50	18·8
1923	38·58	16·6
1924	31·86	16·8
1925	33·54	16·5
1926	33·53	20·3
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
Averages	32·67	17·09

The death-rate per 1,000 births of infants dying under one year in 1931 was 129, as compared with 119 in 1930.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 223, being 122 less than in the preceding year. The rate for the year was 2·0 per 1,000 persons living. The numbers and rates for the preceding five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*	*Rate per 1,000.*
1926	335	4·6
1927	350	4·7
1928	381	5·0
1929	351	4·6
1930	345	4·4

The arrivals during the year were 3,831 and the departures 3,160 as against 4,859 and 5,051, respectively, in 1930.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

Main Diseases and Mortality.

Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis) form the largest single disease group. From the departmental returns for 1931, covering a total incidence of 35,034 cases of general systemic and preventable diseases, the following percentage analysis shows the group incidence, and the percentage analysis of a total deaths' incidence—of 1,355—is also given :—

	Total Incidence. percentage.	*Total Deaths. percentage.*
Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis).	41·2	23·1
Skin and connective tissue diseases	18·36	0·88
General diseases and injuries ...	14·33	31·21
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal).	9·14	5·02
Diarrhoea and enteritis	6·65	17·9
Nervous diseases	3·06	4·87
Circulatory diseases	2·68	11·43
Digestive diseases	2·54	2·2
Respiratory diseases	2·04	3·39

On an analysis of infective diseases and their mortality, on a percentage basis of 12,430 cases reported with 313 deaths, these were grouped as follows :—

	Total Incidence. percentage.	*Total Deaths. percentage.*
Malaria	57·08	26·21
Influenza	22·02	6·17
Yaws	13·32	nil.
Gonorrhoea	3·9	0·32
Syphilis	1·42	19·49 (41 per cent. congenital.)
Pneumonia	1·03	19·49
Enteric fever	0·5	4·5
Tuberculosis	0·35	18·02
Dysentery	0·24	1·3
Other diseases	0·14	4·5

The above returns point to a slight increase in most groups as compared to those of the previous year, in which it is evident that the effect of depressed financial conditions is beginning to make itself felt ; though an epidemic of influenzal catarrh in the beginning

of the year was primarily responsible for the elevation in the sickness and death-rates—being accompanied with a large number of fatal cases of pneumonia. Apart from this epidemic, which prevailed during the first quarter of the year, there was no outbreak of epidemic disease throughout the year.

During the first five months of the year there was a period of drought—only 11·71 inches of rain being recorded, while in March there was only a fall of 0·74 inches. This was succeeded by a wet June and July, when 31 inches of rain fell, and was accompanied by an unprecedented (in recent years) activity of insect life: flies swarming all over the Colony and in Carriacou; mosquitoes—principally of the "bush" type—invading towns and villages. The result of the fly invasion was seen in an increased number of cases of gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea, and there was also a high mortality among infants and children, but the number of deaths was less—by 34—than 1930. Cases of enteric fever, although entirely sporadic, also showed an increase, there being 61 cases notified compared with 43 cases in 1930. Two infected persons also came from Trinidad and were admitted to hospital here in the acute stage of the disease.

Dysentery cases also increased in number, there being 30 cases, while there were 16 cases notified during 1930.

The position as to malaria fever continues to improve, and we are deeply indebted to the Rockefeller Foundation, not only for practical assistance in sending their expert malariologist, Dr. W. C. Earle, M.D., who is in charge of the Foundation's Bureau of Malaria Control at Porto Rico, to advise and direct our anti-malaria campaign once a year, and for laboratory and field material supplies, but especially for their undertaking to provide financial assistance for the ensuing year.

The incidence of cases of malaria continues to fall. The returns for 1931 show a reduction of 7 per cent. on those for 1930, and of 16·5 per cent on the 1929 returns—the year in which this campaign was inaugurated.

The field work has been prosecuted continuously, and the results of treatment of anopheline breeding places with Paris Green has proved very effective. On the advice of Dr. Earle no large expenditure was incurred, beyond the cost of surveying swamps, etc., until extensive operations in taking levels, experimenting on water courses, and more thorough investigation of anopheline breeding in the drainage areas have been accomplished.

There were 82 deaths reported as due to malaria during 1931, compared with 76 during 1930.

The incidence of venereal diseases is slightly lower than that of 1930. In the Police Force, where instructed and supervised prophylaxis has been instituted, the decrease in cases has been remarkable.

The number of yaws cases—1,665—dealt with during the year was greater by 322 than that of 1930, there being 1,343 cases under treatment during the latter year.

This was not due to increased incidence so much as to the activity of Sanitary Inspectors in compelling patients suffering from the disease to attend the treatment centres.

No other disease occurring during the year calls for special comment.

The vast majority of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits, either on cocoa and nutmeg estates, or on small holdings and garden lots where corn, fruit, ground provisions, and other vegetables are cultivated; cotton is also extensively grown in Carriacou and Petite Martinique. There is an appreciable fishing industry, and sailing vessels and boats are constructed principally in the two island dependencies of Grenada just mentioned. Modern industrial undertakings are not found, and no disease occurring can be classified as occupational. Soil pollution, apart from anopheline mosquitoes, is responsible for the greater part of disease incidence here.

Provisions for Treatment.

(*a*) *Medical and Health Staff.*

The staff of the Medical and Sanitary Department includes a Chief Medical and Health Officer; Resident Surgeon, Colony Hospital; eight District Medical Officers; and Medical Officer, Malaria Campaign. The nursing staff distributed through the Medical Institutions and District Medical Stations consists of one European Matron (Colony Hospital) and fifty nurses; there are also nine male and seven female attendants at the Mental Hospital. Hospitals and Dispensaries have four stewards, and there are six dispensers. The Sanitary Department is staffed by a Chief Sanitary Inspector and seven District Sanitary Inspectors. The usual minor staff of male nursing orderlies, messengers, porters, etc., is provided for. There is a well-equipped small bacteriological laboratory, but funds have not been adequate to provide a trained technical assistant for this valuable adjunct of the Department.

(*b*) *Hospitals and Dispensaries, etc.*

There is a well-equipped Colony Hospital (151 beds), at St. George's, which deals with the major part of the medical and surgical cases of the Colony, and two smaller District Hospitals—one in the thickly populated parish of St. Andrew's (23 beds), and one in the island of Carriacou (30 beds). A hospital for consumptives has 20 beds, and there is provision for 20 lepers, 10 female and 10 male, at a Leper Settlement. The Mental Hospital has accommodation for 118 lunatics, and the Poor Asylum for 58 inmates. There are seven Dispensaries, and fifteen Medical Visiting Stations, each with a resident nurse-midwife, and in each of which is a room with couch for emergency cases.

The Colony Hospital and the two District Hospitals dealt with 2,402 cases during 1931; this total includes 934 cases in the maternity section, including 487 pregnancies and 397 births, the balance being cases of premature birth and abortion, of which latter there were 10.

The Medical Visiting Stations established in 1926, have provided an invaluable aid to the District Medical Service, especially in the field of maternity and child-welfare; during 1931, the District Nurses attended 613 confinements and 971 cases of infants.

A new children's ward was presented to the Colony Hospital during the year—the generous gift of Mr. H. F. Pantin and his mother as a memorial to his uncle, the late Mr. E. Norton.

A dental clinic, with the aid of a grant from the Colonial Development Fund, was established in November, 1931 at the Colony Hospital, principally for the treatment of primary school children and paupers.

Preventive Measures.

The Sanitary Department, first established in 1926, has during the past five years, reformed public health procedure in Grenada, and in this much help has been received in improved water-supplies, drainage, and provision of latrines, etc.

Anti-mosquito work has been a principal concern, and the reduction in the incidence of aedes (stegomyia) in St. George's is in remarkable contrast to the conditions found by the late Sir Andrew Balfour, who in his *War against Tropical Disease* stated that when he visited St. George's some years ago, he was "devoured by stegomyia." The entomologist, Dr. F. N. Root, sent here by the Rockefeller Foundation to make a malaria survey in 1929, placed on record that during his stay in St. George's, neither he nor his staff were obliged to use mosquito nets.

In addition to assisting in the malaria campaign in anopheline destruction, the Sanitary Department tackles mosquito breeding all over the Colony. Fly breeding is also dealt with, and the reduction in the incidence of enteric fever and dysentery during the past five years owes no small degree of its success to anti-fly measures, together with extensive anti-typhoid inoculation; though no corresponding measure was applicable in cases of amoebic dysentery.

Maternity and child welfare is principally dealt with by District Nurses, resident all over the Colony. In St. George's, the Maternity and Child Welfare League conduct a very useful clinic for mothers and infants.

Medical inspection of school children was established, for the first time in Grenada, during the first quarter of 1931. Inspections of all schools in their districts are now made once a quarter by District Medical Officers, and during 1931 over 27,500 inspections were made.

Education in hygiene has been given a much needed impetus during the past year. By co-operation with the Director of Education during "Teachers' Week," the Chief Medical and Health Officer was enabled to give the elementary school teachers instruction in "How to teach hygiene to elementary school children." This is being followed up in the schools by inspections and examination of the children to ascertain if the practical lessons of *Blacklock's Elementary Tropical Hygiene* are being given, and the teachers have been made to understand that this is a subject which must be treated as important in the school curriculum.

Instruction of the adult population is principally given by Medical Officers in their routine, and by the Sanitary Inspectors and District Nurses in the homes of the people.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The latest accurate information regarding the habitations of the people is that furnished by the census of 1921, which showed a total of 15,188 houses made up as follows :—

Class.	*One-room. Per cent.*	*Two-room. Per cent.*	*Three or more rooms. Per cent.*
Stone	16·3	15·1	68·6
Wood	13·5	17·2	15·3
Mixed	7·1	29·5	63·4
Other	21·[illegible]	78·3	0·2

Of the total population at that date there were in :—

	Per cent.
Stone houses	2·4
Wooden houses	85·2
Mixed houses	8·2
Other houses	3·2
Public institutions	1·0

and the average number of inmates per house was :—

One-room	3·0
Two-room	4·6
Three or more	5·7
Average all classes	4·6

The census report of 1921 stated that while the majority of houses in the Colony with one or two rooms contained less than the average number of inmates shown above, many others were occupied by a far greater number than they were probably capable of accommodating with anything like a proper regard to health, comfort, and decency, and that, proportionately, overcrowding was more pronounced in the case of two-roomed houses. In one case there were as many as 13 persons in a one-roomed house, and in another 19 in a two-roomed house.

In the absence of a census in 1931 no recent accurate figures are available, but according to the tax rolls of 1931 there were 8,231 houses (valued above £4 per annum rental) outside the towns, and the rate rolls of the several towns listed 2,970 houses.

Generally speaking, housing conditions have not materially changed in the past decade, though a considerable number of better-class houses have been erected in recent years by persons of the middle class, mainly returned emigrants and prosperous peasant proprietors.

Except in St. George's, where housing schemes have been contemplated from time to time without reaching maturity, no effort has been made to ameliorate housing conditions. Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure, and building by-laws regulating the erection and alteration of houses in towns have been passed by the several District Boards.

There is one Building Society in the Colony established in 1925.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The Colony is purely agricultural and for purposes of external trade produces cocoa, nutmegs, mace, cotton and cotton-seed, fruit, cattle, sheep, poultry, copra, lime-juice and lime-oil, vegetables, hides, turtle and turtle-shell, mahogany, cedar, and log-wood.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for over 54 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crop exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	100,478	305,640
1928	91,444	274,461
1929	90,987	210,082
1930	84,863	192,543
1931	87,656	153,923

Owing to the prevalence of low prices there was a heavy fall in the value of cocoa exported.

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	21,238	103,444
1928	19,620	87,965
1929	22,666	100,323
1930	19,972	67,794
1931	26,195	54,808

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years have been as follows:—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	3,733	59,145
1928	3,141	49,260
1929	3,765	55,766
1930	3,567	41,395
1931	3,658	28,864

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to improve the cultivation.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years:—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1927	3,788	15,890
1928	2,568	10,735
1929	2,945	14,905
1930	3,256	15,395
1931	2,369	6,272

Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and importation of raw sugar amounted in 1931 to 2,495,398 lb., of the value of £11,705.

The values of lime and coco-nut products exported in 1931 were £10,570 and £4,088, respectively.

An attempt is now being made to develop a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada. It has to be remembered that the remaining fertile land not already under profitable cultivation is limited, and development of new cultivation to any great extent could only be at the expense of uprooting other permanent crops.

Rum is manufactured at thirteen sugar estates, but none is exported, the production being barely equal to the demand of local consumption. The quantity made last year was 25,835·2 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good, fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £550,878, imports representing £269,618 and exports £281,260, leaving an apparent favourable trade balance of £11,642.

IMPORTS.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

Article.	*1931*	*1930.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£
Flour	30,168	41,999	47,743
Cotton piece-goods	20,371	25,812	29,645
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	9,320	15,946	24,821
Fish, dried	10,765	13,991	18,488
Rice	10,387	13,209	14,720
Boots and shoes	6,433	7,412	11,749
Sugar, unrefined	11,705	12,629	10,086
Motor spirits	6,657	8,603	9,964
Hardware	3,990	5,810	8,144
Motor cars	2,353	7,362	7,185
Motor parts	3,853	5,695	7,174
Kerosene oil	5,354	5,849	7,111

EXPORTS.

The principal exports during the last three years were as follows :—

Article.	*1931.*	*1930.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£
Cocoa	153,923	192,543	210,802
Spices, nutmegs	54,808	67,794	100,323
Do. mace	28,864	41,395	55,766
Cotton, raw	6,272	15,395	14,905
Cotton seed	2,000	4,286	4,119
Lime oil	9,269	6,971	10,976

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1931 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports.	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.*	*Percentage of total.*
	£		£	
United Kingdom	106,933	39·5	162,729	57·7
United States of America ...	36,245	13·4	75,272	26·6
Canada	55,631	20·6	22,622	8·4
Other British Possessions ...	51,490	19·4	18,109	6·4
Other Foreign Countries ...	19,319	7·1	2,528	·9

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 34·0 and 46·1 respectively.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have been maintained during 1931, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are :—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	1s. 2d.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. per lb.
Pork, fresh	8d. per lb.
Chicken	6d. per lb.
Fish, fresh	6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	3d. per bottle.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice	2½d. per lb.
Butter	2s. 6d. per lb.
Sugar	2d. per lb.
Bread	3d. per lb.
Flour	2½d. per lb.

Board and lodging can be had at £8—£9 per month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35—£40 a month, and, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20—£25 a month.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education under the presidency of the Director of Education.

There is a Government Secondary School (Boarding and Day) for boys at which the attendance now averages about 130. Additional buildings have recently been acquired and the school now has a science laboratory and gymnasium.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary school and the primary schools in a Manual Training Centre in St. George's.

The school now has its own playing fields.

Three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 85 to 118.

The total expenditure by Government was £1,486.

The number of recognized primary schools at the end of the year was 60.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1931 was 13,442, the average attendance being 7,794 or 57·9 per cent.

Evening classes in shorthand and typewriting have been fairly well attended.

The total expenditure by the Government was £10,130.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and iand passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados, and other neighbouring islands.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station operated by Imperial and International Communications, Limited, is established in St. George's, and communicates direct with Barbados.

A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station is installed at Carriacou, and communicates with Grenada.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, at present under reconstruction without interruption of business, has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges and 2,113 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1931 was 772.

The island is well supplied by a good system of main roads and by-ways kept in good repair by seven motor road-rollers. All the main roads and practically all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic. The mileage of main roads is 115, and of by-ways 274.

There are regular services of motor-buses between all the towns.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five-dollar notes issued by the two Banks are in circulation.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks in the Colony.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for practically all Government engineering work including roads, bridges, buildings, waterworks, Crown lands and surveys, land drainage, machinery, harbour, sanitary, etc.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two senior assistants and one mechanic at Headquarters, and two District Road Surveyors. The office staff comprises one chief clerk and accountant, one storekeeper, one second clerk, and one typist.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1931, was £73,875 inclusive of a sum of over £34,000 expended on Colonial Development Works, all of which were carried out under direct control of the Department, one additional temporary Road Officer having been engaged for general supervision and other details connected with the Western Main Road work.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained during the year was 383 miles, of which 56 miles were surface treated with oil or emulsion, 267 miles metalled, and 60 miles are earth roads.

Due to the abnormally heavy rainfall during the latter half of the year, expenditure on removal of slides and repair of other drainage was considerably increased. The principal work carried out as the result of storm damage was a reinforced concrete retaining wall at Grand Bacolet 30 ft. long, 12 ft. high.

Of the 18 miles of road reconstructed and oiled or treated with emulsion 15 miles represent work completed on the Western Main Road with provision made from the Colonial Development Fund, and include important diversions at Battery Hill near the town of Victoria and at Union.

Amongst the other works carried out during the year, the most important were the completion of the dental clinic and children's ward at the Colony Hospital, a house for the Colonial Secretary and two others for Government officers in the town of St. George's, and the new Lighthouse at Point Saline. The model school in Carriacou was begun and extensive repairs and additions were made to Government House and other official residences.

Good progress was made with the extension of the water service, including new waterworks at Mount Horne, and additional concrete tanks in Carriacou and Petite Martinique. The latter island was also provided with a jetty.

In Grenada the Queen's Park was extended by draining and filling, and the proposed drainage of the swamp at Sauteurs was surveyed.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, there are the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two Magisterial Districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that District.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the proceedings therein are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance and prosecutions for criminal offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases when counsel is employed.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. Thus, in the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,717, as compared with an average of 2,571 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,717, the number of summary convictions was 1,910 and that of convictions in the Supreme Court, 28, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,807 summary convictions and 29 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 207 as against 198 in 1930, and 163 in 1929.

Three cases of homicide occurred during the year, two of which were committed for trial in the Supreme Court. Of these one was found insane and incapable of understanding the proceedings, and the other was acquitted. One person committed in 1930 for trial in the Supreme Court for attempted murder, died in prison while awaiting trial. There were no cases of offence against property with violence to the person.

(ii) Police.

The strength of the Police Force on 31st December, 1931, was one Officer in Command, one Inspector, and 98 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 210, employed on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, administration of poor relief, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a Fire Brigade and Government Band are under its management and control.

(iii) Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 151 persons were committed to the male prison and 44 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 33·41 and 3·63 respectively.

One death occurred; the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate place and at a different time to ordinary cases. There is no reformatory or other institution in the Colony for the detention of young offenders.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Magistrates' Courts.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1.—Regulating the grant of pensions to members of the Police Force.

No. 2.—Validating the electors lists of 1931.

No. 3.—Providing supplementary appropriation for 1930.

No. 4.—Consolidating the law relating to primary education.

No. 5.—Providing pensions for certain head teachers.

No. 6.—Consolidating the law relating to water-supplies.

No. 7.—Providing for the collection of water-rates in Carriacou.

No. 8.—Amending the Customs Duties Ordinance.

No. 9.—Providing for the destruction of court records.

No. 10.—Suspending Ordinance No. 8.

No. 11.—Amending the fees for liquor licences.

No. 12.—Amending the fees for licences for sale of agricultural products.

No subsidiary legislation of any importance was passed during the year.

There is no factory legislation, but a Bill for such an Ordinance is under consideration. Compensation for accidents is provided under the Compensation for Injuries Ordinance (Cap. 146). There is no legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue of the Colony was seriously affected by continued trade depression during the year. The revenue from all sources amounted to £141,739 which included £18,505 from the Colonial Development Fund, and a grant of £750 from the Imperial Government under the Trade Facilities Act.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1931 :—

Head.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	82,599	81,211	79,906	70,743	59,494
Harbour, Cargo dues	2,375	2,338	2,424	2,458	2,837
Licences, Excise, etc.	37,105	36,057	36,162	31,776	27,814
Estate duties	2,673	423	3,249	1,148	1,147
Income-tax	10,244	14,251	10,318	7,152	6,913
Fees of Office	6,484	5,154	5,918	6,471	6,005
Post Office	2,662	3,315	4,572	2,897	2,587
Telephones	4,289	4,367	4,463	6,176	6,599
Water-supplies	322	304	2,898	2,981	2,829
Revenue from Government property...	3,932	4,468	5,760	5,547	4,536
Interest	1,473	1,227	1,309	1,289	1,343
Miscellaneous	617	322	352	378	246
Land sales	733	432	971	179	134
Colonial Development Fund (Grant and Loan).	—	—	—	2,000	18,505
Grant from Imperial Government ...	—	—	—	750	750
Totals	£155,508	£153,869	£158,302	£141,945	£141,739

No changes were introduced in the methods of raising revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £195,183, being more than the revenue by £53,444.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years :—

	£
1927	131,413
1928	131,244
1929	138,193
1930	168,088
1931	195,183

The expenditure for the year 1931 includes £10,760 on Public Works Extraordinary, and £34,738 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments, at the end of 1931 was £161,155 5s. 4d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock (Colony's share)	115,470	0	0
Inscribed Stock (District Board's share) ...	8,200	0	0
	£123,670	0	0
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	73,760	0	0
	£197,430	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market ...	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water-supply Extension Loan ...	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	4,000	0	0
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System	3,986	8	0
	£256,632	19	4
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	95,477	14	0
Net indebtedness	£161,155	5	4

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £2,350 were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1931, was £44,089, to which may be added the sum of £22,667 representing expenditure on the Western Main Road up to 31st December, 1931, temporarily met from surplus funds to be reimbursed by loan. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve

Fund) at 31st December, 1931, were £25,115 and the balance is made up as follows :—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards ...	1,081		
Loans to Central Water Authority	15,045		
		16,126	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		6,989	
			9,137
Public Works stores ...			3,399
Colony Drug Store			1,950
Electricity, etc., stores ...			2,142
Grenada Land Settlement ...			380
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account			950
Fruit and Vegetable Bureau			596
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board			420

Taxation.

The first Schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected. Duties are payable at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* (British Preferential Tariff) on boots, chinaware, cotton manufactures, cutlery, electrical apparatus, glassware, hardware, wool and wood manufactures of British origin, and 22½ per cent. *ad valorem* on similar foreign goods.

The following specific rates of duty are collected on spirits and tobacco :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy ...	17s. 6d. per proof gallon.	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.
Gin	15s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,
Rum ...	10s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,	12s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,
Whisky ...	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Cordials and... Liqueurs ...	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured :—		
Cigars, Cigarettes ...	9s. 4d. ,,	14s. 0d. ,,
Other manufactured tobacco	6s. 0d. ,,	9s. 0d. ,,

Export duty is levied on the following local products :—

Cocoa	1s. to 2s. or over per cwt. variable with price of cocoa in London market.
Cotton ...	1s. to 5s. per cwt. variable with price in Liverpool market.
Cotton seed ...	6d. per cwt.
Nutmegs ...	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Mace	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1d. to 4½d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime juice (raw)	10d. to 2s. 6d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime oil ...	1d. to 3d. per lb. according to f.o.b. price.
Green limes ...	6d. and over per barrel according to f.o.b. price.

Excise duty is collected on rum made in the Colony at the rate of 6s. per gallon. Total collections in 1931 amounted to £9,383. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. is collected on all spirits delivered for consumption.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance, land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 4s. to 28s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £20 p.a., pay 7 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by a trading company at 3s. on every £, and by a Life Insurance Company at 1s. 0½d., on every £.

CHAPTER XVI.

LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature is the number of small-holdings in Grenada. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various Land Settlement Schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The land holdings, according to the tax rolls are as follows :—

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*
15,770	13,173	1,686	306	210	395

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

Trigonometrical and cadastral surveys of the islands are contemplated.

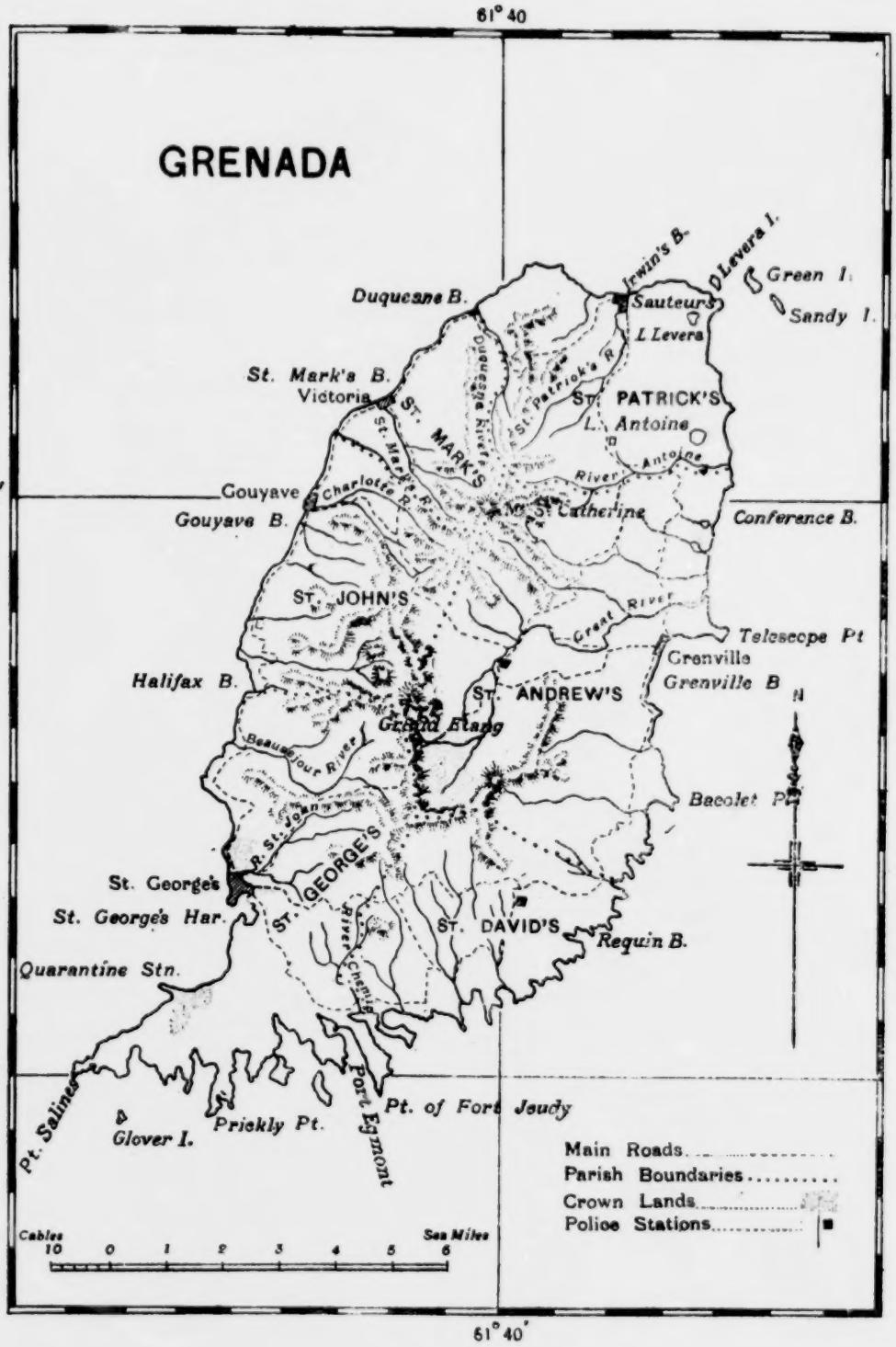
I. C. BEAUBRUN,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

GRENADA.

29*th August*, 1932.



(17447—28) Wt. 18917—1056 500 1/33 P. St. G. 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d.* (10*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s.* (£1 1*s.* 9*d.*).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B. 46.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 11*d.*).

Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Canned Vegetables. (E.M.B. 56.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Wool Survey. A Summary of Production and Trade in the Empire and Foreign Countries. (E.M.B. 57.) 2*s.* (2*s.* 6*d.*).

Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Storage of Tropically-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Control of Wastage in Bananas, with special reference to Time and Temperature Factors. (E.M.B. 60.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

All Prices are net. Those in parentheses include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM THE SALE OFFICES OF

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

AT THE ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT,

OR THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

andron

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1619

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

ST. VINCENT, 1932

(For Report for 1930 see No. 1526 (Price 9d.) and for Report for 1931 see No. 1577 (Price 1s. 3d.))

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2
York Street, Manchester 1; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1933

Price 1s. 3d. Net

58-1619

us publishing company, inc.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE AT OTTAWA, 1932.

Summary of Proceedings and Copies of Trade Agreements. [Cmd. 4174.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.

Report of the Imperial Committee on, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

CONFERENCE OF EMPIRE SURVEY OFFICERS, 1931.

Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s.* 9*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 81.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 3*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brig.-Gen. Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during the year 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.

[Colonial No. 65.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, MANDATED TERRITORIES, &c.

New Edition, 1933. [Colonial No. 83.] 7*s.* 6*d.* (8*s.*).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.

Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... £1 10*s.* (£1 10*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 11*d.*).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Report of a Commission on the Financial and Economic Position of, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE LIST.

1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.

Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

'IRAQ.

Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931. [Colonial No. 58.] 5*s.* 6*d.* (5*s.* 11*d.*).

Report on the Administration of, 1931. [Colonial No. 74.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 8*d.*).

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 82.] 9*s.* 6*d.* (9*s.* 10*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At the Addresses on the Front Cover of this report.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1932

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	4
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	6
VI.—Production	6
VII.—Commerce	9
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	10
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	11
X.—Communications and Transport	12
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	13
XII.—Public Works	14
XIII.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	14
XIV.—Legislation	19
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	23
XVI.—Miscellaneous	26
Appendix.—List of Publications	27
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78°F. to 85°F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above sea level, was 94·52 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 4·77 inches on 8th October.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council, and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created instead, composed of twelve members, three *ex officio*, three nominated by the Crown, and six elected by the people.

This Constitution also was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, four *ex officio* members, one nominated unofficial member and three

elected members. The island is divided into three Electoral Districts, each returning one elected member. An election takes place every three years, the last being held in May, 1931.

There is also an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. Every person other than *ex officio* members vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

Municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board consisting of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race is as follows :—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans) ...	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1931 and 1932 :—

	1931. (Census returns).	1932. *
Estimated population	47,961	49,665
Births, excluding stillbirths	1,852	2,002
Birth-rate per 1,000	41·09	40·31
Stillbirths	119	128
Percentage of live births to stillbirths ...	6·04	6·39
Death-rate per 1,000	21·23	16·31
Deaths of children under one year (excluding stillbirths)	281	188
Mortality per 1,000 births	152	380
Marriages	232 (4·23 per 1,000).	195 (3·92 per 1,000).
Emigration	2,732	2,350
Immigration	3,403	2,731

* The estimated population and the percentages are based on the census figures of 1931, with the natural increases and decreases for the year under review.

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1932 was relatively healthy. No epidemic of a serious nature occurred. Whooping-cough continued to be prevalent in the Fourth Medical District.

Table " A " sets forth the sickness recorded in the districts, as well as the number treated in the institutions.

Table " B " shows the principal causes of death in the island of St. Vincent.

TABLE " A "

	1931.	1932.
Attendances at dispensaries	34,997	35,477
Colonial Hospital—In-patients	1,191	1,183
,, ,, Out-patient casualties ...	304	413
Casualty Hospitals (2) In-patients	73	141
Pauper, Lunatic, and Leper Asylums ...	184	175
Totals	36,749	37,389

TABLE " B "

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*		*Percentages of total deaths.*	
	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	92	47	9·04	5·82
Senility	110	97	10·81	12·02
Bronchitis	71	44	6·97	5·45
Ascariasis	58	38	5·70	4·71
Tuberculosis	47	52	4·62	6·44

As the whole Colony is purely agricultural, practically all the sickness is amongst the labouring class.

The Colony of St. Vincent is divided into six Medical Districts, the island dependencies of Bequia, Mustique, Balliceaux, and Batawia form a part of No. 1 District ; the islands of Union, Canouan, and Mayreau are visited monthly by the Medical Officer of Carriacou of the Grenada Medical Service.

Each district is supplied with a medical officer, dispenser, nurse-midwife, and sanitary inspector. In addition to the central dispensary in each district there are a certain number of subsidiary dispensaries and visiting stations. Altogether there are 14 well-equipped dispensaries and six visiting stations. Each dispensary and station is visited regularly by the District Medical Officer except in Kingstown where the attendance is daily at the central dispensary.

Thanks to the Colonial Development Fund water-supplies have been installed at various villages and settlements on the Leeward and Windward coasts. To the same Fund is due the erection of two much-needed subsidiary dispensaries.

Living conditions of the labouring class are on the whole good, due to the fact that the majority of labourers have either a small holding or provision land in the mountains. The acquisition of the Three Rivers Estate will provide a suitable area for the extension of peasant proprietorship.

The absence of any cyclonic disturbance was a strong factor in the production of edible crops.

V.—HOUSING.

Taken as a whole the housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in the country villages the houses are of the most primitive form—mud and wattle with cane-trash roofs. The same applies to the housing of the labourers on many estates. In most cases the estate rents a house-spot to a labourer with the result that the worst possible house is erected. The estate owner assists the labourer by renting him mountain lands to grow his provisions and in many cases a certain amount of grazing land for his cow, etc. It is a matter of moment that the Sanitary Authority has now stepped in and passed rules governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses. The enforcement of sanitary laws will have most beneficial effect on the future housing problem.

Thanks to the Colonial Development Fund a model village of fifty houses, each 20 feet by 10 feet, each house erected in a fenced-in lot of 75 feet by 50 feet, has been established at Chateaubelair and Georgetown. These neat, sanitary houses, each having its own lavatory and kitchen, are being purchased by the labouring class on easy terms spread over twenty yearly payments, and costing in all under £55.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

There are no minerals found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The following table gives the kind of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown by peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentage used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products produced.

Crop.		Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage used.		Estimated value.
			Plantations.	Peasants.	Locally.	Exported.	
							£
1. Cotton—Sea Island.	lb.	208,505	55	45	—	100	11,347
2. Cotton—Marie Galante.	,,	68,033	27	73	—	100	1,417
3. Cacao	,,	126,000	70	30	66	34	2,600
4. Arrowroot ...	,,	3,814,977	80	20	3	97	48,949
5. Cassava ...	,,	539,645	75	25	4	96	3,369
6. Sugar	tons	400	100	—	50	50	3,800
7. Syrup	gal.	274,000	75	25	50	50	11,000
8. Copra	lb.	2,227,631	98	2	—	100	11,700
9. Maize	,,	50,125	25	75	75	25	200
10. Groundnuts ...	,,	63,596	80	20	25	75	500
11. Peas and beans	,,	109,070	70	30	25	75	681
12. Sweet potatoes	,,	4,000,000	20	80	75	25	3,500
13. Plantains ...	stems	3,000	20	80	80	20	300
14. Tannias ...	lb.	160,000	15	85	80	20	1,330
15. Yams	,,	100,000	15	85	60	40	270
16. Miscellaneous vegetables.	,,	110,000	20	80	25	75	230
17. Bananas ...	stems	1,300	25	75	80	20	204
18. Tomatoes ...	lb.	400,000	60	40	66	34	3,520
19. Oranges ...		240,000	40	60	80	20	300
20. Grapefruit ...		42,000	40	60	90	10	130
21. Coco-nuts ...		300,000	20	80	80	20	1,800
22. Limes	brls.	2,600	50	50	95	5	1,300
23. Mace	lb.	2,735	60	40	—	100	139
24. Nutmegs ...	,,	11,549	60	40	—	100	151
25. Ginger	,,	2,820	5	95	50	50	20

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers by the Government Cotton Ginnery for their cotton; it is ginned, baled and shipped for them; when sold 5 per cent. is deducted for handling charges and the remainder paid *pro rata* to them.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

9. Maize is purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery to which a Granary is attached. The maize is shelled, kiln-dried, and stored. When sold, 5 per cent. is deducted for handling charges and the remainder divided *pro rata* among vendors.

18. Tomatoes produced by peasants for export are graded, wrapped, packed, and shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. After account sales have been received, 10 per cent. is deducted for handling charges. The remainder is paid *pro rata* as a bonus to vendors.

Other fruit such as Avocado pears, limes, oranges, etc., is also shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

21. Not converted into copra.

Livestock.

In the agricultural census of 1931 the following numbers of animals appear as being in the island. Appended thereto are the estimated values with the estimated numbers owned by plantations and peasants, also the numbers exported with their values for 1932.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1932.*	*Value of Exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,068	3,481
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,282	77	480
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,377	846
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	169	283
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	505	262
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,216	20	234
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	3	24

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. Apart from this there are some whaling stations situated on some of the small islands. In 1932, 1,385 gallons of whale oil valued at £120 were exported, and 244 lb. of turtle shells and thirty-two turtles valued at £13, were sent out of the Colony. Practically all of the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, on others they work on their own holdings. They are usually paid so much per task, in other cases they are paid by the day.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is on a par with that performed on plantations. Broadly speaking all peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they cultivate their own lands in a similar manner. They receive advice from Agricultural Officers.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, and who own land, is 2,763. Of this number, 2,614 possess areas from 1–10 acres, 116 from 10–20 acres, and 31 from 20–30 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and also for export.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses some excellent pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. Some years ago the Government possessed a stud farm, consequently the animals attached to this have left their mark on the existing farm animals.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is run in conjunction with a modern sugar factory on a plantation. In 1932, 34,638 gallons of rum were distilled; of this 10,169 gallons were exported and were valued at £1,525.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £246,588, of which £149,289 represents imports and £97,299 represents exports as against a total of £290,657 in 1931, of which imports and exports were represented respectively by £177,492 and £113,165, thereby showing a total trade decrease for 1932 of £44,069, due principally to reduced values of both imports and exports consequent on continued depression throughout the world.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

	Imports.	Exports.		
Year.		*Island Produce.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1928	192,476	155,884	2,588	158,472
1929	186,439	151,207	363	151,570
1930	200,830	146,704	5,033	151,737
1931	177,492	111,597	1,568	113,165
1932	149,289	95,693	1,606	97,299

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	62,335	58,030	73,802	74,256	65,274
Canada	45,787	49,382	43,763	34,346	25,954
British West Indies ...	11,873	11,350	15,091	10,078	10,635
India	1,098	888	1,199	418	595
Newfoundland	5,301	5,106	4,473	3,087	3,738
Ceylon	324	397	451	861	299
Other British Colonies ...	8,730	10,459	9,395	6,869	6,714
United States of America ...	44,127	37,645	39,008	34,850	23,191
France	3,189	3,424	3,597	3,301	2,838
Denmark	857	693	752	132	79
Germany	1,741	2,169	2,162	2,012	1,472
Holland	999	1,011	1,285	1,223	968
Foreign West Indies ...	720	384	629	272	263
Other Countries	3,812	4,110	3,308	4,079	4,969
Unclassified	1,583	1,391	1,915	1,708	2,300
	£192,476	£186,439	£200,830	£177,492	£149,289

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	69,274	70,301	71,715	56,227	49,835
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	18,075	16,792	18,785	15,497	15,300
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	103,192	97,810	108,083	103,928	81,608
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	1,925	1,536	2,247	1,840	2,546
Class V.—Bullion and specie.	10	—	—	—	—
	£192,476	£186,439	£200,830	£177,492	£149,289

The following are the percentages, in the last five years, of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	32·38	31·12	36·75	41·83	43·72
United States of America ...	22·93	20·19	19·43	19·64	15·53
Canada	23·79	26·49	21·79	19·35	17·39
All other Countries ...	20·90	22·20	22·03	19·18	23·36

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

Country of destination.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	68,930	62,000	64,800	44,600	30,108
Canada	16,435	15,446	15,816	12,334	9,376
Bermuda	292	434	429	526	278
British West Indies ...	39,653	41,252	38,814	23,625	25,366
British Guiana	272	788	532	205	445
United States of America ...	30,628	25,580	24,683	28,072	27,489
Other Countries	2,262	6,070	6,663	3,803	4,237

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are :—females 6d.–8d. per day, males 10d.–1s. 6d. per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by task; this varies from 8d.–1s. A task usually means 5–6 hours' work. Such labourers as these are often provided with house-spots at peppercorn rent and land for cultivation, and pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land. Trees which produce mangoes, pears, and breadfruit, and plants bearing other edible fruit are

often found wild or can be obtained for the reaping. Fish are caught in the sea or rivers and cost practically nothing to the person who catches them.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the number in their families.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from five to fifteen years.

On 31st December, 1932, there were 36 primary schools. Of these 13 were provided by Government and the remaining 23 by the religious denominations. The salaries of all the teachers, the equipment of both Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the "non-provided" school buildings are met from the general revenue of the Colony. Of the denominational schools nine are Anglican, 12 Methodist and two Roman Catholic.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1930, 1931, and 1932 :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.
Number of schools	35	36	36
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	8,573	8,838	9,105
Average attendance	4,690	4,730	5,153
Percentage of average attendance...	54·7	53·5	56·6
Total expenditure by Government...	£5,717	£6,590	£7,476
Cost per child of average attendance	£1 4*s.* 5*d.*	£1 7*s.* 10*d.*	£1 9*s.* 0*d.*

The Government maintain two secondary schools—the Grammar School and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of £2 per term. At 31st December the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 84 and at the Girls' High School 87.

Three scholarships, open to pupils of the primary schools and tenable at one or other of the above-mentioned institutions, are provided annually by Government. Free places (one by each body) are also annually awarded by the Town Board of Kingstown and the Methodist Church.

There is an island scholarship of the annual value of £250. This is awarded biennially on the results of the London Matriculation Examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the selected seat of learning is also defrayed.

There are no technical or vocational schools but in the curriculum of the Glen "Community" School, just completed, agriculture and handicrafts will play important parts and the instruction will be made to bear a close relation to rural life.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements are well established in the Colony. There are now 14 Troops of the former and 16 Companies of the latter. Small amateur bands provide music for ceremonial occasions.

Provision for maintenance in the event of accident or sickness is offered by the Friendly Societies, operating under Friendly Society Ordinance No. 49 of 1843. This is the only form of insurance against sickness.

The Thompson Home, a philanthropic institution, provides food and shelter for the " genteel poor " and the same class receive under the Graham Trust Bequest free treatment at the Colonial Hospital.

Opportunities for recreation, reading and social intercourse have been widened, especially in the rural districts. The Sun Ray Club at Questelles and the Volunteer Club in Kingstown have been established as well as an Aquatic Club at Villa, three miles from Kingstown, and one at Edinburgh, a suburb of Kingstown.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads of the Colony are divided into two sections, viz., leeward and windward as shown below. The principal means of communication between the leeward coast and the capital, Kingstown, is by means of motor launch and canoes, and that of windward by motor vehicles.

The reconstructing and oiling of the road from Kingstown to Georgetown is being continued, also improvements to certain byways.

A new road was opened from Section 8, Leeward Highway at the entrance to the Westwood Crown Lands Road leading through Westwood Estate, through Belmont Land Settlement Road, and connecting up the Troumaca Byway.

Roads.	*Mileage. Total.*	*Oiled mileage.*	*Macadamized mileage.*	*Earth mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Road ...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Kingstown District roads.	4	1⅛	3⅞	—	Motor vehicles.
Windward Road ...	24½	12½	12	—	do.
Vigie Road	11	—	9	2	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Byways.					
Leeward	64⅜	—	3	61⅜	Carts and animals.
Windward	112¾	—	17	95¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Road in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	do.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	67	—	—	67	do.

Postal.

The Central Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony, and there are eighteen District Post Offices.

On the windward portion of the island there are eight Offices with which a daily mail service by motor bus is maintained. The bus leaves Georgetown at 8 a.m., and Kingstown on the return trip at 2 p.m.

A daily mail service by motor launch is maintained on the leeward coast and a weekly service to the Grenadines by the Government sloop *Carib*.

Mails are conveyed to Bequia three times a week by sailing boat.

Telegraph service is carried out by Imperial and International Communications, Limited. The Wireless Station was destroyed by fire during the year.

Telephones.

A telephone service is maintained by Government which links up Kingstown, the capital, with two exchanges in the Windward District and one in the Leeward District.

Ample call office facilities are given from the various Post Offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

Steamers of other lines also call at various other periods.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a note circulation of £15,236. It is estimated that the amount of coin in circulation amounted to between £4,000 and £6,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 3 per cent. per annum, particulars of which are unknown.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1932, was £6,750.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1932, was £13,675. Interest at 3 per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coin of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is four shillings and two pence of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The following works were undertaken from assistance under the Colonial Development Fund :—

1. Extension of the Troumaca dispensary to provide quarters for the nurse.
2. Extension of the Chateaubelair water supply to New Settlement.
3. Construction of 100 model houses for labourers (50 at Chateaubelair Town Extension, 50 at Georgetown, Caratal and its vicinity).
4. Erection of incinerators at Georgetown, Layou, and Chateaubelair.
5. Completion of concrete drains at Georgetown, Calliaqua, Barrouallie, and Chateaubelair.
6. Laying of the Sion Hill water-supply by means of a hydraulic ram.

Other works of importance included :—

1. Renovating Low Point buildings for Tubercular Home.
2. Construction of medical station at Questelles.
3. New addition to existing Grammar School building.
4. Construction of latrine at Troumaca Bay.
5. Improving water-supply at Sandy Bay—making concrete cover over well and installing pump.
6. Improving springs at Evesham and Calder—making concrete enclosure and fencing same.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Organization of Justice.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which district is composed of the following :—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie, and Georgetown (on the windward coast), and the island of Bequia.

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which district is comprised of the Southern Grenadines—Union Island, Mayreau, and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

Statistics of Criminal Prosecutions and Convictions (First and Second Districts).

First District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	6	39	96	141
Malicious injury of property ...	—	1	1	2
Praedial larceny	—	—	1	1
Offences against property ...	4	2	22	28
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	2	34	190	226
Other offences	6	88	367	461
	18	164	677	859

Convictions.

Result of convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	78	1	1	18	—	186	285	569
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	4	—	—	—	—	4	27	35
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	9	—	—	—	—	—	35	44
Whipping	3	—	—	—	—	—	8	11
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	2	—	—	4	—	—	12	18
	96	1	1	22	—	190	367	677

Second District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	19	13	176	208
Malicious injury of property ...	2	4	19	25
Praedial larceny	2	18	211	231
Offences against property ...	4	1	54	59
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	2	2
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	2	32	696	730
Other offences	41	57	598	696
	70	125	1,756	1,951

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	126	13	144	38	2	693	449	1,465
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	17	1	9	5	—	2	29	63
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	11	3	17	4	—	1	31	67
Whipping	9	2	33	4	—	—	16	64
Bound over	13	—	8	3	—	—	73	97
	176	19	211	54	2	696	598	1,756

Police.

Organization of the Police Force.

Personnel.—The authorized strength of the Force as provided for in the Estimates, 1932, was :—

Officers :

Chief of Police	1
Sub-Inspector of Police	1
Total	2

Other Ranks :

Sergeants	3
Corporals	5
Lance-Corporals	6
First Class Constables	10
Second Class Constables	10
Third Class Constables	14
Recruits (i.e., Constables with less than one year's service)	3
Total	51

On 31st December, 1932, the Force was up to strength. There are nine stations in the Colony besides the Police Headquarters in Kingstown. All are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia Island and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular daily except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Two officers and thirty-four non-commissioned officers and men are kept at Headquarters, the remainder being at the out-stations.

Being under a semi-military organization the Force receives training throughout the year in drill, musketry, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period the constable is deemed to continue enrolled for a further like period and so on from time to time unless he shall have signified his intention to resign before the end of such period.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise :—

(1) The record office, warders' mess-room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery, and bath-room for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper floor being occupied by the prison chapel and warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four large associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing sixteen single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room, and a weighing-room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one main building, the ground floor being divided into three association cells and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison; during the last four years there have only been seven, and six of these for only short periods. When they are, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning, etc. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. Many of them suffered from venereal disease and ulcers. In nearly all the cases of those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks they leave prison in better health than that in which they arrived.

The most prevalent diseases among the prisoners while serving sentence are common colds and constipation.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the Ordinances passed, together with a table indicating the changes introduced, and of the subsidiary legislation issued :—

1932.

Ordinances.

No.	*Short Title.*
1.	Exportation of Fruit.
2.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
3.	Licences (Amendment).
4.	Land and House (Additional) Tax.
5.	Public Lands and Buildings.
6.	Customs Duties (Amendment No. 2).
7.	Supplementary Appropriation.
8.	Indictable Offences (Amendment).
9.	Registration of United Kingdom Patents (Amendment).
10.	United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Amendment.
11.	Importation of Animals (Diseases Protection).
12.	Land Settlement Loan.
13.	Customs Duties (Amendment No. 3).
14.	Customs Duties (Amendment No. 4).
15.	Arrowroot (Amendment).
16.	Official Emoluments Levy.
17.	Commissions of Enquiry (Amendment).
18.	Midwives (Amendment).
19.	Stamp (Amendment).
20.	Licences (Amendment No. 2).
21.	Export Duties.
22.	Export Duties (Amendment).
23.	Appropriation.
24.	Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Amendment.
25.	Arbitration Clauses (Protocol).
26.	Medical Registration (Amendment).

TABLE SHEWING THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION OF 1932.

Ordinances affected.	*Subject.*	*How affected.*	*By what Ordinance.*
Cap. 24 ...	Indictable Offences	Addition of sub-section to section 81 to provide for punishment of officers, etc., of institution for abuse of female lunatics	No. 8 of 1932.
Cap. 42 ...	Cattle Diseases Prevention.	Repealed : orders or regulations to remain in force until rescinded or amended by the Governor in Council ...	No. 11 of 1932.
Cap. 79 ...	Public Lands and Buildings.	Repealed	No. 5 of 1932.

TABLE SHEWING THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION OF 1932.—*Contd.*

Ordinances affected.	*Subject.*	*How affected.*	*By what Ordinance.*
Cap. 113	Medical Registration	Section 16 repealed	No. 26 of 1932.
Cap. 116	Midwives	Section 13 repealed	No. 18 of 1932.
Cap. 156	Registration of United Kingdom Patents.	New provision added to section 4.	No. 9 of 1932.
Cap. 160	Commissions of Enquiry.	Addition of new section 18 to provide for representation by Counsel	No. 17 of 1932.
Cap. 184	Customs Duties ...	Para. 3 of second schedule amended by the deletion of the words "or body of Boy Scouts" and substitution therefor of the words "or bodies of Girl Guides and Boy Scouts"	No. 2 of 1932.
Cap. 184	Customs Duties ...	Clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of item 93 of the First Schedule repealed and replaced	No. 6 of 1932.
Cap. 184	Customs Duties ...	Item 14 of First Schedule repealed and replaced ...	No. 14 of 1932.
Cap. 186	Export Duties ...	Repealed	No. 21 of 1932.
Cap. 189	Licences	Sub-section added to section 5 to provide for the grant of a licence for a period of three months (to be called visitor's licence) to any person temporarily visiting the Colony in cases in which the licence fee payable equals or exceeds ten shillings	No. 3 of 1932.
Cap. 189	Licences	Section 15 amended. Schedule C amended to include Insurance businesses	No. 20 of 1932.
Cap. 195	Stamp	Amendment of schedule to increase from £30 to £50 the duty payable on every licence to issue or re-issue bank notes also by deletion under "Exemptions" of the item "Bills of entry for goods imported into this Colony through the Parcels Post" and the insertion therein of "Bills of entry for goods imported into this Colony through the Post Office—each set £0 0s. 1½d." ...	No. 19 of 1932.
No. 27 of 1926.	Licences	Section 3 amended by deletion therefrom of item providing for payment of half rates by Ministers of Religion and Registered Medical Practitioners	No. 20 of 1932.
No. 11 of 1929.	Protection of United Kingdom Designs.	Addition of new provision to section 4	No. 10 of 1932.

Orders in Council, Rules, Regulations, and Proclamations.

Date.	*Subject.*
1932.	*Orders in Council.*
21st April	Under the Cotton Protection Ordinance (Declaring Close Season for St. Vincent).
,, ,,	Under the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act (Removing the prohibition on the importation of animals from the British Isles and Jamaica).
17th Oct.	Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Extending Part 4 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance to acetyldihydro-codeinone and its respective salts and to any preparation, admixture and extract containing acetyldihydro-codeinone).
,, ,,	Under the Importation of Plants (Diseases Prevention) Ordinance (Prohibiting the importation of banana suckers and soil or plants growing in soil).
1932.	*Rules, Regulations, etc.*
19th Jan.	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Establishment of Money Order Service with Bermuda).
15th Feb.	Under the Traffic Regulation Ordinance (Prohibiting the use of four-wheeled vehicles on the bye-way through the Government Office Yard to the Grammar School).
,, ,,	Under the Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance (Disposal of moneys in the hands of the Registrar).
,, ,,	Under the Passenger Boats Ordinance (Prescribing conditions for conveyance of passengers by Passenger Boats).
20th ,,	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Rates of postage on letters, etc., for transmission by Air Mail).
18th March	Under the Electricity Supply Ordinance (Amending minimum charge per month for current supplied from eight shillings to five shillings).
11th April	Under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance (Amendment of conditions relating to the licensing, etc., of Wireless Receiving apparatus).
,, ,,	Fixing new Diet Scale for the Colonial Hospital and other Institutions.
12th ,,	Under the Education Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations with respect to Capitation Grants and Teachers' Certificates).
,, ,,	Under the Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1929 (Prohibiting the use of Saccharine in the preparation and manufacture of aerated waters).
,, ,,	Under the Public Health Ordinance, 1927, and the Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1929 (Governing sale of Milk).
,, ,,	Under the Public Health Ordinance, 1927, and the Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1929 (Governing Bakehouses).
,, ,,	Under the Public Health Ordinance, 1927, and the Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1929 (Governing Food Vendors and Food Vending Establishments).
15th ,,	Under the Volunteer Ordinance (Regulations for the governance of St. Vincent Volunteer Force).
22nd ,,	Under the Education Ordinance (Conditions for grant of Scholarships and Exhibitions from Primary Schools).

Orders in Council, Rules, Regulations and Proclamations.—*Contd.*

1932.	*Rules, Regulations, etc.*
7th May	Rules prescribed by the Graham Bequest Committee for the administration of the Graham Wing of the Colonial Hospital.
18th ,,	Under the Telephone Ordinance (Restricting the use of the telephone number of a renter in any advertisement or notice issued solely for or on behalf of any person or persons other than himself).
28th ,,	Under the Secondary Education Ordinance (Payment of an additional fee of 2s. per term for the Games Club and the Library by every boy of the Grammar School).
,, ,,	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Fixing rates of postage on letters to the United Kingdom, British Possessions generally and to the U.S.A.)
20th June	Under the Patents Ordinance (Rules relative to the granting of Patents for inventions made by Civil Servants in the Colony).
,, ,,	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Collection of commission on Money Orders payable by St. Vincent and Trinidad).
,, ,,	Under the Public Cemeteries Ordinance (Dues for interment at the Biabou Cemetery).
,, ,,	Under the Shop Hours Ordinance (Providing for the closing hour of shops in Georgetown on the Wednesday before Christmas).
,, ,,	Under the Secondary Education Ordinance (Payment of an additional fee of 2s. per term for the Games Club and the Library by every girl of the Girls' High School).
23rd ,,	Under the Lunatics Ordinance (Regulations for the government of the St. Vincent Mental Home).
,, ,,	Under the Motor Car Ordinance (Regulations giving effect to the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic signed at Paris, April 24th, 1926).
,, ,,	Under the Education Ordinance (Conditions relative to giving Religious Instruction in a Denominational School).
,, ,,	Amendment of Regulation 21 of the Leave Regulations made on the 26th day of January, 1929.
,, ,,	Amendment of Regulation 3 of the Passage Regulations, 1929.
,, ,,	Under the Motor Car Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations with respect to the conveyance of passengers by motor omnibus).
18th July	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Repealing previous Regulations and fixing rates of postage on correspondence from St. Vincent to places beyond the limits of the Colony).
20th ,,	Under the Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1929 (with respect to Mosquitoes).
29th Aug.	Under the Patents Ordinance (Amendment of paragraph 3 (c) of the rules made on the 20th day of June, 1932).
,, ,,	Under the Passenger Boat Ordinance (Grant of Certificates of Competency to Masters of passenger boats).
17th Oct.	Under the Police Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations of 20th January, 1923, with respect to Clothing and Kit, and Dress Regulations).
,, ,,	Under the Electricity Supply Ordinance (Suspension of certificates of competency issued to wiremen).

Orders in Council, Rules, Regulations and Proclamations.—*Contd.*

1932.	*Rules, Regulations, etc.*
19th Oct.	Under the Education Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations with respect to Instruction in Needlework).
,, ,,	Under the Education Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations with respect to Salaries of Teachers).
12th Nov.	Regulations made by the Governor in Council for the Insurance of Letters.
,, ,,	Under the Post Office Ordinance (Governing the use of Insured Boxes).
25th ,,	Under the Pensions Ordinance (Amendment of Regulations made on the 6th day of December, 1929, relative to grant of pensions).

1932.	*Proclamations.*
15th Aug.	Proclaiming 25th August as a Bank Holiday.
17th Oct.	,, 31st October as Thanksgiving Day.
8th Dec.	,, 27th December as a Bank Holiday.
,, ,,	,, 3rd January, 1933, as a Bank Holiday.
30th ,,	,, the extension of time for payment of taxes for the year 1932 without fines.

There has been no factory legislation, compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years, excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	72,073	67,903
1931	68,550	79,543
1930	68,602	67,769
1929	64,090	70,786
1928	64,593	60,442

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1932, amounted to £93,543, of which £1,820 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £30,000 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £5,816.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1932, amounted to £7,880, the greater part of which sum is represented by unallocated stores and loans to boards.

The main heads of taxation are :—

		£
Import Duties	... yield for 1932	25,584
Export Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,034
Licences ...	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,772
Excise Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	5,147
Land and House Tax	,, ,, ,, ...	5,639
Income-tax	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,353
Stamp Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	961
Estate Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	116
Trade Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,499

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows :—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and Shoes (Canvas with rubber soles).	4*d.* per pair.	1*s.* 4*d.* per pair.
Do. other kinds	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Flour, wheaten	4*s.* per 196 lb.	5*s.* per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s.* ,, 100 ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* ,, ,, ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Machinery	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined ...	5*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 11*d.* per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	1*s.* 9*d.* ,, ,, ,,	5*s.* 3*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Hardware	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	20 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery, cotton and art. silk	3*d.* per pair.	9*d.* per pair.
,, silk	9*d.* ,, ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured ...	4*s.* 8*d.* per lb.	7*s.* per lb.
,, unmanufactured	1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.	1*s.* 9*d.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	6*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 1,000 ft
Motor cars	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor cars (wholly British)	—	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts—except tyres—(wholly British).	—	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	2½*d.* per gal.	4*d.* per gal.
Meats, salted, etc.... ...	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Metals	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter and substitutes ...	8*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	20*s.* 10*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

In addition to the foregoing a further duty of 12½ per cent. of such duties is levied.

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 10 per cent. preferential tariff and 15 per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1932 was £5,147.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £961 in 1932, the summary of the rates is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for		2	0
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange			1
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3

	£	s.	d.
Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property, for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards... ...			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof... ...		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax of two shillings per acre or part of an acre on land and a graduated scale of from 2s. on houses of which the annual rental value does not exceed £5, to £4 per cent. on houses whose annual rental value exceeds £20. The revenue from this source amounted to £5,639.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of one shilling on amounts not exceeding £1 and five per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands and Surveys.—The revenue collected during the year amounted to £687 6s. 7d. Arrears amounted to £512 as compared with £458 in 1931.

Diagrams were prepared on twenty-seven title deeds.

No surveys were carried out by surveyors in private practice.

Nine surveys were carried out by the Government Department.

Land Settlement.—The Three Rivers Estate, comprising some 700 acres, was purchased by Government for the extension of the Land Settlement Scheme. The survey and division of this estate into allotments were proceeded with in the year under review.

During the year His Excellency the Governor visited the Colony from 29th April to 15th May.

Matters of considerable moment to the community were the completion of the Government Ice and Cold Storage Plant (which came into operation early in the year), the successful functioning

of the Co-operative Arrowroot Association which has more than justified its existence, and the building and establishment of the Community School at Glen by the Methodist body.

Other events of importance were the passing of the new preferential rates (as the outcome of the Ottawa Conference) and the Conference of West Indian Cotton Growers at Barbados. The conclusions and recommendations of the Cotton Growers Conference will, it is hoped, result in some improvement in the cotton industry and the marketing of the product.

During the year under review two serious losses were sustained through fire. The International Communications Company's Wireless Station was destroyed by fire and the Government Motor Launch *St. Vincent* was similarly destroyed.

His Majesty's Ship *Danae* visited the Colony on the 2nd September, remaining in port for three days.

A Tubercular Home at Low Point was opened on 14th August and provision made for accommodation for ten female patients. The Home has afforded shelter and comfort to these victims of a dread disease.

The Grammar School building was enlarged in order to afford an additional class room. This is a great asset to the School.

St. Vincent, like the rest of the world, is undergoing a serious time of economic depression. The unemployment problem has, however, never assumed serious proportions in this Colony.

APPENDIX.

Title of Publication.		*Price.* s.	d.	*Agent for Sale.*
St. Vincent Blue Book		10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do.	Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do.	Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

(20078—28) Wt. 900—3053 625 8/33 P. St. G 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d*. (10*d*.).
British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s*. (£1 1*s*. 9*d*.).
Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B. 46.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 11*d*.).
Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49). 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
The Demand for Canned Vegetables. (E.M.B. 56.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Wool Survey. A Summary of Production and Trade in the Empire and Foreign Countries. (E.M.B. 57.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 6*d*.).
Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
The Storage of Tropically-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Control of Wastage in Bananas, with special reference to Time and Temperature Factors. (E.M.B. 60.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Survey of Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils. Vol. II. Coconut Palm Products. (E.M.B. 61.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 5*d*.).
Barley Survey. A Study of Barley Production, Exports, Imports, Marketing, Markets and Prices in the Principal Exporting and Importing Countries in the World. (E.M.B. 62.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 5*d*.).
Empire Marketing Board. May, 1932, to May, 1933. (E.M.B. 63.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Sisal: A note on the Attributes of the Fibre and their Industrial Significance. (E.M.B. 64.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 65.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Dairy Produce Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 66.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Report on the Infestation of Cured Tobacco in London by the Cacao Moth Ephestia Elutella H.B. (E.M.B. 67.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Palestine Orange Shipments. (E.M.B. 68.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 69.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

AT THE ADDRESSES ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1648

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

ST. LUCIA, 1932

(For Reports for 1930 and 1931 see No. 1552 (price 1s. 0d.) and No. 1590 (price 1s. 3d.)).

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2
York Street, Manchester 1; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1933

Price 1s. 3d. Net

58-1648

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE AT OTTAWA, 1932.

Summary of Proceedings and Copies of Trade Agreements. [Cmd. 4174.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.

Report of the Imperial Committee on, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

CONFERENCE OF EMPIRE SURVEY OFFICERS, 1931.

Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s.* 9*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 81.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 3*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brig.-Gen. Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during the year 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.

[Colonial No. 65.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, MANDATED TERRITORIES, &c.

New Edition, 1933. [Colonial No. 83.] 7*s.* 6*d.* (8*s.*).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.

Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... £1 10*s.* (£1 10*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 11*d.*).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Report of a Commission on the Financial and Economic Position of, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE LIST.

1*s* Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.

Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

'IRAQ.

Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931. [Colonial No. 58.] 5*s.* 6*d.* (5*s.* 11*d.*).

Report on the Administration of, 1931. [Colonial No. 74.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 8*d.*).

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 82.] 9*s.* 6*d.* (9*s.* 10*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At the Addresses on the Front Cover of this report.

lishing company, inc.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1932.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	7
VII.	Commerce	11
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	14
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	15
X.	Communications and Transport	17
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	18
XII.	Public Works	19
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	19
XIV.	Legislation	24
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	26
XVI.	Miscellaneous	30
	Appendix	30
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 18,872.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain a population of 6,905. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as " The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs, and continued in their possession till 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663, Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession till the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, d'Orléans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrées, and in 1722, the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island, and it was declared neutral.

In 1744, the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained till the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence ; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French till 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782, Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay, in St. Lucia, with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse, when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops, 12,000 strong, under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia, and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms, and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens ; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, was 85·2° F. in the shade. The maximum was 92° F., and the minimum 60° F., an exceptionally high range of 32°. The hot season extends from May to November, and the cool season from December to May. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60° F., and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

The weather generally was wet and cool, with few storms. The hurricanes of June (Porto Rico) and November (Jamaica and Cuba) were not felt in the Colony.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, was 103·17 inches, 2·09 inches above that of the previous year, and 12·23 inches above the average rainfall for the last 43 years (90·89 inches per annum).

The maximum precipitation for Castries was 3·27 on 18th November, but in the higher districts 5·20 inches were recorded on the same date. The distribution was unusual, and a short drought caused the loss of some newly planted crops, but was beneficial to the cacao crop then forming.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 21st March, 1924, which came into operation on 1st December, 1924, a partly elective Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of six *ex-officio*

members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. On 12th February, 1931, that Order in Council was amended to provide that the Council should consist of three *ex officio* members, three nominated official members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. This island is divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. The first election under this Constitution was held in March, 1925. Law is administered by a Chief Justice, from whom in civil cases there is an appeal to the West Indian Court of Appeal, and two Magistrates, whose decisions are liable to review by the Judge. In criminal cases tried in the Superior Court facts are decided upon by a jury of twelve as in England.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, who also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

III.—POPULATION.

On 31st December, 1931, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 59,676—males 28,187 ; females 31,489. On 31st December, 1932, the figure increased to 61,135—males 29,089 ; females 32,046. The natural increase during 1932 was 880. The number of persons entering the Colony exceeded the number of departures by 579. The net increase in population was therefore 1,459.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 260.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 120) totalled 2,120—males 1,039 ; females 1,081. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 32·7 per thousand of the population—an increase of 2·8 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,240—males 589 ; females 651. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 18·3 per thousand of the population—an increase of 0·1 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were :—malaria, 45 ; pulmonary tuberculosis, 25 ; phthisis, 19 ; syphilis, 39 ; diseases of the heart, 55 ; bronchitis, 51 ; pneumonia, 62 ; gastro-enteritis, 135 ; worms, 92 ; infantile debility, 43 ; senile decay, 125.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout the year and no epidemic occurred. There was a slight increase in the incidence of malaria which may be attributed to the very heavy and almost continuous rainfall. Pulmonary tuberculosis also showed a higher percentage—54 as against 40 for 1931. Only five cases of enteric fever occurred, the same as in the previous year.

The Colony is divided into six medical districts with a Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector in each ; a dispensary is situated in each district as well. The Chief Medical Officer, who is also Health Officer is the administrative and executive head of the Medical Department. He has now been relieved of the duties of Resident Surgeon, Victoria Hospital, being replaced by a subordinate officer. The Department maintains a Senior Sanitary Inspector—formerly designated the Chief Sanitary Inspector—whose headquarters are in Castries and who tours the island regularly on visits of inspection.

The medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital situated in close proximity to the town of Castries ; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux Fort, and Dennery ; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries ; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere ; and a pauper asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of a Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser and Nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there is an annex, designated the "Baron Wing", with six rooms for private paying patients.

A Port Health Officer is stationed at Castries, and there is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

With the assistance of the Colonial Development Fund the following public health improvement services have been completed :-

25 model cottages and 2 communal bath houses in Castries, and

3 model cottages and the erection of an incinerator in Soufriere.

V.—HOUSING.

Several new buildings were erected in Castries during 1932, but there are still a large number of vacant sites where houses stood before the fire of 1927. The general appearance of the town is being improved steadily and the buildings erected recently are of a superior type.

The housing of the poorer classes is far from satisfactory and it is to be hoped that the example set by the erection of model cottages will lead to considerable improvement in the conditions which now exist. Twenty-five of these cottages have been erected in Castries

so far from funds generously granted from the Colonial Development Fund and they have been greatly appreciated. They have been in great demand and so anxious are the tenants to remain in possession, that there are practically no arrears of rent owing.

In the rural districts housing is generally of a primitive character, and often there is considerable overcrowding. A great step in advance was taken when, in 1931, the Rural House Tax on dwellings of an annual rental value of £5 and under was abolished. It is reasonable to believe that, had it not been for the severe economic depression which has existed for some time, this would have resulted in a considerable improvement in housing conditions. There are signs that the people generally are aspiring to a better manner of living, but any real improvement is retarded by the hard conditions of life at present.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The chief products of St. Lucia are sugar, cocoa, copra, and limes; but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e., oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples for the Bermuda, Canadian, and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory, at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory, usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The production and export of sugar shows an encouraging recovery when compared with the previous year. The production in 1932 was 5,452 tons, as against 4,572 tons in 1931, the increase being mainly due to satisfactory weather conditions and improvements in cultivation. The exported amount was 4,990 tons valued at £46,466 as against 3,973 tons valued at £35,554 in 1931.

The factory molasses produced was chiefly utilized for manufacturing rum for local consumption. A slight increase in the export of molasses and syrup was apparent.

publishing company inc

The market price for sugar was slightly more favourable on the whole, varying round about £10 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton c.i.f., during the year.

The following figures show the exported quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1928	4,100	63,050
1929	4,536	51,237
1930	4,567	45,289
1931	3,973	35,554
1932	4,990	46,466

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gal.	*Value.* £
1928	85,784	3,643
1929	127,273	3,047
1930	157,254	2,872
1931	24,837	1,194
1932	32,988	1,453

Rum.

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gal.	*Value.* £
1928	1,323	218
1929	2,013	339
1930	1,583	278
1931	—	—
1932	—	—

Cacao.—The prolonged distress of the cacao market has forced out of cultivation several plantations which are now growing limes and other fresh fruits. Although the crop was good, the amount exported was low, 8,188 cwt. valued at £9,091 as compared with 10,419 cwt. valued at £14,125 in the previous year. The best prices were 36*s.* to 37*s.* per cwt. As a result, cultural operations and expenditure on estates were reduced to a minimum and, in a few cases, small areas were cleared and planted with citrus. The preparation of best estate cacao has been improved and market reports show that St. Lucia "planters cacao" has gained a fair reputation.

The large proprietors generally market their crop direct, but the peasant usually sells his crop, more or less prepared, to the local factors. The sale of cacao by the peasants is governed by the Minor Products Ordinance and the factors are licensed and registered.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1928	11,006	27,321
1929	8,906	18,864
1930	10,449	19,261
1931	10,419	14,125
1932	8,188	9,091

Limes.—The lime crop for 1932 was considerably below that for the previous year when there was an exceptionally good crop. It was estimated at 44,762 barrels of fruit as compared with 50,339 barrels in 1931, or a decrease of 11 per cent. This was due to the incidence of disease being greater, owing to the wet weather. Market prices for lime oils, ranging from 45*s.* to 60*s.* per lb. for handpressed, and 30*s.* to 37*s.* per lb. for distilled, were satisfactory, but the prices for concentrated and raw lime-juice were so low that a large quantity of the raw juice was thrown away after extracting the oils.

The crops for the last five years (re-calculated on a new basis) in barrels of limes are :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1928	56,186
1929	34,483
1930	42,844
1931	50,339
1932	44,762

Coconuts.—The coconut crop continues to increase steadily and 432 tons of copra were exported. There was an increase of 70 per cent. in the exports of nuts, the total value of coconut products exported being £7,819.

The markets were not particularly active during the year, and a reasonable level of prices was maintained, from £16 falling to £14 15*s.* in midsummer, and a recovery to £15 5*s.* per ton c.i.f., at the end of the year.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1928	141,667	499
1929	295,983	1,032
1930	268,078	862
1931	367,350	1,178
1932	650,240	2,430

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1928	315	8,690
1929	359	9,878
1930	400	7,428
1931	498	5,869
1932	432	5,389

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The export trade in fresh fruit and vegetables shows a continued improvement, and the total exports again exceeded those of the previous year, the avocado trade with Bermuda being particularly active. The total value of exports, under this head was £10,175 as compared with £10,151 last year, the total packages shipped being less—21,983 as against 22,323 in 1931. This trade is in a healthy condition and shows an average increase in value of £1,200 per annum over the last six years, and since during this period the trade was in its infancy and also weathered the most serious depression in the markets for many years, it may safely be assumed that future progress will be much better. More fruit will also be available as established orchards come into bearing.

Very valuable assistance is given by Government, through the Agricultural Department, by the establishment of experimental grounds and nurseries from which proved and standardized varieties of fruit trees, etc., are supplied to growers at a very low rate. Agricultural Instructors are also employed for the benefit of peasant cultivators.

The following shipments were made :—

Article.	*Quantity exported to*						*Value.*	
	Canada.	Bermuda.	U.K.	U.S.A.	Other places.	Total.	1932.	1931.
							£	£
Green limes Brls.	26	528	119	3,085	24	3,782	5,552	5,418
Grapefruit Crates	12	89	4	—	3	108	43	36
Oranges ,,	—	385	3	—	210	598	206	169
Mangoes ..	195	3,491	413	—	3,655	7,754	1,655	2,172
Avocado Pears ..	25	4,472	245	—	26	4,768	977	567
Pineapples ,,	85	76	44	—	1	206	96	23
Bananas Bchs.	—	—	—	—	—	3,149	183	274
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,463	1,492
Total... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,175	10,151

During the year a sum of £2,000 was made available from the Colonial Development Fund for an intensive programme of citrus propagation over a two-year period. This generous grant allows of sufficient propagation to establish from 800 to 1,000 acres of

orchards, at the small issue-rate of 3*d*. per tree. The receipts are to be accumulated to form a fund to provide for after-care of the orchards.

Provided that scab disease of stocks does not assume much greater proportions, it is expected to distribute approximately 24,000 budded plants, mainly grapefruit, during the planting season of 1933.

Inspection under the Fruit Ordinance during the year was conducted with improved co-operation from exporters and a total of 12,239 packages was certified for export, as compared with 9,387 in 1931.

The Cold Storage has been more freely used for pre-cooling of exports, and for local cold storage.

Stock.—Much interest continues to be shown in farm stock and poultry, and several importations were made during the year, principally of Holstein cattle for breeding, sheep, pigs, and day-old chicks.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1932, and as compared with 1931, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1932. £	1931. £
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	55,158	52,682
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	32,759	14,536
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	71,502	69,127
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including Parcel Post.	5,850	7,004
Totals	£165,269	£143,349

The above table shows an increase of £21,920 in the total value of imports for 1932 as compared with the previous year, due chiefly to an increase of £17,552 in the value of coal imported (Class II). The decrease in Class IV (£1,154) was entirely due to a falling off in imports through the Parcel Post (£1,158).

The values of imports for 1932 and 1931, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1932. £	1931. £
United Kingdom	90,011	48,874
Other parts of the British Empire	42,832	41,012
Foreign Countries	26,594	46,473
Parcel Post	5,832	6,990
Totals	£165,269	£143,349

The above table discloses a striking increase in the imports from the United Kingdom during 1932 as compared with 1931—£41,137 or 84·17 per cent., the depreciation of sterling having stimulated Imperial trade. No less than £22,711 (55 per cent.) of this increase was due to the importation of coal from the United Kingdom, previously imported from the United States of America. Articles of food, drink, and tobacco accounted for £4,203 of the increase, and manufactured articles for £14,204, the leading items of which were cotton manufactures, £4,000; manures, £2,547; agricultural implements, £1,820; cement, £1,031; bags and sacks, £1,025; motor cars and parts, £933; common soap, £923; and iron and steel manufactures, £600.

The value of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1931 and 1932 were as follows :—

Article.	1931.	1932.
	£	£
Coal, bituminous	5,159	22,711
Cotton—		
Piece-goods	7,541	8,947
Other manufactures ...	10,826	10,145
Fish, salted and dried, etc. ...	6,080	5,874
Flour, wheaten	15,161	16,133
Hardware—other kinds ...	5,495	4,939
Oil, edible	5,277	5,611

The striking increase in the value of coal imported in the latter year, as shown above, was due to an increased demand for bunker coal and also to the necessity of replenishing diminished stocks.

The following table is given as suggestive of openings for British products :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1932.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Butter (cooking)	1,695	375
Cotton manufactures, piece-goods	8,947	7,114
Oleomargarine	2,112	1,337
Paper	1,068	374
Totals	£13,822	£9,200

Exports.

The values of exports in 1932, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1932.	1931.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	72,403	65,563
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	33,751	31,596
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	22,229	27,915
IV. Miscellaneous	118	118
V. Bullion and Specie	6,995	6,732
Totals	£135,496	£131,924

As the above table shows, the total exports in 1932 exceeded the 1931 total by £3,572 only or 2·71 per cent. Class I shows an increase of £6,840, the articles chiefly accountable therefor being sugar (£10,912) and coconuts (£1,252), counterbalanced by a decrease of £5,034 in cocoa. In Class II there was an increase of £2,155, for which bunker coal (£3,264) was more than responsible, being offset by decreases in copra (£480), hides (£144), firewood (£128), hardwood (£106), and logwood (£100). The decrease shown in Class III (£5,686) was due chiefly to fallings-off in lime oil (£4,761), bay rum (£767), bay oil (£400), cinematograph films (£947), and cable core (£450), offset by an increase in charcoal (£2,011).

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

Article.	*Value in* 1932.	*Value in* 1931.
	£	£
Cocoa	9,091	14,125
Limes and lime products ...	20,781	26,125
Fancy syrup and molasses ...	1,453	1,194
Sugar	46,466	35,554
Bunker coal	27,431	24,167
Copra	5,389	5,869
Charcoal...	4,042	2,031
Coconuts	2,430	1,178
Fresh fruits (other than limes and coconuts).	4,635	4,757

ublishing company inc

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDIZE).

Destination.		*Total.* 1932.	*Total.* 1931.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom—			
Domestic exports	42,983		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	145	43,128	20,132
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic exports	35,180		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	1,983	37,163	52,946
Foreign countries—			
Domestic exports	19,736		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	64	19,800	27,003
Ships' Stores—			
Re-exports		1,175	1,067
Bunkers—			
Re-exports		27,235	24,044
Totals		£128,501	£125,192

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch to steamers calling for coal, showed an encouraging improvement over the previous year, 21,898 tons having been taken by 73 steamers and 2 warships in 1932, as compared with 16,248 tons by 61 steamers and 1 warship in 1931—an increase of 5,650 tons or 34·77 per cent., thus ameliorating the lot of the many labourers in and around Castries who depend on this trade principally for a livelihood.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual and artisan—have been maintained during 1932, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Manual	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Semi-skilled	1*s.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Skilled	3*s.* to 5*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*

In domestic service the monthly wage which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10*s.* and 16*s.* for housemaids and yard boys, 15*s.* to 20*s.* for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10*s.* per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	8*d.* per lb.
Mutton, fresh	9*d.* per lb.
Pork, fresh...	8*d.* per lb.
Chicken	6*d.* per lb.
Fish, fresh	5*d.* per lb.
Eggs	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per dozen.
Milk	2*d.* per bottle.
Potatoes	2*d.* per lb.
Rice	2½*d.* per lb.
Butter	2*s.* per lb.
Sugar	2*d.* per lb.
Bread	3*d.* per lb.
Flour	2½*d.* per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 50 recognized primary schools in the Colony. None of them are Government Schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of head teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1932, the Government paid a total of £5,070 5*s.* 1*d.* to the school managers for salaries ; to this sum the total amount added by the managers was £34 17*s.* 0*d.* The school buildings (the estimated annual rental value of which is £1,476 10*s.* 0*d.*) are the property of the churches, who spent, during 1932, £674 17*s.* 8*d.* on repairs and furniture for them.

The chief event of 1932 was the visit of Mr. F. C. Marriott, O.B.E., Director of Education, Trinidad, and Mr. A. Mayhew, C.I.E., of the Colonial Office, who formed the personnel of the West Indies Education Commission 1931-32. The Commission arrived on 6th January and left the Colony on 12th January. Representative types of the primary schools of the Colony (18 in all) were visited by the Commissioners, and consultations took place with the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council, Heads of Departments, and with prominent citizens of the Colony, who had expressed a desire to meet the Commission. In addition to such consultations and interviews, the Commissioners spent a considerable time interviewing the heads of the various denominations, representative

teachers, and the Sisters of the St. Lucia House of St. Joseph of Cluny. Every possible opportunity was taken for investigating all problems "on the spot," and their stay in St. Lucia was spent by the Commission in obtaining facts, and in analysing statements and memoranda with a view to arriving at the essential difficulties which stand in the way of the development of education in the Colony. Quite apart from its avowed purpose, the visit of Mr. Marriott and Mr. Mayhew proved to have had a most beneficial effect on the entire Educational Department of the Colony as even the most junior teachers were made to feel that their problems and difficulties were not too small to be investigated. The natural result was that an increase of effort and a tightening up of control took place in all schools.

Agriculture is taught, and school gardens are kept. The Agricultural Department advises in this work, and the standard is high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to fourteen scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools and to five girls to St. Joseph's Convent. The Castries Town Board award two similar scholarships for boys. There is at present one scholarship holder from the primary schools at St. Joseph's Convent School.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1932 St. Mary's College received £460 10*s.* 0*d.*, and St. Joseph's Convent £175 0*s.* 0*d.*

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils. Elementary Agricultural Science is taught at St. Mary's College, and certain commercial subjects may be taken at both schools.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination.

A certain number of Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association continued to do good work during 1932 with Mrs. Doorly as President and Mrs. F. Floissac as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association is not subsidized by the Government, but contributions are made by the public in the way of money and kind. The Government, however, provides medicines, etc., free of charge and Medical Officers give their services voluntarily to the clinics which are held thrice weekly.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia ; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football and cricket are the favourite games but regular competition is confined entirely to the capital though there are cricket matches at rare intervals between the districts. St. Lucia was champion of the Windward Islands at cricket for the year, defeating both St. Vincent and Grenada in the Cork Cup Tournament. The matches were played at Castries. Great interest is football was aroused among the primary schools in the capital by a competition inaugurated during the year.

A Lawn Tennis Association was formed during the year and it has met with some success in establishing the game more firmly.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which was recently equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,152, of a total tonnage of 1,594,022 tons. Of this total 571 were steamships and 581 sailing vessels. In addition, 112 American seaplanes visited the Colony during the year.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means :—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A monthly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness Withy Company.

(4) A fortnightly service to and from the Southern British West Indian Colonies by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Company.

(5) A weekly seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports *en route*, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

There are other frequent mail opportunities to Europe via Barbados, America, and also direct.

Roads.

The road system of St. Lucia is divided into three classes, viz. main roads, by-ways, and unclassified roads.

Main Roads.—This class connects all the towns, villages and the majority of large estates with the capital. The aggregate length is 128 miles of which 14 have recently been reconstructed and oiled. The surfaces of several sections have been greatly improved during the year 1932. Five rivers, across which only causeways existed, have been bridged obviating both delay and danger.

By-Ways.—Branch roads into the interior from the main roads are termed by-ways. These are maintained partly by Road Boards and partly by the Public Works Department. Of their total length of 113 miles, 60 miles are practicable for vehicular traffic.

Unclassified Roads.—These lead further inland from the by-ways and serve the peasantry mostly. The total length of these roads is 74 miles. They are maintained by Public Works Department, but are not suitable for vehicular traffic.

Motor Boat Service.

There is a daily coastal motor boat service along the western or leeward, coast of the island. This vessel is operated by a private company subsidized by and working under agreement with Government.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, associated companies of the Imperial and International Communications Limited.

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained solely by the Government, and consists of one main exchange situate in Castries and eight sub-exchanges in the out districts. The service is maintained throughout the day and night. The total mileage of lines at the end of December, 1932, was 330, being trunk lines 110 and branch lines 220.

The number of subscribers at that date was 222.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) Bank is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts. The Royal Bank of Canada, which had been established here, withdrew from the Colony at the end of 1932.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the island, but United States gold is also legal tender. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The maintenance of roads and bridges, construction of and repairs to Government buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the harbour, and the care of dredging plant are carried out by the Public Works Department.

This Department also supervises the Government telephone system, the Crown Lands Department, a Stores Department in which are kept materials to the value of £3,000 for use on the various works, and a workshop in which artisans in most trades are employed.

The following works were carried out during 1932 :—

Reforming of roads, 111,681 superficial yards ; metalling, 37,930 lineal feet ; 275,900 lineal feet of drains re-dug ; and 602 concrete cylinder pipes were used in the construction and repair of 106 culverts. The amount expended during the year on road work was £6,339.

Buildings.

The usual standard of repair was maintained at a cost of £662.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

For magisterial cases the island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this Force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

The criminal statistics for 1932 are as follows :—

1. CRIMES REPORTED TO, OR KNOWN TO, THE POLICE, AND PERSONS PROCEEDED AGAINST ON CHARGE OF CRIME.

Crime.	*Crimes Reported or Known to the Police.*			*Persons Proceeded Against.*				
	Total.	*Not brought before a Magisterial Court for want of Evidence.*	*Brought before a Magisterial Court.*	*Number.*			*Apprehended.*	*Summoned.*
				Total.	*M.*	*F.*		
1. Homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person	104	—	104	122	88	34	47	75
3. Praedial larceny	44	—	44	54	40	14	41	13
4. Other offences against property ...	126	20	106	162	120	42	144	18
5. Other crimes	530	1	529	684	325	359	325	359
	804	21	783	1,022	573	449	557	465

2. Persons dealt with in Summary Courts for Crimes and Offences.

Crime or Offence.	Number.			Discharged.		Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.				
								Sentences.			
	Total.	M.	F.	For want of Prosecution.	On the Merits of the Case.		Total.	Imprisonment.	Whipping	Fine.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person ...	379	230	149	44	61	10	264	3	8	185	68
3. Praedial larceny ...	76	65	11	4	13	—	59	5	5	49	—
4. Malicious injuries to property	4	3	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	—
4. Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property)	180	126	54	23	21	15	121	25	6	68	22
5. Other crimes ...	228	122	106	15	45	2	166	10	—	115	41
Abusive language ...	241	120	121	37	39	—	165	—	1	143	21
Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies ...	7	6	1	2	1	—	4	—	—	4	—
Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony... ...	370	195	175	88	50	—	232	2	8	186	36
Miscellaneous minor offences	172	125	47	24	28	—	120	4	1	89	26

3. Persons for Trial in the Superior Court.

Crime or Offence.	Number.			Sex.		Not Tried (Nolle Prosequi, etc.)	Found Insane before Trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.						
									Sentences.						
	Total.	In Circuit Courts.	In Resident Magistrates' Courts.	M.	F.				Total.	Death.	Penal Servitude.	Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Fine	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Murder of wife or concubine															
Murder of child															
Murder other than wife, concubine, or child ...															
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Attempted murder ...															
Rape	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	6	—	—	5	1	—	—	1	5	—	3	—	—	1	1
3. Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Offences against property with violence to the person	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against property	20	—	—	17	3	—	—	5	15	—	11	—	2	—	2
5. Other crimes	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
6. Abetment of Rape ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Comparative Table.

Comparative Table showing the number of convictions for various crimes and offences for the last four years.

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. Offences against the person	231	187	235	264
2. Praedial larceny	116	98	90	59
3. Malicious injuries to property	—	1	2	1
3. Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property)	88	116	129	121
4. Other crimes	105	80	50	166
Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies	6	6	3	4
Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony	171	208	181	232
Miscellaneous minor offences	621	294	410	120
The number of convictions in the Superior Court :—				
1. Murder of wife or concubine	—	—	—	—
1. Murder of child	—	—	—	—
1. Murder other than wife, concubine, or child	—	—	—	—
1. Manslaughter	1	—	1	—
2. Attempted Murder	—	—	—	—
2. Rape	—	1	—	1
2. Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person ...	8	2	—	5
3. Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—
4. Offences against property with violence to the person	—	—	1	—
4. Other offences against property	12	7	3	15
5. Other crimes	—	11	9	1
6. Abetment of Rape...	—	—	—	—

XIV.—LEGISLATION

The following legislation was enacted in 1932 :—

Ordinances.

16th April	...	No. 1.—An Ordinance to provide for the periodical inspection of Steam Boilers.
16th April	...	No. 2.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony for the year One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two.
30th April	...	No. 3.—An Ordinance to amend the Police Ordinance, No. 77, 1916 Revision.
7th May	...	No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
28th May	...	No. 5.—An Ordinance to legalize the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the general revenue for the service of the year 1931 in addition to the sums granted by the Appropriation Ordinance, No. 11 of 1931.
11th June...	...	No. 6.—An Ordinance to amend the Rural House Tax Ordinance, No. 121, 1916 Revision.
12th November	...	No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
10th December	...	No. 8.—An Ordinance to regulate the grant of pensions and other allowances to non-commissioned officers and men transferred from one Police Force to another in the Windward Islands.
10th December	...	No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to trespasses by animals.

Proclamations.

23rd January	...	No. 1.—Appointing Tuesday the 23rd day of February, 1932, as the day of the Sitting of the Royal Court in its Criminal Jurisdiction instead of the third Tuesday in February, 1932.
16th April	...	No. 2.—Applying to the village of Choiseul and its adjacent districts the provisions of the Towns and Villages (Water Supply) Ordinance, No. 135, 1916 Revision.
16th April	...	No. 3.—Applying to the village of Laborie and its adjacent districts the provisions of the Towns and Villages (Water Supply) Ordinance, No. 135, 1916 Revision.
16th April	...	No. 4.—Applying to the village of Micoud and its adjacent districts the provisions of the Towns and Villages (Water Supply) Ordinance, No. 135, 1916 Revision.
16th April	...	No. 5.—Applying to the village of Gros Islet and its adjacent districts the provisions of the Towns and Villages (Water Supply) Ordinance, No. 135, 1916 Revision.
9th June ...	...	No. 6.—Appointing Friday the 10th June, 1932, to be a half holiday.
17th September	...	No. 7.—Appointing Monday the 3rd October, 1932, to be a bank holiday for offering General Thanksgiving after the Reaping Season.
24th September	...	No. 8.—Appointing Tuesday the 25th day of October, 1932, as the date of the Sitting of the Royal Court in its Criminal Jurisdiction instead of the third Tuesday in October, 1932.

29th October	...	No. 9.—Declaring the branch road from Roseau Bay to Anse-la-Raye via Millet Road to be a public highway.
29th November	...	No. 10.—Appointing Tuesday the 13th December, 1932, to be a half holiday.

Orders in Council.

23rd January	...	(Royal) Air Navigation (Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories) (Amendment).
5th March	...	No. 1.—Sugar (Local Consumption) Ordinance 1920, No. 23—Rescinding Order in Council No. 1 of 1931.
12th November	...	No. 2.—Applying Part III of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1926, to Acetyldihydrocodeinone and its salts and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of Acetyldihydrocodeinone.

Notices.

2nd April	...	No. 1.—Customs—Prohibiting the importation without special permission of any motor vehicle, the total weight of which when unloaded but with full equipment exceeds 30 cwt.
2nd April ...	...	No. 2.—Pensions Ordinance—notifying the change of title from "Inspector of Agricultural Credit Societies and Agricultural Instructor" to that of "Agricultural Instructor."

Rules.

23rd January	...	No. 1.—Rules—Vieux-Fort Market.
23rd January	...	No. 2.—Education Rules—Repeal.
6th February	...	No. 3.—Rules—Management and Control of Motor Ambulance.
6th February	...	No. 4.—Rules—Micoud Market.
5th March	...	No. 5.—Motor Car Ordinance—Prohibition.
2nd April	...	No. 6.—Motor Car Ordinance—Repeal.
2nd April	...	No. 7.—Income-tax Ordinance—New form (Return—General Form.)
16th April	...	No. 8.—Rules—Vieux-Fort Market (Amendment).
14th May	...	No. 9.—Motor Car Ordinance—International Certificate of Registration.
14th May	...	No. 10.—Medical Officers Ordinance—Victoria Hospital Rules—Amendment.
9th July ...	...	No. 11.—Rules—Medical Registration—(Poisons).
23rd July	...	No. 12.—Rules—Vieux-Fort Market (Amendment).
6th August	...	No. 13.—Rules—St. Joseph's Convent School Open Government Scholarships—Primary Education.
20th August	...	No. 14.—Rules—Dennery Market—Amendment.
20th August	...	No. 15.—Rules—Vieux-Fort Market—Amendment.
20th August	...	No. 16.—Rules—Micoud Market—Amendment.
20th August	...	Conditions governing Grant-in-Aid to St. Joseph's Convent School.
15th October	...	No. 17.—Rules—Canaries Fish Market.
29th October	...	No. 18.—Rules—Prisons—Solitary Confinement of Girls.
29th October	...	No. 19.—Rules—Dennery Market—Amendment.
29th October	...	No. 20.—Rules—Vieux-Fort (Water Supply).
29th October	...	No. 21.—Rules—Choiseul (Water Supply).
29th October	...	No. 22.—Rules—Laborie (Water Supply).
29th October	...	No. 23.—Rules—Gros Islet (Water Supply).
12th November	...	No. 24.—Rules—Motor Vehicles (Maximum Weight).
24th December	...	No. 25—Rules—Medical Officers—(District Casualty Stations).

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.* £	*Ordinary Expenditure.* £	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.* £
1928	85,351*	87,235	1,884
1929	83,139†	86,434	3 295
1930	82,588‡	91,453¶	8,865
1931	98,902§	103,893**	4,991
			Excess of revenue over expenditure.
1932	130,207‖	96,278††	33,929‡‡

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £162,595 11*s.* 5*d.*, at the close of the year, while the accumulated Sinking Fund for its redemption amounted to £44,027 18*s.* 8*d.*

The Assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1932, amounting to £25,141 0*s.* 9*d.* were made up as follows :—

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—		
In hands of Treasurer	418 1 7	
,, ,, Sub-Accountants	324 4 8	
,, ,, Crown Agents (Current Account)...	69 11 9	
At Barclays Bank (Current Account) ...	1,522 13 8	
		2,334 11 8
Investments—		
On account of Savings Bank	9,282 5 5	
,, ,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,524 12 5	
,, ,, Baron Trust Fund	102 15 5	
,, ,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	97 18 8	
,, ,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	139 7 5	
,, ,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund...	470 7 7	
		11,617 6 11
Carried forward		13,951 18 7

* Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,836.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,000.

‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £6,664 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £2,400 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

§ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,700 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £20,462 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

‖ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £35,300 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £15,194 for Colonial Development Fund Works, also Reparations receipt of £3,956.

¶ Includes £5,140 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

** Includes £16,026 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

†† Includes £16,652 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

‡‡ Used to offset an accumulated deficit amounting to £31,882 on the 1st January, 1932.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				13,951	18	7
Loans—						
Castries Town Board for Cemetery	121	14	5			
,, ,, ,, ,, Streets (from P.B. Insurance Fund) ...	2,700	0	0			
,, Water Authority for Waterworks ...	500	0	0			
Town of Soufriere for Market, etc.	264	0	0			
,, Vieux Fort for Seawall...	242	0	0			
,, ,, ,, Waterworks	66	13	4			
Village of Dennery for Waterworks	256	0	0			
,, Choiseul for Market, etc.	37	10	0			
,, Canaries for River-wall	66	0	0			
Lime Factory	727	11	7			
				4,981	9	4
Stores—						
Public Works Materials and Stores	2,172	11	3			
Colony Drug Store	560	8	5			
Packing House Crates, etc.	266	5	6			
				2,999	5	2
Advances—						
Choiseul Village Fund	59	16	10			
Micoud Village Fund	103	11	10			
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	25	10	4			
Vieux Fort Town Fund	32	17	0			
Lime Factory Working Account	476	9	3			
Post Office Account	1,674	2	2			
Other Advances	836	0	3			
				3,208	7	8
Total Assets ...				£25,141	0	9

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1932, amounting to £19,401 1*s*. 6d., were as follows :—

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits—						
Savings Bank Depositors	9,957	4	8			
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account	134	9	0			
Sundry Deposits Account	95	17	11			
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	470	7	7			
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	97	18	8			
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	139	7	5			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,551	16	7			
Police Recreation Fund	35	10	1			
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	238	5	8			
Note Guarantee Fund	151	0	0			
Model Cottages Fund	33	11	6			
				12,905	9	1
Special Funds—						
Towns and Villages	638	10	4			
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account	157	10	7			
Castries Waterworks Reconstruction Loan Account	822	14	4			
Castries Town Fund	1,800	12	0			
				3,419	7	3
Carried forward				16,324	16	4

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward		16,324 16 4
Advances—		
From Joint Colonial Fund	2,500 0 0	
,, Government of Grenada	489 18 8	
,, ,, ,, St. Vincent	41 18 4	
		3,031 17 0
Drafts and Remittances Account		44 8 2
Total Liabilities		£19,401 1 6
The Assets, as seen above, exceeded the Liabilities by £5,739 19*s*. 3*d*., made up as follows :—		
Surplus and Deficit Account	2,046 19 11	
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	3,692 19 4	
		£5,739 19 3

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation ; the remainder being taxed according to the following Schedule :—

For every pound of the first £100	4*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, next £200	6*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £300	1*s*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £400	1*s*. 6*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	2*s*. 3*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s*. 9*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	4*s*. 6*d*.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	5*s*. 6*d*.
,, ,, ,, of the rest of the chargeable income	5*s*. 6*d*.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt ; the remainder are taxed as follows :—

Of an annual rental of :

Over £5 and not over £7 10*s*.	7*s*. 6*d*.
,, £7 10*s*. and not over £10	10*s*.
,, £10 and not over £12 10*s*.	15*s*.
,, £12 10*s*. and not over £15	20*s*.
,, £15 and not over £20	28*s*.
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed annual rental value.	

In the case of the towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed eight per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is Import Duty. There is a Preferential Tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shewn.

There is an Excise Duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an Export Duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1931 and 1932 was as follows :—

	1931.	1932.
	£	£
Import Duties	36,748	38,165
Export Duties	1,907	2,033
Port, Harbour, etc., Dues	922	1,959
Spirit Licences	835	815
Distillery Licences	113	163
Animals, Vehicles and Guns	652	615
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boats, etc. ...	722	741
Excise Duty on Rum	7,012	7,256
Trade Duty on Spirits	3,350	3,424
Stamp Duty	1,305	1,530
Income-Tax	2,522	2,562
Succession Duty	1,652	829
Rural House Tax	1,196	642

Taxation was increased during the year 1932 by—

(1) introducing the principle of collecting *ad valorem* duties on the c.i.f., instead of the f.o.b., values of all articles imported that are subject to such duties with the exception of baskets for use in the coal trade, bags and sacks, barrels, shooks, staves and headings, and other containers for the export of agricultural products (Ordinance No. 4/1932); and

(2) raising the duties under the General Tariff on rubber and canvas boots and shoes, table butter, motor cars and motor vehicles (other than motor bicycles and tricycles), cotton and artificial silk hosiery and silk hosiery and hardware (Ordinance No. 7 of 1932).

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Thomas Alexander Vans Best, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands was in residence in the Colony from 7th March to 27th April.

The following British ships of war visited the Colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Danae* in August.
H.M.S. *Scarborough* in December.
H.M.S. *Heliotrope* in December.

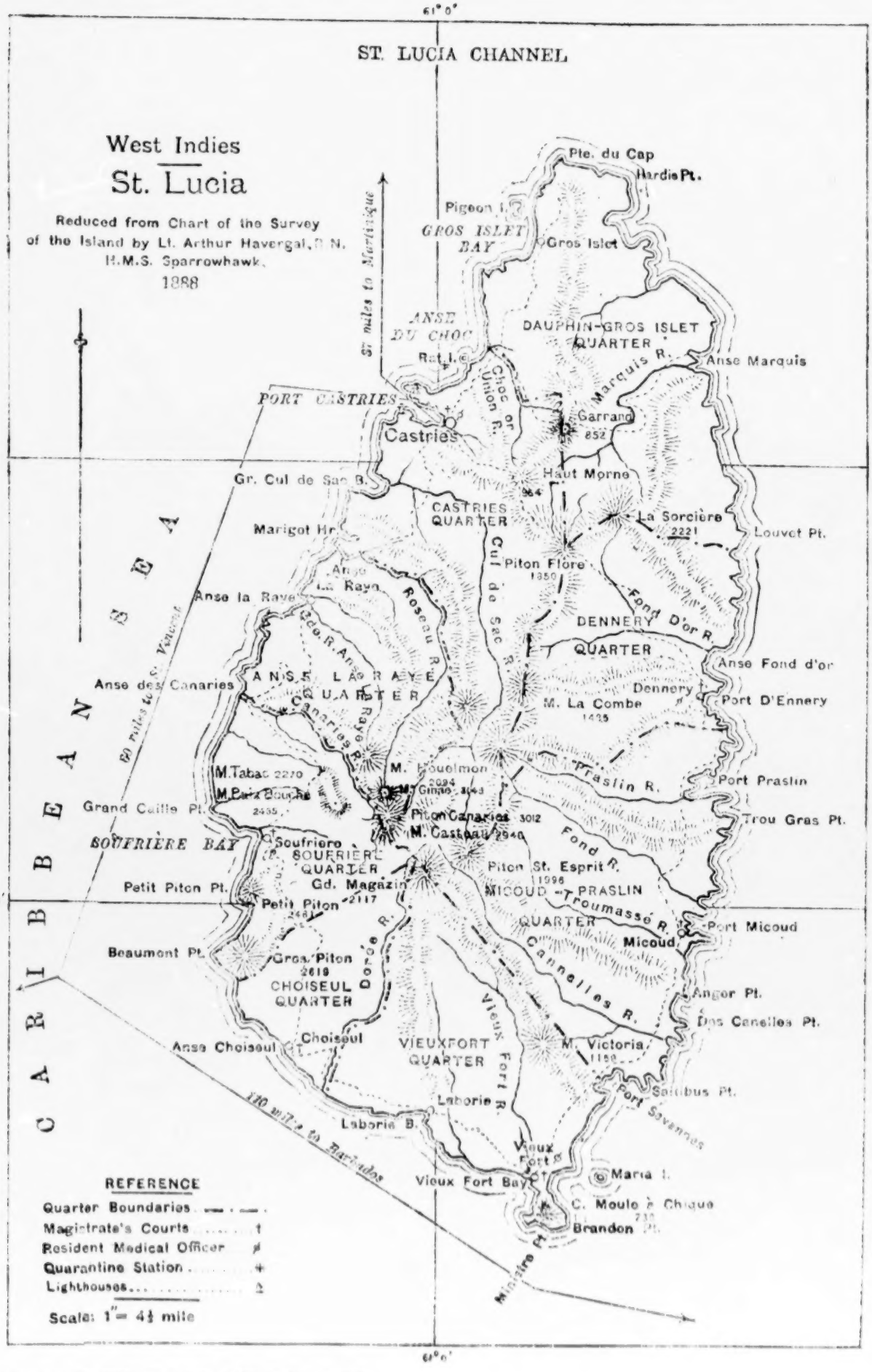
His Majesty's Canadian Ship *Saguenay* also called at Port Castries, arriving on 29th February, and leaving on 9th March.

The Memorial to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers situate at Morne Fortune was unveiled on 31st August, by Captain C. H. Knox-Little, R.N., of H.M.S. *Danae*.

APPENDIX.

Publications.

Title.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*
St. Lucia : Historical, Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen	Longman Green, London.
The Memoirs of Pere Labot, 1695–1705.	Translated by John Eaden	Constable & Co., London.
"Chronological History of the West Indies."	Captain Thomas Southey, Commander, R.N.	Longman Green, London.
"The Cradle of the Deep"	Sir Frederick Treves ...	—



(31288—28) Wt. 2212—3118 500 12/33 P St. G. 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d*. (10*d*.).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s*. (£1 1*s*. 9*d*.).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B. 46.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 11*d*.).

Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49). 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

The Demand for Canned Vegetables. (E.M.B. 56.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Wool Survey. A Summary of Production and Trade in the Empire and Foreign Countries. (E.M.B. 57.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 6*d*.).

Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Storage of Tropically-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Control of Wastage in Bananas, with special reference to Time and Temperature Factors. (E.M.B. 60.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

Survey of Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils. Vol. II. Coconut Palm Products. (E.M.B. 61.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 5*d*.).

Barley Survey. A Study of Barley Production, Exports, Imports, Marketing, Markets and Prices in the Principal Exporting and Importing Countries in the World. (E.M.B. 62.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 5*d*.).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1932, to May, 1933. (E.M.B. 63.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Sisal: A note on the Attributes of the Fibre and their Industrial Significance. (E.M.B. 64.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 65.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Dairy Produce Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 66.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Report on the Infestation of Cured Tobacco in London by the Cacao Moth Ephestia Elutella H.B. (E.M.B. 67.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).

Palestine Orange Shipments. (E.M.B. 68.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 69.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

AT THE ADDRESSES ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1649

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

GRENADA, 1932

(For Reports for 1930 and 1931 see Nos. 1541 (Price 9d.) and 1605 (Price 1s. 0d.) respectively)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2
York Street, Manchester 1; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1933

Price 1s. 0d. Net

58-1649

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE AT OTTAWA, 1932.

Summary of Proceedings and Copies of Trade Agreements. [Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.

Report of the Imperial Committee on, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

CONFERENCE OF EMPIRE SURVEY OFFICERS, 1931.

Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 8*d*.).

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 81.] 5*s*. (5*s*. 3*d*.).

MALAYA.

Report of Brig.-Gen. Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during the year 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.

[Colonial No. 65.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, MANDATED TERRITORIES, &c.

New Edition, 1933. [Colonial No. 83.] 7*s*. 6*d*. (8*s*.).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.

Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Report of a Commission on the Financial and Economic Position of, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE LIST.

1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.

Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 11*d*.).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s*. (5*s*. 9*d*.).

'IRAQ.

Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931. [Colonial No. 58.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).

Report on the Administration of, 1931. [Colonial No. 74.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 8*d*.).

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 82.] 9*s*. 6*d*. (9*s*. 10*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At the Addresses on the Front Cover of this report.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1932

CONTENTS.

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	10
VI.	Production	11
VII.	Commerce	12
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	13
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	14
X.	Communications and Transport	15
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	16
XII.	Public Works	16
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.	Land and Survey	23
	Appendix	24
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ North latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ West longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to the end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period, the climate, although not really unhealthy, is debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves, which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available in St. George's, fans are gradually being introduced into houses and offices. The highest temperature in 1932 was 90° on several days and the lowest 70° on more than one occasion. The mean of maximum temperatures was 89° and the mean of minimum 72°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1932 was 103·62 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 80·06 inches.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils.

The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all *ex officio*, with such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of the appointment of members other than *ex officio* members is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an official majority. It consists of eight official members, three nominated members, and five elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has an original and a casting vote ; the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all three *ex officio* ; together with the officers lawfully discharging the functions of the following offices :—Chief Medical and Health Officer, Superintendent of Public Works, Director of Education, and the Commissioner of Carriacou.

In the absence of the Governor from Grenada the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator.

In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group automatically reverts to the Colonial Secretary of Grenada unless a dormant commission has been issued to another official. The Administrator of St. Lucia at present holds such a commission.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The numbers vary between 8 and 14 according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local government are the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Board of Secondary Education, the Board of Primary Education, and the Forestry Board.

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of :—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were females and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1932, was estimated at 81,000. The estimated totals at the end of the preceding 5 years were :—

1927	73,319
1928	75,214
1929	75,867
1930	76,967
1931	78,662

The following table indicates the birth- and death-rates per 1,000 during the past decade :—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1923	38·58	16·6
1924	31·86	16·8
1925	33·54	16·5
1926	33·53	20·3
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
1932	32·60	13·8
Averages	32·98	16·6

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below :—

Percentage of Deaths.

Year.	*Under One Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total percentages under 5 years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1928	22·1	18·0	3·0	·6	·9	44·6	1,244
1929	20·9	15·6	3·6	1·5	·5	42·1	1,278
1930	24·5	17·2	3·7	1·1	1·1	47·6	1,220
1931	22·7	15·9	3·0	1·1	·7	43·4	1,355
1932	20·6	14·7	3·3	2·0	·5	41·1	1,104

The death-rate per 100 births of infants dying under 1 year in 1932 was 8·44, as compared with 12·90 in 1931.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 283, being 56 more than in the preceding year. The rate for the year was 3·5 per thousand persons living. The numbers and rates for the preceding five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*	*Rate per 1,000.*
1927	350	4·7
1928	381	5·0
1929	351	4·6
1930	345	4·4
1931	227	2·8

The arrivals during the year were 3,124 and the departures 2,323 as against 3,831 and 3,160, respectively, in 1931.

IV.—HEALTH.

Main Diseases and Mortality.

Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis) form the largest single disease group. From the departmental returns for 1932, covering a total incidence of 24,320 cases of general systemic and preventable diseases, the following percentage analysis shows the group incidence, and the percentage analysis of a total deaths' incidence—of 746—is also given :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis).	39·6	25·4
Skin and connective tissue diseases	17·4	0·76
General diseases and injuries ...	15·3	28·4
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal).	6·7	5·8
Diarrhoea and enteritis	9·45	19·8
Nervous diseases	2·95	3·7
Circulatory diseases	3·4	12·64
Digestive diseases	2·5	1·8
Respiratory diseases	2·7	1·7

On an analysis of infective diseases and their mortality, on a percentage basis of 9,760 cases reported with 237 deaths, these were grouped as follows :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Malaria	67·6	15·8
Influenza	10·1	0·04
Yaws	10·2	—
Gonorrhoea	3·7	—
Syphilis	6·7	23·2
Pneumonia	0·45	19·93
Enteric fever	0·7	19·43
Tuberculosis	0·3	20·7
Dysentery	0·05	1·2
Other diseases	0·2	9·7

The above returns point to a decrease in most groups as compared with those of the previous year. Influenza of a mild type was prevalent, as also small outbreaks of whooping-cough and chicken-pox.

Weather conditions were ideal during the year, with the result that there was an abundant supply of locally-grown food-stuffs, which in a measure compensated for the lack of liquid cash due to unemployment. The usual period of drought was experienced during the months of February, March, and April.

Dysentery cases were much fewer, only five being notified. The death-rate was, however, 100 per cent.

The total number of cases of malaria was 6,603, as compared with 7,095 in 1931. There were 37 deaths reported as due to malaria during 1932 compared with 82 during 1931.

The incidence of cases of malaria continues to fall. The returns for 1932 show a reduction of 7 per cent. on those for 1931, and of 12·5 per cent. on the 1930 returns—the year in which the malaria campaign was inaugurated.

The field work has been prosecuted continuously, and the results of treatment of anopheline breeding places with Paris Green has proved very effective. On the advice of Dr. Earle no large expenditure was incurred, beyond the cost of surveying swamps, etc., until extensive operations in taking levels, experimenting on water courses, and more thorough investigation of anopheline breeding in the drainage areas have been accomplished.

The incidence of venereal diseases is higher than that of 1931. In the Police Force, where instructed and supervised prophylaxis has been instituted, the decrease in cases has been maintained.

The number of cases of yaws dealt with during the year was 1,009, as compared with 1,665 in 1931; a decrease of 656.

No other disease occurring during the year calls for special comment.

The vast majority of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits, either on cocoa and nutmeg estates, or on small holdings and garden lots where corn, fruit, ground provisions, and other vegetables are cultivated; cotton is also extensively grown in Carriacou and Petite Martinique. There is an appreciable fishing industry, and sailing vessels and boats are constructed principally in the two island dependencies of Grenada just mentioned. Modern industrial undertakings are not found, and no disease occurring can be classified as occupational. Soil pollution, apart from anopheline mosquitoes, is responsible for the greater part of disease.

Provisions for Treatment.

(*a*) *Medical and Health Staff.*

The staff of the Medical and Sanitary Department includes a Chief Medical and Health Officer; Resident Surgeon (Colony Hospital); eight District Medical Officers; and a Medical Officer, Malaria Campaign. The nursing staff distributed through the Medical Institutions and District Medical Stations consists of one European Matron (Colony Hospital) and fifty nurses; there are also nine male and seven female attendants at the Mental Hospital. Hospitals and Dispensaries have four stewards, and there are six dispensers. The Sanitary Department is staffed by a Chief Sanitary Inspector and seven District Sanitary Inspectors. The usual minor staff of male nursing orderlies, messengers, porters, etc., is provided for. There is a well-equipped small bacteriological laboratory, but funds have not been adequate to provide a trained technical assistant for this valuable adjunct of the Department.

(*b*) *Hospitals and Dispensaries, etc.*

There is a well-equipped Colony Hospital (151 beds), at St. George's, which deals with the major part of the medical and surgical cases of the Colony, and two smaller District Hospitals—one in the thickly populated parish of St. Andrew's (23 beds), and one in the island of Carriacou (30 beds). A hospital for consumptives has 20 beds, and there is provision for 20 lepers, 10 female and 10 male, at a Leper Settlement. The Mental Hospital has accommodation for 118 lunatics, and the Poor Asylum for 58 inmates. There are seven Dispensaries, and fifteen Medical Visiting Stations, each with a resident nurse-midwife, and in each of which is a room with couch for emergency cases.

The Colony Hospital and the two District Hospitals dealt with 2,884 cases during 1932; this total includes 710 cases in the maternity section, including 358 pregnancies and 352 births, the

balance being cases of premature birth and abortion, of which latter there were 13.

The Medical Visiting Stations established in 1926 have provided an invaluable aid to the District Medical Service, especially in the field of maternity and child-welfare; during 1932, the District Nurses attended 763 confinements, 976 cases of infants, and 1,859 general nursing cases.

A dental clinic, with the aid of a grant from the Colonial Development Fund, was established in November, 1931, at the Colony Hospital, principally for the treatment of primary school children and paupers.

Preventive Measures.

The Sanitary Department has been active throughout the year, and much help has been received in improved water-supplies, drainage, and provision of latrines, etc. The extension of water-supplies to all villages and settlements is being continued.

In addition to assisting in the malaria campaign in anopheline destruction, the Sanitary Department tackles mosquito breeding all over the Colony. Fly breeding is also dealt with, and the remarkable reduction in the incidence of enteric fever and dysentery owes no small degree of its success to anti-fly measures together with extensive anti-typhoid inoculations; though no corresponding measure was applicable in cases of amoebic dysentery. This latter disease has almost disappeared, the total number of cases notified during the year being only 5, as compared with 30 in 1931.

Maternity and child-welfare is principally dealt with by District Nurses, resident all over the Colony. In St. George's and its environs the good work of the Maternity and Child-welfare League was continued.

Medical inspection of school children is carried out regularly by District Medical Officers who report to the Chief Medical and Health Officer on a form which gives the number inspected; the number of the various affections found, with a report on the general condition of pupils; and on the sanitation and latrine accommodation of each school. Parents and guardians are sent a form signed by the Medical Officer advising treatment in the case of every child found in need thereof. During 1932, over 27,423 inspections were made by Medical Officers.

Education in elementary hygiene continues to be conducted in the primary schools, and the teachers have been made to understand that this is a subject which must be treated as important in the school curriculum.

Instruction of the adult population is principally given by Medical Officers in their routine, and by the Sanitary Inspectors and District Nurses in the homes of the people.

V.—HOUSING.

The latest accurate information regarding the habitations of the people is that furnished by the census of 1921, which showed a total of 15,188 houses made up as follows :—

Class.	*One-room. Per cent.*	*Two-room. Per cent.*	*Three or more rooms. Per cent.*
Stone	16·3	15·1	68·6
Wood	13·5	17·2	15·3
Mixed	7·1	29·5	63·4
Other	21·5	78·3	0·2

Of the total population at that date there were in :—

	Per cent.
Stone houses	2·4
Wooden houses	85·2
Mixed houses	8·2
Other houses	3·2
Public institutions	1·0

and the average number of inmates per house was :—

One-room	3·0
Two-room	4·6
Three or more	5·7
Average all classes	4·6

The census report of 1921 stated that while the majority of houses in the Colony with one or two rooms contained less than the average number of inmates shown above, many others were occupied by a far greater number than they were probably capable of accommodating with anything like a proper regard to health, comfort, and decency, and that, proportionately, overcrowding was more pronounced in the case of two-roomed houses. In one case there were as many as 13 persons in a one-roomed house, and in another 19 in a two-roomed house.

In the absence of a census in 1931 no recent accurate figures are available, but according to the tax rolls of 1932, there were 8,108 houses outside the towns, and the rate rolls of the several towns listed 2,693 houses. A total of 10,801.

Generally speaking, housing conditions outside the towns have not materially changed in the past decade, though a considerable number of better class houses have been erected in recent years by persons of the middle class, mainly returned emigrants and prosperous peasant proprietors.

Except in St. George's, where housing schemes have been contemplated from time to time without reaching maturity, no effort has been made to ameliorate housing conditions. Inspections of

houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure.

There is one Building Society in the Colony established in 1925.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The Colony is purely agricultural and for purposes of external trade produces cocoa, nutmegs, mace, cotton and cotton-seed, fruit, cattle, sheep, poultry, copra, lime-juice and lime-oil, vegetables, hides, turtle and turtle-shell, mahogany, cedar, and log-wood.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for slightly over 50 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crop exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1928	91,444	274,461
1929	90,987	210,082
1930	84,863	192,543
1931	87,656	153,923
1932	87,836	101,231

Owing to the prevalence of low prices there was a heavy fall in the value of cocoa exported.

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1928	19,620	87,965
1929	22,666	100,323
1930	19,972	67,794
1931	26,195	54,808
1932	27,305	36,859

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* cwt.	*Value.* £
1928	3,141	49,260
1929	3,765	55,766
1930	3,567	41,395
1931	3,658	28,864
1932	4,181	23,090

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to improve the cultivation.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years:—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1928	2,568	10,735
1929	2,945	14,905
1930	3,256	15,395
1931	2,369	6,272
1932	3,119	6,776

Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and importation of raw sugar amounted in 1932 to 2,938,797 lb., of the value of £13,767.

The values of lime and coconut products exported in 1932 were £11,027 and £3,241, respectively.

An attempt is now being made to develop a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada. It has to be remembered that the remaining fertile land not already under profitable cultivation is limited, and development of new cultivation to any great extent could only be at the expense of uprooting other permanent crops.

Rum is manufactured at twelve sugar estates, but none is exported, the production being barely equal to the demand of local consumption. The quantity made last year was 35,219·2 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £458,673, imports representing £259,743, and exports £198,930, leaving an apparent unfavourable trade balance of £60,813.

IMPORTS.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows:—

Article.	*1932.* £	*1931.* £	*1930.* £
Flour	27,454	30,168	41,999
Cotton piece-goods	24,671	20,371	25,812
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	10,031	9,320	15,946
Fish, dried	9,735	10,765	13,991
Rice	7,104	10,387	13,209
Boots and shoes	7,606	6,433	7,412
Sugar, unrefined	13,767	11,705	12,629
Motor spirits	6,197	6,657	8,603
Hardware	4,269	3,990	5,810
Motor cars	5,609	2,353	7,362
Motor parts	4,833	3,853	5,695
Kerosene oil	4,975	5,354	5,849

EXPORTS.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under:—

Article.	*1932.* £	*1931.* £	*1930.* £
Cocoa	101,231	153,923	192,543
Spices, nutmegs	36,859	54,808	67,794
Do. mace	23,090	28,864	41,395
Cotton, raw	6,776	6,272	15,395
Cotton seed	1,531	2,000	4,286
Lime oil	10,720	9,269	6,971

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1932 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports. £	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	115,762	44·6	90,545	45·5
United States of America ...	27,287	10·5	51,826	26·5
Canada	47,628	18·3	37,884	19·4
Other British Possessions ...	51,088	19·7	15,884	7·2
Other Foreign Countries ...	17,978	6·9	2,791	1·4

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 39·5 and 57·7 respectively.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have been maintained during 1932, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week. Those employed obtain on the average two to three days per week.

Ruling daily rates are :—	*Men.*	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	1s. 2d.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. per lb.
Pork, fresh	8d. per lb.
Chicken	6d. per lb.
Fish, fresh	6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	3d. per bottle.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice	2½d. per lb.
Butter	2s. 6d. per lb.
Sugar	2d. per lb.
Bread	3d. per lb.
Flour	2½d. per lb.

Board and lodging can be had at £8—£9 per month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35—£40 a month, and, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20—£25 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education over which the Director of Education presides.

There is a Government Secondary School (boarding and day) for boys at which the attendance now averages about 130. Additional buildings have recently been acquired and the school now has a science laboratory and gymnasium, as well as its own playing fields.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary school and the primary schools in a Manual Training Centre in St. George's.

Three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 73 to 129.

The total expenditure by Government was £1,436.

The number of recognized primary schools at the end of the year was 60.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1932 was 13,330, the average attendance being 8,445 or 63·3 per cent.

The total expenditure by the Government was £10,797.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from New York and from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados, and other neighbouring islands.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station operated by Imperial and International Communications, Limited, is established in St. George's, and communicates direct with Barbados.

A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station is installed at Carriacou, and communicates with Grenada.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, at present under reconstruction without interruption of business, has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges and 2,115 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1932 was 728.

The island is well supplied by a good system of main roads and by-ways kept in good repair by seven motor road-rollers. All the main roads and practically all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic. The mileage of main roads is 111, and of by-ways 274.

There are regular services of motor-omnibuses between all the towns.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five-dollar notes issued by the two Banks are in circulation.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

A Co-operative Bank was established during the year, but there is no Agricultural Bank in the Colony.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

This Department is responsible for practically all Government engineering work including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, Crown lands and surveys, land drainage, machinery, harbour, sanitary, electric lighting, cold storage, etc.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two senior assistants, one electrician, and one mechanic at Headquarters, and two District Road Surveyors. The office staff comprises one chief clerk and accountant, one storekeeper, one second clerk, and two typists.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1932, was £56,172, inclusive of a sum of over £24,777 expended on Colonial Development Works, all of which were carried out under direct control of the Department, one additional temporary officer having been engaged for general supervision and other details connected with the Western Main Road work.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained during the year was 385 miles, of which 66 miles were surface treated with oil or emulsion, 267 miles metalled, and 52 miles are earth roads.

Due to abnormally heavy rainfall, expenditure on removal of slides and repair of other storm damages amounted to £633. The principal works carried out as a result of storm damages were (*a*) the underpinning of a retaining wall at Dothan, St. John's, 38 feet long, damaged by heavy seas ; (*b*) the repair of the Melville Street sea wall, St. George's, 400 feet long, also damaged by heavy seas, but not quite completed owing to continued bad weather, and (*c*) the repair of the foundations of a retaining wall on the Dunfermline Byway, St. Andrew's.

Of the 10 miles of road reconstructed and oiled or treated with emulsion, 6 miles represent work completed on the Western Main Road with provision made from the Colonial Development Fund, and include important diversions at Battery Hill near the town of Victoria and at Union.

Improvements to waterworks were carried out at Observatory, Richmond Hill, Vendome, Boca, Snug Corner, and Les Avocats. Extensions were made to the services at Pearls and adjacent areas,

Westerhall, Perdmontemps, Plains, La Mode, and Celeste, and new supplies laid to Concord, Grand Roy, and Birch Grove. An extension to Chantimelle and a new supply to Union and Tuilleries were commenced.

The work of draining and filling the Queen's Park was continued during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two Magisterial Districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that District.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the proceedings therein are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance and prosecutions for criminal offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases when counsel is employed.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. In the year under review, however, the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 1,548, as compared with an average of 2,571 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 1,548, the number of summary convictions was 1,183, and that of convictions in the Supreme Court 24, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,807 summary convictions and 29 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 187 as against 207 in 1931, and 198 in 1930.

Police.

The strength of the Police Force on 31st December, 1932, was one Officer in Command, one Inspector, and 93 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 147 employed on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, administration of poor relief, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a Fire Brigade and Government Band are under its management and control.

Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 129 persons were committed to the male prison and 32 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 31·66 and 2·90 respectively.

No deaths occurred, and the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate place and at a different time from ordinary cases. There is no reformatory or other institution in the Colony for the detention of young offenders.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Magistrates' Courts.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1.—Providing for the service of the Colony for the year 1932.

No. 2.—Amending the Customs Duties Tariff.

No. 3.—Providing for the hearing by Magistrates of charges against juveniles.

No. 4.—Regulating Public Lotteries.

No. 5.—Providing additional appropriation for 1931.

No. 6.—Providing for the service of the Colony for the year 1933.

No. 7.—Validating certain Customs Duties.

No. 8.—Imposing a temporary surtax on Customs Duties.

No. 9.—Authorizing a loan for reconstruction of certain roads.

No. 10.—Giving effect to the Protocol on Arbitration Clauses.

No. 11.—Amending the law relating to the Arbitration of Foreign Awards.

No. 12.—Amending the law relating to the protection of United Kingdom designs.

No. 13.—Amending the law relating to the registration of United Kingdom Patents.

No. 14.—Imposing a levy on the emoluments of officials.

No. 15.—Imposing a temporary tax on produce.

No. 16.—Amending the law relating to Income-tax.

No. 17.—Amending the law relating to Magistrates.

No. 18.—Amending the Customs Duties Tariff.

No. 19.—Relating to the construction and maintenance of roads and the control of traffic thereon.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue of the Colony continued to be affected by trade depression during the year. The revenue from all sources amounted to £124,463, exclusive of the following amounts :—

	£
Receipts from the Colonial Development Fund ...	19,221
Grant from the Imperial Government under the Trade Facilities Act	500
Reimbursements from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road temporarily met from Surplus Funds	29,247
Appreciation in market value of securities ...	21,429
Reparation payment	6,084
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation	525
	£77,016

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1932 :—

Head.	1928. £	1929. £	1930. £	1931. £	1932. £
Customs	81,211	79,906	70,743	59,494	58,206
Harbour and Cargo dues	2,338	2,424	2,458	2,837	2,680
Licences, Excise, &c.	36,057	36,162	31,776	27,814	28,793
Estate duties	423	3,249	1,148	1,147	4,896
Income-tax	14,251	10,318	7,152	6,913	4,243
Fees of Office, &c.	5,154	5,918	6,471	6,005	6,095
Post Office	3,315	4,572	2,897	2,587	2,929
Telephones and Electric Lights ...	4,367	4,463	6,176	6,599	7,980
Water-supplies	304	2,898	2,981	2,829	2,837
Revenue from Government property ...	4,468	5,760	5,547	4,536	25,489
Interest and Sinking Funds, &c. ...	1,227	1,309	1,289	1,343	1,399
Miscellaneous Receipts	322	352	378	296	197
Land sales	432	971	179	134	168
Colonial Development Works	—	—	2,000	18,505	19,221
Repatriation Payment	—	—	—	—	6,084
Reimbursement from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road	—	—	—	—	29,247
Grant from Imperial Government under Trade Facilities Act	—	—	750	750	500
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation ...	—	—	—	—	525
Total Revenue ...	£153,869	£158,302	£141,945	£141,739	£201,480

No changes were introduced in the methods of raising revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £155,343, being less than the revenue by £46,137.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years :—

	£
1928	131,244
1929	138,193
1930	168,088
1931	195,183
1932	155,343

The expenditure for the year 1932 includes £25,393 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments, at the end of 1932 was £169,954 17s. 9d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock (Colony's share)	115,470	0	0
Inscribed Stock (District Board's share) ...	8,200	0	0
	£123,670	0	0
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	70,010	0	0
	£193,680	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market ...	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water-supply Extension Loan ...	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	14,182	0	0
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System	3,805	4	0
Road Loan	30,773	5	4
	£293,657	0	8
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	123,702	2	11
Net indebtedness	£169,954	17	9

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,750 were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st of December, 1932, was £90,225. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at 31st of December, 1932, was £70,583 and the balance is made up as follows :—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards ...	1,016		
Loans to Central Water Authority	15,045		
		16,061	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		8,748	
			7,313
Public Works stores ...			2,528
Colony Drug Store			1,822
Electricity, etc., stores ...			2,364
Grenada Land Settlement ...			339
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account			898
Fruit and Vegetable Bureau			452
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board			927
Overdraft by St. Patrick's District Board			145
Other Advances			2,654
			£19,842

Taxation.

The first Schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected. Duties are payable at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* (British Preferential Tariff) on boots, chinaware, cotton manufactures, cutlery, electrical apparatus, glassware, wood manufactures of British origin, and 22½ per cent. *ad valorem* on similar foreign goods.

The tariff of import duties was revised in November, 1932, and among other changes amended duties were imposed as follows :—

	British Preferential.	*General.*
Rubber and canvas boots and shoes, value 3s. per pair and under.	Free.	1s. per pair.
Do. value over 3s. per pair ...	4d. per pair.	1s. 4d. per pair.
Butter	—	£1 0s. 10d. per 100 lb.

	British Preferential.	*General.*
Motor cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hardware	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	25 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery—cotton and artificial silk, value 6d. per pair and under.	Free.	6d. per pair.
Hosiery—over 6d. per pair ...	3d. per pair.	9d. per pair.
Hosiery—silk	9d. per pair.	1s. 6d. per pair.

The following specific rates of duty on spirits and tobacco were enforced at 31st of December, 1932 :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy ...	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
Gin	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Rum ...	12s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	15s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Whisky ...	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,	22s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,
Cordials and Liqueurs ...	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured:—		
Cigars, Cigarettes ...	10s. 0d. ,,	14s. 0d. ,,
Other manufactured tobacco	7s. 0d. ,,	9s. 0d. ,,

An Ordinance was passed in October providing for the temporary collection of 15 per cent. surtax on all import duties except those on wheaten flour, sugar—unrefined and refined, salted and dried fish, and empty bags and sacks.

Export duty is levied on the following local products :—

Cocoa	1s. to 2s. or over per cwt. variable with price of cocoa in London market.
Cotton ...	1s. to 5s. per cwt. variable with price in Liverpool market.
Cotton seed ...	6d. per cwt.
Nutmegs ...	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Mace	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1d. to 4½d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime juice (raw)	10d. to 2s. 6d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime oil ...	1d. to 3d. per lb. according to f.o.b. price.
Green limes ...	6d. and over per barrel according to f.o.b. price.

Excise duty is collected on rum made in the Colony at the rate of 6s. per gallon. Total collections in 1932 amounted to £9,120. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. is collected on all spirits delivered for consumption.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 4s. to 28s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £20 p.a., pay 7 per cent. of such value.

Income-tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by a trading company at 3s. on every £, and by a Life Insurance Company at 1s. 0½d., on every £.

XVI.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature is the number of small-holdings in Grenada. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various Land Settlement Schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The land holdings, according to the tax rolls are as follows :—

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*
16,583	13,946	1,700	320	210	407

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

Trigonometrical and cadastral surveys of the Colony are contemplated.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1931.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

Report on Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

Report on Forestry in Grenada by Captain R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on the Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

(21325—28) Wt. 2241—3119 500 12/33 P. St. G. 7/8

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d*. (10*d*.).
British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s*. (£1 1*s*. 9*d*.).
Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B. 46.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 11*d*.).
Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49). 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
The Demand for Canned Vegetables. (E.M.B. 56.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).
Wool Survey. A Summary of Production and Trade in the Empire and Foreign Countries. (E.M.B. 57.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 6*d*.).
Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
The Storage of Tropically-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Control of Wastage in Bananas, with special reference to Time and Temperature Factors. (E.M.B. 60.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).
Survey of Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils. Vol. II. Coconut Palm Products. (E.M.B. 61.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 5*d*.).
Barley Survey. A Study of Barley Production, Exports, Imports, Marketing, Markets and Prices in the Principal Exporting and Importing Countries in the World. (E.M.B. 62.) 2*s*. (2*s*. 5*d*.).
Empire Marketing Board. May, 1932, to May, 1933. (E.M.B. 63.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Sisal: A note on the Attributes of the Fibre and their Industrial Significance. (E.M.B. 64.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 65.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Dairy Produce Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 66.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Report on the Infestation of Cured Tobacco in London by the Cacao Moth Ephestia Elutella H.B. (E.M.B. 67.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.).
Palestine Orange Shipments. (E.M.B. 68.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).
Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1932. (E.M.B. 69.) 1*s*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include Postage.

OBTAINABLE FROM

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

AT THE ADDRESSES ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS REPORT.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

For further particulars as to the latest reports and prices apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1676

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

ST. VINCENT, 1933

(For Reports for 1931 and 1932 see Nos. 1577 and 1619 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each))

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2
York Street, Manchester 1; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff
80, Chichester Street, Belfast
or through any Bookseller

1934

Price 1s. 0d Net.

58-1676

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)
Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88-1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
(Part II, Public Business, will shortly be issued as Colonial No. 88-2.)

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

MIGRATION.
Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At the Addresses on the Title Page of this Report.

[*Continued on page iii of cover.*

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1933

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	4
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	5
VI.—Production	6
VII.—Commerce	9
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	10
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	11
X.—Communications and Transport	12
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	14
XII.—Public Works	14
XIII.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	15
XIV.—Legislation	18
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.—Miscellaneous	22
Appendix.—List of Publications	24
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of England as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78°F. to 85°F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above the sea level, was 115·48 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 4·23 inches on 21st October.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council, and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created instead, composed of twelve members, three *ex officio*, three nominated by the Crown, and six elected by the people.

This Constitution also was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, four *ex officio* members, one nominated unofficial member and three

elected members. The island is divided into three Electoral Districts, each returning one elected member. An election takes place every three years, the last being held in May, 1931.

There is also an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. Every person not being an *ex officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

Municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board consisting of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race is as follows :—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans) ...	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1932 and 1933 :—

	1932.	1933.
Estimated population	49,665	52,006
Births, excluding stillbirths	2,002	2,133
Birth-rate per 1,000	40·31	43·15
Stillbirths	128	111
Percentage of live births to stillbirths ...	6·39 (94·6)	5·20 (95·5)
Death-rate per 1,000	16·31	15·19
Deaths of children under one year (excluding stillbirths)	188	155
Mortality per 1,000 births	380	352
Marriages	195 (3·92 per 1,000).	153 (2·94 per 1,000).
Emigration	2,350	3,008
Immigration	2,731	2,749

Note.—The estimated population is based on the census figures of 1931, with the natural increases and decreases up to and including the year under review.

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1933 was relatively healthy. No epidemic of a serious nature occurred. The incidence of fevers of the enteric group was the lowest on record. The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis continues to be very high.

	1932.	1933.
Attendances at dispensaries	35,477	38,961
Colonial Hospital—In-patients	1,183	1,254
" " Out-patient casualties ...	413	424
Casualty Hospitals (2) In-patients	141	134
Pauper, Lunatic, and Leper Asylums ...	175	189
Tubercular Home	—	23
Totals	37,389	40,985

The following table shows the principal causes of death in the years 1932 and 1933 and the percentages :—

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*		*Percentages of total deaths.*	
	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	47	52	5·82	6·58
Senility	97	92	12·02	11·65
Bronchitis	44	38	5·45	4·81
Ascariasis	38	35	4·71	4·43
Tuberculosis	52	54	6·44	6·84
Marasmus	—	48	—	6·08
Peritonitis	—	45	—	5·70

V.—HOUSING.

Taken as a whole the housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in country villages the houses are of primitive form, being built of mud and wattle with cane-trash roofs, and the same is true of the housing of the labourers on many estates. In most cases, estates rent house-spots to their labourers, leaving the latter to erect their own dwellings—a task which they are apt to perform with the least possible exertion. The estate owner assists the labourer by renting him mountain lands to grow his provisions and

sometimes a certain amount of grazing land for his livestock. It is a matter of moment that the sanitary authority has now stepped in and passed rules governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses. The enforcement of sanitary laws will have a beneficial effect on future construction.

Under the provisions of the "Dwelling House Regulations," 192 notices for permission to erect new buildings were approved and 127 buildings erected during the year.

An improvement is taking place in the construction of the better class of houses, especially in the case of dwellings recently erected in and around Kingstown. There has been a distinct break away from the old type of "box house" which had nothing to commend it but its apparent strength. The new buildings around Kingstown are of excellent appearance, being of modern design; while retaining the solidity of the old type they are well ventilated, surrounded by spacious open verandas in nearly every case, and provided with good sanitation.

The old Commissariat Building at Edinboro, a residential suburb of the capital, has been demolished and seven bungalows erected on its site.

Three new bungalows have been built at Villa, some three miles outside Kingstown, making a total of six, exclusive of the Aquatic Club near which they stand. St. Vincent offers more liberal accommodation for holiday seekers than most islands of its size in the West Indies. The old Pembroke Hotel has been taken over by a new management, fitted with modern conveniences, and renamed "South Bridge Hotel."

The wattle-and-daub houses of the peasants are still very evident among the new structures erected. Ventilation is secured in these houses by requiring that a space of 8 inches be left all around between the plate and the walls, rain being excluded by the overhang of the thatching.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

There are no minerals found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the island. Thanks to a rich, light, friable soil, and to good rainfall distribution, a wide range of crops is produced.

The following table gives the kind of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown by peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentage used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products.

Crop.	Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage used.		Estimated value.
		Plantations.	Peasants.	Locally.	Exported.	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	81,852	59	41	—	100	4,384
2. Cotton—Marie Galante. „	76,117	27	73	—	100	1,586
3. Cacao ... ... „	224,000	70	30	53	47	2,333
4. Arrowroot ... „	5,761,152	75	25	2	98	60,013
5. Cassava ... „	881,761	67	33	23	77	4,650
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,500	100	—	45	55	14,000
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	378,528	80	20	27	73	15,772
8. Copra ... ... lb.	2,149,641	98	2	—	100	8,978
9. Maize ... ... „	18,840	25	75	90	10	80
10. Groundnuts ... „	63,645	60	40	25	75	389
11. Peas and beans „	241,316	65	35	50	50	1,508
12. Sweet potatoes „	3,920,000	20	80	75	25	8,166
13. Plantains ... stems	10,860	10	90	66	34	543
14. Tannias ... lb.	498,240	10	90	75	25	2,076
15. Yams ... ... „	132,800	10	90	80	20	415
16. Miscellaneous vegetables. „	110,000	10	90	75	25	496
17. Bananas ... stems	2,880	15	85	85	15	144
18. Tomatoes ... lb.	67,700	55	45	50	50	500
19. Oranges	77,200	45	55	80	20	110
20. Grapefruit	8,970	40	60	80	20	15
21. Coco-nuts	306,000	20	80	94	6	637
22. Limes ... ... brls.	2,600	22	78	34	66	329
23. Mace ... ... lb.	6,015	60	40	1	99	301
24. Nutmegs ... „	27,342	60	40	1	99	342
25. Ginger ... ... „	3,440	5	95	75	25	24

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers for their cotton by the Government Cotton Ginnery which gins, bales and ships it for them. When sold 5 per cent. is deducted, the balance being distributed *pro rata* among them. Planters usually ship their own cotton.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

6. There is only one factory in the island where sugar is manufactured, but this plant though relatively small is among the most modern in the West Indies.

7. There are syrup factories of various capacities in the island. These factories are usually owned by planters who also grind the sugar canes of peasants on a share basis.

9. Maize is purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery to which a Granary is attached. The maize is shelled, kiln-dried, and stored. When sold, 5 per cent. is deducted for handling charges and the remainder divided *pro rata* among vendors.

18. Tomatoes produced by peasants for export are graded, wrapped, packed, and shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. After account sales have been received, 10 per cent. is deducted for handling charges. The remainder is paid *pro rata* as a bonus to vendors.

Other fruit, such as avocado pears, limes, oranges, etc., is also shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

21. Not converted into copra.

Livestock.

The following table shows the numbers of animals in the island as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Included in the table are the estimated values of the various classes of livestock, the numbers of beasts owned by plantations and peasants respectively, the numbers exported during 1933, and the value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1933.*	*Value of Exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,637	3,422
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	70	391
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,642	873
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	150	205
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	756	408
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	7	223
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	6	83

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. Apart from this there are small whaling stations situated on some of the small islands. In 1933, 797 gallons of whale oil, valued at £69, and 410 lb. of turtle shells valued at £121 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, while on others they work on their own holdings. They are usually paid by the task, but payment by the day is of fairly frequent occurrence.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is similar to that performed on plantations. Broadly speaking, all peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they use the ordinary plantation methods, and follow the lead of the plantations as to the crops they raise. They receive advice from Agricultural Officers.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, and who own land, is approximately 2,763. Of this number, 2,614 possess areas from 1–10 acres, 116 from 10–20 acres, and 31 from 20–30 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and for export.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses some excellent pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. Some years ago the Government possessed a stud farm, consequently the animals attached to this have left their mark on the existing farm animals.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is run in conjunction with the sugar factory previously mentioned. In 1933, 40,182 gallons of rum, valued at £6,027, were distilled; of this 9,832 gallons, valued at £1,475, were exported, the balance being consumed locally.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £267,777 as against a total of £246,588 in 1932. The increase of £21,189 was due to the improved value of exports during 1933.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.		
		Island Produce.	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1929	186,439	151,207	363	151,570
1930	200,830	146,704	5,033	151,737
1931	177,492	111,597	1,568	113,165
1932	149,289	95,693	1,606	97,299
1933	148,647	112,265	6,865	119,130

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	58,030	73,802	74,256	65,274	66,326
Canada	49,382	43,763	34,346	25,954	25,227
British West Indies ...	11,350	15,091	10,078	10,635	10,636
India	888	1,199	418	595	703
Newfoundland	5,106	4,473	3,087	3,738	3,944
Ceylon	397	451	861	299	308
Other British Colonies ...	10,459	9,395	6,869	6,714	7,058
United States of America ...	37,645	39,008	34,850	23,191	22,300
France	3,424	3,597	3,301	2,838	1,621
Denmark	693	752	132	79	227
Germany	2,169	2,162	2,012	1,472	1,334
Holland	1,011	1,285	1,223	968	917
Foreign West Indies ...	384	629	272	263	360
Other Countries	4,110	3,308	4,079	4,969	6,335
Unclassified	1,391	1,915	1,708	2,300	1,351
	£186,439	£200,830	£177,492	£149,289	£148,647

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	70,301	71,715	56,227	49,835	49,269
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	16,792	18,785	15,497	15,300	6,929
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	97,810	108,083	103,928	81,608	90,778
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	1,536	2,247	1,840	2,546	1,671
	£186,439	£200,830	£177,492	£149,289	£148,647

The following are the percentages, in the last five years, of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	31·12	36·75	41·83	43·72	44·62
United States of America ...	20·19	19·43	19·64	15·53	15·00
Canada	26·49	21·79	19·35	17·39	16·97
All other Countries ...	22·20	22·03	19·18	23·36	23·41

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Country of destination.	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	62,000	64,800	44,600	30,108	34,263
Canada	15,446	15,816	12,334	9,376	14,026
Bermuda	434	429	526	278	182
British West Indies ...	41,252	38,814	23,625	25,366	29,029
British Guiana	788	532	205	445	216
United States of America ...	25,580	24,683	28,072	27,489	35,598
Other Countries	6,070	6,663	3,803	4,237	5,816

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are :—females 6d.–10d. per day, males 1s. 3d.–2s. per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by task, the payment made being at the rate of 8d.–1s. per task of 5–6 hours. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers with house-spots at pepper-corn rentals and land for cultivation ; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land. Trees which produce mangoes, pears, breadfruit, and plants bearing other edible fruit are often found wild or can be obtained for the reaping. Fish are plentiful in the sea and rivers, and cost nothing but the effort of catching them.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from five to fifteen years but in senior schools pupils may be retained up to the age of sixteen years.

On 31st December, 1933, there were 37 primary schools. Of these 13 were provided by Government and the remaining 24 by the religious denominations. The salaries of all the teachers, most of the equipment of both Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the " non-provided " school buildings are met from the general revenue of the Colony. Of the denominational schools nine are Anglican, 13 Methodist and two Roman Catholic.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education in the Colony during the years 1931, 1932, and 1933 :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
Number of schools	36	36	37
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	8,838	9,105	9,291
Average attendance	4,730	5,153	5,258
Percentage of average attendance...	53·5	56·6	56·6
Total expenditure by Government...	£6,590	£7,476	£7,973
Cost per child in average attendance	£1 7*s*. 10*d*.	£1 9*s*. 0*d*.	£1 10*s*. 4*d*.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £839 6s. 0d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age, but it is being steadily increased.

Secondary education is provided at two schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School—both maintained by Government. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted where there are two or more pupils from the same family. At 31st December, 1933, the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 87, and at the Girls' High School 81.

Three scholarships open to pupils of the primary schools and tenable for a maximum period of six years at one or other of the above-mentioned institutions are provided annually by Government. Two other scholarships are also annually awarded, one by the Town Board of Kingstown and the other by the Methodist Church.

At 31st December, 1933, twelve boys and eleven girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 13·7.

There is a scholarship for university education of the annual value of £250 exclusive of free passages. It is awarded biennially on the results of the London matriculation examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university.

There are no technical or vocational schools, but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving greater attention than formerly in the primary schools.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide organizations continue to be active. There are now 13 troops of the former and 17 companies (including three Brownie Packs) of the latter.

A number of Friendly Societies, operating under the Friendly Society Ordinance, No. 49 of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or sickness. This is the only form of insurance against sickness.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, but also receiving a grant-in-aid from Government, in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free but for the use of the circulating library a subscription of 6s. per annum is charged. It contains over 2,000 volumes.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

As shown in the table below, the roads of the Colony are divided into various sections. The principal means of transport and communication between the windward coast and the capital, Kingstown, is by means of motor vehicles, and that of the leeward coast by motor launch and canoes.

The work of reconstructing and oiling the road from Kingstown to Georgetown was terminated in May owing to lack of funds. The highways and by-ways on the mainland and in the Grenadines have been improved and maintained.

Roads.	Mileage. Total.	Oiled mileage.	Macadamized mileage.	Earth mileage.	Means of Transport.
Main.					
Leeward Road ...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Kingstown District Road.	4	1½	2½	—	Motor vehicles.
Windward Road ...	25	13	12	—	do.
Vigie Road	11	—	9	2	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
By-ways.					
Leeward	64⅜	—	3	61⅜	Carts and animals.
Windward	112¾	—	15	97¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Union Island... ...	12	—	—	12	Foot.
Crown Lands Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	67	—	—	67	do.

Postal.

The central Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony.

There are 18 district Post Offices, eight of which are on the windward portion of the island and with which a daily mail service by motor bus is maintained.

The bus leaves Georgetown at 8 a.m. and Kingstown on the return trip at 2 p.m.

A daily mail service by motor launch is maintained on the leeward coast and a weekly service to the Grenadines by the Government sloop *Carib*.

Mails are conveyed to Bequia three times a week by sailing boat.

Telegraph service is carried out by Imperial and International Communications, Limited [now Cables and Wireless Limited]. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service is maintained by the Government which links up Kingstown, the capital, with two exchanges in the Windward District and one in the Leeward District. Ample call office facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. No less than fifteen of these call stations exist linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

Steamers of other lines also call at various other periods.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a note circulation of £14,388. It is estimated that the amount of coin in circulation during 1933 amounted to between £4,000 and £6,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 2 per cent. per annum, particulars of which are unknown.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1933, was £6,359.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1933, was £14,946. Interest at 3 per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coin of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is four shillings and two pence of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The work of constructing drains in Kingstown, to reduce the possibility of flooding during heavy rains, was undertaken from assistance under the Colonial Development Fund.

Other works of importance carried out were :—

1. Painting interior and exterior of Government House and outbuildings.
2. Construction of rifle range at Sion Hill Bay.
3. Construction of tank at Bequia School.
4. Concreting of drains at Bequia.
5. Erection of foot-bridge at Greggs.
6. Extension of Georgetown School.
7. Repairing and painting Graham Wing, Colonial Hospital.
8. Extension of operating theatre, Colonial Hospital.
9. Extension of Troumaca School.
10. Structural alterations at Girls' High School.
11. Plastering of model houses at Georgetown and Chateaubelair built for labourers.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

ORGANIZATION OF JUSTICE.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which district is composed of the following :—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie, and Georgetown (on the windward coast), and the island of Bequia.

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which district is comprised of the Southern Grenadines—Union Island, Mayreau, and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

STATISTICS OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS (First and Second Districts).

FIRST DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	18	15	116	149
Malicious injury of property ...	1	1	1	3
Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—
Offences against property ...	8	10	53	71
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	22	4	190	216
Other offences	45	48	457	550
	94	78	817	989

Convictions.

Result of convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	74	1	—	18	—	160	297	550
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	16	—	—	16	—	26	96	154
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	16	—	—	13	—	—	35	64
Whipping	9	—	—	6	—	2	24	41
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	1	—	—	—	—	2	5	8
	116	1	—	53	—	190	457	817

Second District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	52	15	159	226
Malicious injury to property ...	1	4	6	11
Praedial larceny	3	26	131	160
Offences against property ...	10	20	91	121
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	1	1
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	—	24	202	226
Other offences	84	54	587	725
	150	143	1,177	1,470

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	107	5	73	45	1	202	422	855
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	19	—	16	17	—	—	52	104
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	25	1	20	23	—	—	58	127
Whipping	6	—	19	4	—	—	19	48
Bound over	2	—	3	2	—	—	36	43
	159	6	131	91	1	202	587	1,177

Police.

Organization of the Police Force.

Personnel.—The Police Force consists of two officers and fifty-one non-commissioned officers and men. The two officers and thirty-four other ranks are at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed between the nine out-stations.

The Chief of Police is, *ex officio*, Officer Commanding Local Forces, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade and Chief Relieving Officer.

During the year there were 2,126 police prosecutions. Convictions were obtained in 1,849 cases.

On 31st December, 1933, the Force was up to strength. There are nine outstations in the Colony besides the Police Headquarters in Kingstown. All are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia Island and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under a semi-military organization the constables at Headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period the constable is deemed to continue enrolled for a further like period and so on from time to time unless he shall have signified his intention to resign before the end of such period.

Besides ordinary police duties the police carry out the duties of Poor Relieving Officers, Fire Brigade, and Process Servers.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise :—

(1) The record office, warders' mess-room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery, and bath-room for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper floor being occupied by the prison chapel and warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four large associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing sixteen single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room, and a weighing-room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one main building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison, only two such cases having occurred during the last four years. In both instances, short periods of imprisonment were inflicted. When juveniles are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning, and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. Many of them suffered from venereal disease and skin diseases. In nearly all cases those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks leave the prison in better health than that in which they arrived.

Instruction by Schoolmaster.

Since the beginning of August, an effort has been made to improve the general education of such of the prisoners as appeared capable of benefiting by instruction. One of the primary school teachers has attended the prison for two hours a day on four days of the week, with somewhat encouraging results.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important ordinances enacted during the year under review :—

No.	*Short Title.*
2.	Importation of Animals (Diseases Prevention).
6.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
11.	Customs Duties (Amendment No. 2).
12.	Export Duties.
13.	Income Tax (Amendment).
14.	Stamp (Amendment).
21.	Fire Brigades.
22.	Trades Unions.
23.	Head Teachers Pensions.
25.	Importation of Animals (Diseases Prevention) (Amendment).
26.	Cotton Seed Control.
29.	Lowmans—Bia bou Water Supply.

TABLE SHOWING THE EFFECT OF THE ABOVE LEGISLATION.

Ordinances affected.	*Subject.*	*How affected.*	*By what ordinance.*
Cap. 184	Customs Duties	Item 23 of the first schedule repealed and replaced.	No. 6 of 1933.
Cap. 184	Customs Duties	(1) Addition of new subsection to section 3 to provide for the raising of further duties upon all goods, wares and merchandise imported in the Colony or taken out of bond for consumption in the Colony.	No. 11 of 1933.
		(2) Amendment of sub-section 1 of section 6 by insertion after the word "goods" in line five and seven, of the following words :—"inclusive of all charges to the time of shipment and exclusive only of cost of outside packages or covering, ocean freight insurance and buying commission."	
		(3) First and second schedules amended.	
Cap. 192	Income Tax ...	Addition to section 8 of new paragraph. Sections 14, subsections 1, 15, 16, 17, 22 and 33 amended.	No. 13 of 1933.
		Section 21 repealed and replaced.	
Cap. 195	Stamp ...	New addition to schedule.	No. 14 of 1933.
No. 21 of 1932.	Export Duties	Repealed.	No. 12 of 1933.
No. 2 of 1933.	Importation of Animals (Diseases Prevention)	Section 16 amended by the insertion after the word "infected" in line one thereof of the words "or suspected"; also by the insertion after the word "disease" in line four thereof, of the words "or suspicion of disease."	No. 25 of 1933.

There has been no factory legislation, compensation for accidents and legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years, excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1933	72,873	68,150
1932	72,073	67,903
1931	68,550	79,543
1930	68,602	67,769
1929	64,090	70,786

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1933, amounted to £92,023, of which £1,610 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £30,000 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £6,653.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1933, amounted to £12,605, of which £6,410 represents unallocated stores and loans to boards.

The main heads of taxation are :—

		£
Import Duties	... yield for 1933	27,560
Export Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,358
Licences ...	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,926
Excise Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	4,932
Land and House Tax	,, ,, ,, ...	5,990
Income-tax	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,978
Stamp Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	1,054
Estate Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	1,000
Trade Duties	... ,, ,, ,, ...	2,372

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows :—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and Shoes (Canvas with rubber soles).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	10 per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s.* per pair.
Do. other kinds	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Flour, wheaten	4*s.* per 196 lb.	5*s.* per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s.* ,, 100 ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* ,, ,, ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Machinery	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined ...	5*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 11*d.* per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	1*s.* 9*d.* ,, ,, ,,	5*s.* 3*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Hardware	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	20 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery, cotton and art. silk	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	10 per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d.* per pair.
,, silk	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	10 per. cent. *ad valorem* and 9*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured ...	6*s.* 3*d.* per lb.	9*s.* 4½*d.* per lb.
,, unmanufactured	1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.	1*s.* 9*d.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	6*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 1,000 ft
Motor cars	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor cars (wholly British)	—	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts—except tyres—(wholly British).	—	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	2½*d.* per gal.	4*d.* per gal.
Meats, salted, etc.... ...	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Metals	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter and substitutes ...	8*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	20*s.* 10*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

In addition to the foregoing a further duty of 12½ per cent. of such duties and an additional 5 per cent. is levied except on cotton piece-goods of an invoice value not exceeding 5d. per yard, and tobacco.

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 10 per cent. preferential tariff and 15 per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1933 was £4,932.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £1,054 in 1933, the summary of the rates is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for		2	0
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange			1
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3

	£	s.	d.
Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property, for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards... ...			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof... ...		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax of two shillings per acre or part of an acre is levied on land in St. Vincent, and a tax varying from three pence to one shilling per acre or part thereof in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A graduated tax of from two shillings on houses of which the annual rental value exceeds £2 and does not exceed £5, to £4 per cent. on houses of an assessed rental value exceeding £20, is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent, and in Union Island a graduated tax of four shillings on houses of an assessed annual rental value exceeding £2 and not exceeding £5, to £7 per cent. on houses of an assessed annual rental value exceeding £20. No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £5,990.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of one shilling on amounts not exceeding £1 and five per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands and Surveys.—The revenue collected during the year from rentals of Crown Lands amounted to £893 10s. 0d. Arrears of rent totalled £717 9s. 3d. as compared with £512 7s. 11d. in 1932. The increase of arrears is a symptom of the economic depression, not an indication of increased unwillingness to pay. Diagrams were prepared on 21 title deeds. Seven surveys were carried out by the Government Surveyor and none by surveyors in private practice.

Edinboro Improvement Scheme.—Permission was received during the year to subdivide into house-lots an area of 16 acres of land formerly the property of the Imperial Government, in the neighbourhood of Edinboro. Receipts from the sale of the house-lots are to be applied to the improvement of Edinboro and its immediate neighbourhood. The work of subdivision was completed and a committee appointed to consider ways and means by the end of the year.

New Mental Hospital.—Approval was obtained for the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £4,500 out of reserve funds for the construction of an improved mental hospital. The plans of a new institution for the reception of about 60 patients, standing in its own grounds of 3–4 acres' extent, were finished towards the end of December.

Three Rivers Land Settlement.—The Three Rivers Estate comprising some 700 acres of land was purchased by the Government in 1932 for the extension of the Colony's Land Settlement Scheme. The work of surveying and subdividing the estate was completed in May, 1933. The sale of allotments did not at first proceed very satisfactorily, but was considerably stimulated towards the end of the year by the news that the Government would finance a new Agricultural Credit Society in connexion with the scheme of settlement.

Three Rivers Agricultural Credit Society.—Permission was obtained to finance the new Credit Society with a loan of £600 at 2½ per cent. interest out of Colonial surplus funds, and to regard the loan as an investment. The society will be enabled to make short loans to its members at a rate of interest not exceeding 6 per cent. which compares very favourably with the rate of 10–12 per cent. which the peasant is usually obliged to pay for private loans.

Authority was also received to recondition an arrowroot mill on the Three Rivers Estate for co-operative use by the peasant settlers, under the supervision of the Committee of the new Credit Society. By the end of the year, the work of repairing the mill was finished and legislation for the control of the new Society had been drafted for consideration early in 1934.

Tourists and Publicity.—As a prelude to the organisation of a local Tourist Bureau, a leaflet for the guidance of visitors to the island was published towards the end of the year, and arrangements were made for the standardization of local prices for car-hire.

West Indian Education Commission, 1931–32.—The Report of the Commissioners was published during April and became, for the rest of the year, the focus of public comment. Pending some concerted action upon the recommendations of the Commissioners, the various sections of the report were exhaustively considered by the Board of Education.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1693

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

ST. LUCIA, 1933

(For Reports for 1931 and 1932 see No. 1590 and No. 1648 respectively (price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller

1935

Price 1s. 3d. Net

58-1693

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)
Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88–1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
(Part II, Public Business, will shortly be issued as Colonial No. 88–2).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government.
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street **MANCHESTER 1: York Street**
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent **BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street**

Or through any Bookseller

[*Continued on page 3 of cover*

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from

His Majesty's Stationery Office

at the Addresses on the Title Page of this Report.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 11d.).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5s. (5s. 9d.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3d. (3½d.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).
Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 7d.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).
East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 10d.).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 10d.).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1s. (1s. 2d.).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).
Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2s. (2s. 3d.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

At the Addresses on the Title Page of this Report.

(28301) Wt. 1613—3249 575 10/54 P. St. G. 377/7

Closer Union.—The Report of the Closer Union Commissioners was published in August, and received on the whole favourably by the people of St. Vincent.

Official.—His Excellency Sir T. A. V. Best, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., Governor of the Windward Islands, proceeded on leave during July, and Mr. C. W. Doorly, C.B.E., Administrator of St. Lucia, administered the Government for the remainder of the year. Major H. W. Peebles, C.M.G., D.S.O., O.B.E., Administrator of St. Vincent, proceeded on leave preparatory to his retirement on the 3rd of May, 1933, and Mr. J. H. Otway, Colonial Treasurer, administered the local Government until the 6th of July, when the new Administrator arrived.

APPENDIX.

Title of Publication.	Price.		Agent for Sale.
	s.	d.	
St. Vincent Blue Book	10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do. Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do. Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1933

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	5
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	7
VII.	Commerce	11
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	14
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	15
X.	Communications and Transport	17
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	18
XII.	Public Works	18
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	19
XIV.	Legislation	24
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	25
XVI.	Miscellaneous	30
	Appendix	30
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 19,213.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain a population of 6,980. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as " The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1933 was 83·7° F. in the shade. The maximum was 92° F. and the minimum 63° F., a range of 29°. The hot season extends from May to November, and the cool season from December to May. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60° F., and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant. Day and night temperatures for the year 1933 generally were somewhat lower than usual. The relative humidity was higher than usual during the months of August and November when hurricane conditions were forming in the Western Caribbean. No hurricanes were felt in the Colony, apart from the heavy sea swell.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, was 121·83 inches and is the highest on record within recent years. This was 18·66 inches above that of the previous year and 30·36 inches above the average rainfall for 44 years (1890–1933), the average now being 91·47 inches per annum.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on 11th April when 4 inches of rain fell, and maximum precipitation in the Colony was 8·50 inches on 7th November when severe floods occurred. The distribution of rainfall throughout the Colony was generally in excess, and no well-defined dry season occurred.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs, and continued in their possession till 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663, Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession till the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, d'Orléans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrées, and in 1722, the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island, and it was declared neutral.

In 1744, the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained till the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence ; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French till 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782, Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay, in St. Lucia, with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse, when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops, 12,000 strong, under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia, and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms, and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens ; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 21st March, 1924, which came into operation on 1st December, 1924, a partly elective Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of six *ex-officio* members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. On 12th February, 1931, that Order in Council was amended to provide that the Council should consist of three *ex-officio* members, three nominated official members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. This island is divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. The first election under this Constitution was held in March, 1925. Law is administered by a Chief Justice, from whom in civil cases there is an appeal to the West Indian Court of Appeal, and two Magistrates, whose decisions are liable to review by the Judge. In criminal cases tried in the Superior Court facts are decided upon by a jury of twelve as in England.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, who also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

III.—POPULATION.

On 31st December, 1932, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 61,135—males 29,089; females 32,046. On 31st December, 1933, the figure increased to 62,000—males 29,499; females 32,501. The natural increase during 1933 was 953. The number of persons leaving the Colony exceeded the number of arrivals by 88. The net increase in population was therefore 865.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 264.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 111) totalled 2,068—males 1,039; females 1,029. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 31·5 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 1·2 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,115—males 532; females 583. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 16·1 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 2·2 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were :—malaria, 40 ; pulmonary tuberculosis, 19 ; phthisis, 35 ; syphilis, 48 ; diseases of the heart, 71 ; bronchitis, 31 ; pneumonia, 29 ; gastro-enteritis, 87 ; worms, 67 ; infantile debility, 32 ; senile decay, 122.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout the year and no epidemic occurred. There was an increase in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified. During the dry season a number of cases of enteric occurred at the village of Anse-la-Raye. These were traced to the drinking of contaminated water from a stream near the village. A supply of good water has since been installed. Malarial fever continued as one of the chief causes of ill-health, and this is probably the greatest public health problem to be faced. A mosquito-malarial survey was carried out in November by Dr. Earle, Malariologist of the Rockefeller Institute. He was assisted by Mr. Magoon, a Sanitary Engineer, attached to the same Institute. Great benefit should be derived from the report of these workers.

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer, who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Santiary Departments ; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital and five District Medical Officers. The Medical Officer of District II is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital situated in close proximity to the town of Castries ; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery ; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries ; a leper asylum at Malgretoute near Soufriere ; and a pauper asylum near Soufriere. The Staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

The erection of new buildings in Castries continued during 1933 and the general appearance of the town is steadily improving.

The housing of the poorer classes is far from satisfactory, but it is hoped that the twenty-five model cottages erected in Castries from funds generously granted from the Colonial Development Fund will set an example and lead to considerable improvement in the conditions now existing.

Housing in the rural districts is generally of a primitive character, and often there is considerable overcrowding.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The staple crops of St. Lucia are sugar, cocoa, copra, and limes; but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e. bananas, oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples, for the Bermuda, American, Canadian and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory, at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory. usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The total crop production for 1933 was satisfactory, being slightly above the large crop of 1932, a total of 5,474 tons being made as compared with 5,452 tons in the previous year. The exported amount was 4,940 tons valued at £46,493 as against 4,990 tons valued at £46,466.

The factory molasses produced was chiefly utilized for manufacturing rum for local consumption. An increase in the export of molasses and syrup was apparent.

The market values were discouragingly low throughout the year and ranged from £9 2*s*. 6*d*. per ton at crop period to £10 12*s*. 6*d*. in mid-season and concluding at £9 6*s*. 8*d*. in December sales.

The following figures show the exported quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1929	4,536	51,237
1930	4,567	45,289
1931	3,973	35,554
1932	4,990	46,466
1933	4,940	46,493

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Gal.	£
1929	127,273	3,047
1930	157,254	2,872
1931	24,837	1,194
1932	32,988	1,453
1933	43,260	1,417

Rum.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	P. Gal.	£
1929	2,013	339
1930	1,583	278
1931	—	—
1932	—	—
1933	—	—

Cacao.—The prolonged distress of the cacao market has forced out of cultivation several plantations which are now growing limes and other fresh fruits. The crop for 1933 was only fair and the amount exported was low, 6,056 cwt. valued at £6,778 as compared with 8,188 cwt. valued at £9,091 in the previous year. The best prices were 27*s.* per cwt. in November and December. In several cases, growers were instructed not to ship further incoming crops, and sales were inactive generally. The Canadian markets offered some fair contracts at the end of the year at 24*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. c.i.f. St. John, and this facilitated the disposal of some accumulated stocks.

Peasants cacao has been generally neglected and attention has been directed to provision crops and bananas for export. Citrus orchards are being extended by the larger estates.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Cwt.	£
1929	8,906	18,864
1930	10,449	19,261
1931	10,419	14,125
1932	8,188	9,091
1933	6,056	6,778

Limes.—The lime crop for 1933 was slightly below that for the previous year, this decrease being due to prevailing wet weather and to lower market prices generally. The total crop was estimated at

44,019 barrels of fruit as compared with 44,762 barrels in 1932 or a decrease of 1·6 per cent. Market prices for lime oils ranging from 35*s*. to 55*s*. per lb. for handpressed, and 27*s*. to 36*s*. per lb. for distilled, were satisfactory. The exports of concentrated juice increased in 1933, but the price remained unattractive. Very little trade was done in raw lime juice.

The crops for the last five years in barrels of limes are :—

Year.	*Quantity.*
	Barrels.
1929	34,483
1930	42,844
1931	50,339
1932	44,762
1933	44,019

Coconuts.—The coconut crop continues to increase steadily and 542 tons of copra were exported. There was an increase of 84 per cent in the exports of nuts, the total value of coconut products being £8,694.

The copra market remained low throughout the year, prices falling from £13 7*s*. 6*d*. in January to £9 17*s*. 6*d*. in December.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Number.	£
1929	295,983	1,032
1930	268,078	862
1931	367,350	1,178
1932	650,240	2,430
1933	1,199,808	3,527

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Tons.	£
1929	359	9,878
1930	400	7,428
1931	498	5,869
1932	432	5,389
1933	542	5,167

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of vegetables and salad fruits such as cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce and

carrots has continued mainly for local supply, and there has been very little export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has however maintained its position and in several respects has markedly improved, the principal exports being green limes in crates and barrels, crated mangoes, crated avocado pears, and bananas.

The banana trade to the United Kingdom and to Canada has been seriously taken up, the growers being mainly of the small planter class, and 31 shipments were made during the year by the principal buying agents, in all a total of 22,258 stems valued at £1,626 being exported mainly from June onwards.

Endeavours are being made to have this trade properly organized and there is a good prospect of regular shipments in future, under a definite contract.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £10,081 as compared with £10,175 in 1932 as is shown in detail below :—

Article.	*Quantity exported to*						*Value.*	
	Canada.	Bermuda.	U.K.	U.S.A.	Other places.	Total.	1933.	1932.
							£	£
Green limes Brls.	77	681	64	2,928	8	3,758	4,445	5,552
Grapefruit Crates	—	27	—	—	1	28	13	43
Oranges ,,	—	242	—	—	261	503	141	206
Mangoes ,,	473	4,567	5	—	2,445	7,490	1,212	1,655
Avocado pears ,,	—	3,111	—	—	33	3,144	610	977
Pineapples ,,	17	89	—	—	—	106	31	96
Bananas Bchs.	16,273	—	3,629	270	2,086	22,258	1,626	183
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,003	1,463
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,081	10,175

A total of 15,029 packages of fruit was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 12,239 in 1932.

Under the Colonial Development Fund Act, 1929, a grant of £1,480 was made in 1930 for the supply of planting material to peasants, the topworking of common mangoes to produce choice fruit, and the purchase of farm animals for breeding. The work is nearing completion. The gross expenditure up to the end of 1933 was £1,136.

Farm Stock.—Extensive use has been made of the Government breeding bulls and boars for services, and interest in better breeds of cattle and small animals is being stimulated. Continued importations of day-old chicks have resulted in the introduction and establishment of the more important laying and table breeds for domestic and market purposes.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1933, and as compared with 1932, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1933.	1932.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	49,813	55,158
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	26,724	32,759
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	85,803	71,502
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including parcel post.	4,670	5,850
Totals	£167,010	£165,269

The above table shows an increase of £1,741 in the total value of imports for 1933 as compared with the previous year. In Class III alone is there an increase, and it is considerable, being no less than £14,301, which is due mainly to (1) an increase of £8,949 in the imports of unenumerated goods and (2) the transfer from Class II to Class III of oils (illuminating, etc.), valued at £6,441. But for this transfer, suggested by the Board of Trade, Class II would have shown an increase of £406.

The values of imports for 1933 and 1932, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1933.	1932.
	£	£
United Kingdom	97,185	90,011
Other parts of the British Empire	42,658	42,832
Foreign Countries	22,502	26,594
Parcel Post	4,665	5,832
Totals	£167,010	£165,269

The value of imports from the United Kingdom is shown by the above table to have increased by £7,174, electrical apparatus and machinery accounting for the large proportion of £6,187. There

were also increases of £2,447 and £1,244 in sugar machinery and bituminous coal respectively. It may here be mentioned, in explanation of the principal increase, that the lighting of Castries by electricity was inaugurated in 1933.

A decrease of £5,652 in the imports from the United States of America explains the falling off in the imports from foreign countries.

The value of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1932 and 1933 were as follows :—

Article.	1932.	1933.
	£	£
Coal, bituminous	22,711	23,955
Cotton—		
Piece-goods	8,947	10,543
Other manufactures ...	10,145	8,359
Fish, salted and dried, etc. ...	5,874	5,706
Flour, wheaten	16,133	15,426
Oil, edible	5,611	5,034
Totals	£69,421	£69,023

The above table suggests stability in the Colony's requirements from abroad. It may be of interest to remark that the value of cotton piece-goods from Japan increased from £112 in 1932 to £1,599 in 1933, and the yardage thereof from 3,756 to 72,818.

The following table is given as suggestive of openings for British products :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1933.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Butter (cooking)	1,541	814
Cotton manufactures:		
Piece-goods	10,543	8,071
Other kinds	8,359	4,691
Oleomargarine	1,692	1,030
Paper	1,349	552
Totals	£23,484	£15,158

Exports.

The values of exports in 1933, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1933.	1932.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	70,527	72,403
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	10,592	33,751
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	14,480	22,229
IV. Miscellaneous	426	118
V. Bullion and Specie	2,453	6,995
Totals	£98,478	£135,496

The above table shows a considerable drop in the total exports of 1933, but this is due mainly to the exclusion therefrom, at the request of the Board of Trade, of bunker coal (£29,831), and ships' stores (£1,043). After allowing for this exclusion, there remains an actual decrease of £6,144, due to fallings-off, through low prices, in the exports of distilled lime oil and cocoa by £4,250 and £2,313 respectively. There is also a decrease of £4,542 in bullion and specie, but this is offset by various increases, including bananas, £1,443 ; coconuts, £1,097 ; concentrated lime juice, £782 ; mixed fruits, £520 ; and Class IV (chiefly horses), £308.

The very striking decrease in Class II is due solely to the abovementioned exclusion of bunker coal (£29,831), and the less striking decrease in Class III is principally due to the transfer to Class II of charcoal (£4,327), the export of which in 1933 reached the record-breaking total of 85,840 bags.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

Article.	*Value in* 1933.	*Value in* 1932.
	£	£
Cocoa	6,778	9,091
Limes and lime products ...	15,778	20,781
Fancy syrup and molasses ...	1,417	1,453
Sugar	46,493	46,466
Copra	5,167	5,389
Charcoal...	4,327	4,042
Coconuts	3,527	2,430
Bananas	1,626	183
Other fresh fruits	4,010	4,452

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.		*Total.* 1933.	*Total.* 1932.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom—			
Domestic exports	56,353		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	80	56,433	43,128
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic exports	19,622		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	3,166	22,788	37,163
Foreign countries—			
Domestic exports	16,632		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	172	16,804	19,800
Totals		£96,025	£100,091

The values of supplies to ships during the last two years were as follows :—

	1933.	1932.
	£	£
Bunker coal	29,831	27,235
Ships' stores	1,043	1,175
Totals	£30,874	£28,410

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch to steamers calling for coal, showed continued improvement in 1933, in which year 74 steamers took 25,179 tons of bunker coal, as compared with (1) 21,898 tons taken by 73 steamers and 2 warships in 1932, and (2) 16,248 tons taken by 61 steamers and 1 warship in 1931. This is of special interest to the many labourers in and around Castries who depend on this trade principally for a livelihood.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual and artisan—have been maintained during 1933, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Manual	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Semi-skilled	1*s.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Skilled	3*s.* to 5*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*

In domestic service the monthly wage which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10*s.* and 16*s.* for housemaids and yard boys, 15*s.* to 20*s.* for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10*s.* per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	8*d.* per lb.
Mutton, fresh	9*d.* per lb.
Pork, fresh...	8*d.* per lb.
Chicken	6*d.* per lb.
Fish, fresh	5*d.* per lb.
Eggs	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per dozen.
Milk	2*d.* per bottle.
Potatoes	2*d.* per lb.
Rice	2½*d.* per lb.
Butter	2*s.* per lb.
Sugar	2*d.* per lb.
Bread	3*d.* per lb.
Flour	2½*d.* per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 50 recognized primary schools in the Colony. None of them are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of head teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. During the year the Head Teachers' Pension Ordinance was passed, securing the rights of such teachers to pension. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1933, the Government paid a total of £5,088 3*s.* 10*d.* to the school managers for salaries ; to this sum the total amount added by the managers was £37 5*s.* 8*d.* The school buildings (the estimated annual rental value of which is £1,514 6*s.* 0*d.* are the property of the churches, who spent, during 1933, £353 13*s.* 3*d.* on repairs and furniture for them.

The Report of the Education Commission 1931–1932 was received during the year (Colonial Office paper No. 79 of 1933). The necessary preliminary work has been started in order to introduce such of the recommendations as are immediately practicable.

Agriculture is taught, and school gardens are kept. The Agricultural Department advises in this work, and the standard is high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to fourteen scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools and five for girls at St. Joseph's Convent. The Castries Town Board award two similar scholarships for boys. There are at present two scholarship holders from the primary schools at St. Joseph's Convent School.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1933 St. Mary's College received £529, and St. Joseph's Convent £176 10*s.* 0*d.*

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils. Elementary Agricultural Science is taught at St. Mary's College, and certain commercial subjects may be taken at both schools.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination.

A certain number of Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association continued to do good work during 1933 with Mrs. Doorly as President and Mrs. F. Floissac as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association is not subsidized by the Government, but contributions are made by the public in the way of money and kind. The Government, however, provides medicines, etc., free of charge and Medical Officers give their services voluntarily to the clinics which are held thrice weekly.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia ; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football and cricket are the favourite games but regular competition is confined entirely to the capital, though there are cricket matches at rare intervals between the districts.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,254, of a total tonnage of 1,711,030 tons. Of this total 603 were steamships and 651 sailing vessels. In addition, 104 American seaplanes visited the Colony during the year.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means :—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness Withy Company.

(4) A fortnightly service to and from Canada, and a monthly one to the United States of America and most of the British West Indian Colonies by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Company.

(5) A fortnightly service to the United States of America and some of the West Indian Colonies by the steamers of the Dawnic Steamship Company.

(6) A weekly seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports *en route*, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

There are other mail opportunities to Europe via Barbados and America, and also direct.

Roads.

The road system of the Colony is divided into three classes :—main roads, by-ways and unclassified roads.

Main roads.—This class of roads provides the chief artery of traffic and has a roadage of 127 miles. The major portion is located along the coast linking the towns and villages with the capital. They are maintained by the Public Works Department and are practicable for vehicular traffic as fixed by law.

By-ways.—These roads are a secondary system connecting the main roads with most of the cultivated lands. They are maintained

partially by the Public Works Department and partially by Road Boards. Their total mileage is 147 miles of which approximately 40 per cent. is motorable.

Unclassified roads.—These are bridle roads extending into the hinterland and are maintained by the Public Works Department.

Motor-boat Service.

There is a daily coastal motor-boat service along the western, or leeward, coast of the island. This vessel is operated by a private company subsidized by and working under agreement with Government.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, associated companies of Cable 3 and Wireless Limited.

Telephones.

The Government maintains the telephone system throughout the island. It consists of a main exchange in Castries and eight sub-exchanges situated in the towns and villages. The service is continual both by day and by night. The total mileage of lines at the end of the year was 334 miles, being trunk lines 110, and branch lines 224. The number of subscribers on 31st December, 1933, was 230.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the island, but United States gold is also legal tender. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

This Department supervises the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves, and jetties, and the dredging of the harbour and the maintenance of the dredging plant. It also controls the Government telephone system, the Crown Lands Department, and the Government Stores in which are stocked materials for the various works undertaken and supplies the Workshop in which artisans in most trades are employed.

The works carried out in 1933 are as under :—

Roads metalled, rolled and oiled ...	10,000 super yards.
Reforming	98,550 ,, ,,
Metalling	44,349 ,, ,,
Macadam used	20,540 barrels.
Drains re-dug	3,063 chains of 100 ft.
Concrete pipe culverts relaid and repaired	75
Concrete culverts built	8
Concrete pipes used	420

Mile posts were fixed on the following sections :—
Castries to Gros Islet and Dennery to Vieux-Fort.

Buildings.

The usual standard of repair was maintained at a cost of £665.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

For magisterial cases the island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this Force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

The criminal statistics for 1933 are as follows :—

1. CRIMES REPORTED TO, OR KNOWN TO, THE POLICE, AND PERSONS PROCEEDED AGAINST ON CHARGE OF CRIME.

Crime.	*Crimes Reported or Known to the Police.*			*Persons Proceeded Against.*				
	Total.	*Not brought before a Magisterial Court for want of Evidence.*	*Brought before a Magisterial Court.*	*Number.*			*Apprehended.*	*Summoned.*
				Total.	*M.*	*F.*		
1. Homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person	102	—	102	110	74	36	45	65
3. Praedial larceny	44	—	44	54	40	14	41	13
4. Other offences against property ...	443	21	422	583	331	252	322	261
5. Other crimes	251	—	251	253	114	139	23	230
	840	21	819	1,000	559	441	431	569

2. Persons dealt with in Summary Courts for Crimes and Offences.

Crime or Offence.	Number.			Discharged.		Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.				
								Sentences.			
	Total.	M.	F.	For want of Prosecution.	On the Merits of the Case.		Total.	Imprisonment.	Whipping	Fine.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Other offences against the person ...	274	173	101	36	54	3	181	4	3	138	36
3. Praedial larceny ...	124	86	38	12	29	—	83	9	12	48	14
4. Malicious injuries to property	13	10	3	—	1	7	5	—	—	5	—
4. Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property)	183	129	54	19	37	6	121	33	13	45	30
5. Other crimes ...	402	211	191	18	58	2	324	13	13	210	88
Abusive language ...	250	122	128	26	33	—	191	—	—	146	45
Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony... ...	310	196	114	39	31	—	240	1	1	184	54
Miscellaneous minor offences	269	178	91	32	57	—	180	—	—	123	57

3. Persons for Trial in the Superior Court.

Crime or Offence.	Number.			Sex.		Not Tried (Nolle Prosequi, etc.)	Found Insane before Trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.						
									Sentences.						
	Total.	In Circuit Courts.	In Resident Magistrates' Courts.	M.	F.				Total.	Death.	Penal Servitude.	Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Fine.	Bound over or otherwise disposed of.
1. Murder of wife or concubine															
Murder of child															
Murder other than wife, concubine, or child ...															
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Attempted murder ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rape	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	5	—	—	3	2	1	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	1	—
3. Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Offences against property with violence to the person	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against property	9	—	—	6	3	—	—	1	9	—	8*	—	—	—	1
5. Other crimes	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2*	—	—	—	—
6. Abetment of Rape ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* One male accused was convicted of three separate offences.

4. Comparative Table.

Comparative Table showing the number of convictions for various crimes and offences for the last four years.

		1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
The number of summary convictions :—					
1.	Offences against the person	187	235	264	181
2.	Praedial larceny	98	90	59	83
3.	Malicious injuries to property	1	2	1	5
	Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property)	116	129	121	121
4.	Other crimes	80	50	166	324
	Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies	6	3	4	1
	Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony	208	181	232	240
	Miscellaneous minor offences	294	410	120	180
The number of convictions in the Superior Court :—					
1.	Murder of wife or concubine	—	—	—	—
	Murder of child	—	—	—	—
	Murder other than wife, concubine, or child	—	—	—	—
	Manslaughter	—	1	—	—
2.	Attempted Murder	—	—	—	—
	Rape	1	—	1	—
	Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
	Other offences against the person ...	2	—	5	3
3.	Praedial larceny	—	—	—	—
4.	Offences against property with violence to the person	—	1	—	—
	Other offences against property	7	3	15	9
5.	Other crimes	11	9	1	2
6.	Abetment of Rape...	—	—	—	—

XIV.—LEGISLATION

The following is a list of the more important legislation enacted in 1933 :—

1933.	Ordinances.
21st January ...	No. 1.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the Exportation of Fruit from the Colony.
18th February ...	No. 3.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Stamp Duties.
18th February ...	No. 7.—An Ordinance to give effect to a Protocol on Arbitration Clauses signed on behalf of His Majesty at a meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations held on the twenty-fourth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three.
18th February ...	No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend the Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance.
18th February ...	No. 9.—An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture.
11th May ...	No. 11.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the repayment of outstanding loans raised under the authority of Ordinances No. 19 of 1892, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of 1893 and Nos. 10 and 11 of 1895.
2nd June	No. 13.—An Ordinance to authorize the imposition of a temporary levy upon official emoluments.
2nd June	No. 14.—An Ordinance to amend the Income Tax Ordinance.
2nd June	No. 15.—An Ordinance respecting the granting of Marriage Licences.
2nd June	No. 17.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the exportation of Fruit from the Colony.
2nd June	No. 21.—An Ordinance to regulate the grant of pensions and other allowances to Head Teachers.
12th August ...	No. 23.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
2nd September ...	No. 25.—An Ordinance relating to Electric Light and Electrical Energy in Castries.
2nd September ...	No. 26.—An Ordinance relating to Trade Unions.
23rd December ...	No. 28.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Customs Duties.
23rd December ...	No. 29.—An Ordinance to provide for a loan to the Castries Town Board to be applied for maintenance, working, controlling and developing the supply of electricity.

1933.	Orders in Council.
8th July	(Royal) Merchant Shipping (Safety and Loadline Convention).
19th August ...	(Royal) Portugal (Extradition).
16th September ...	(Royal) Air Navigation (Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories) (Amendment).

1933.	Rules.
1st April	No. 3.—Rule—Civil Procedure. Royal Court—(Service of Documents)—Amendment.
15th April ...	No. 4.—Public Health Ordinance—Diseases of Animals.
5th August... ...	No. 5.—Customs Duties Ordinance (Entry of Goods under British Preferential Tariff.)
12th August ...	No. 6.—Rules—Fruit (Exportation) Amendment.
30th September ...	No. 10.—Rules—Post Office (Air Mail Letter Postage) Amendment.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.*	*Ordinary Expenditure.*	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.*
	£	£	£
1929	83,139*	86,434	3,295
1930	82,588†	91,453‡	8,865
1931	98,902§	103,893‖	4,991
			Excess of Revenue over Expenditure.
1932	130,207¶	96,278**	33,929††
			Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.
1933	92,816‡‡	94,732§§	1,916

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £123,430 6*s.* 11*d.* at the close of the year while the accumulated Sinking Fund for its redemption amounted to £6,821 13*s.* 0*d.*

---

* Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,000.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £6,664 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £2,400 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

‡ Includes £5,140 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

§ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,700 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £20,462 for Colonial Development Fund Works.

‖ Includes £16,026 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

¶ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £35,300 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £15,194 for Colonial Development Fund Works, also Reparations receipt of £3,956.

** Includes £16,652 expended on Colonial Development Fund Works.

†† Used to offset an accumulated deficit amounting to £31,882 on the 1st January, 1932.

‡‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £2,500 and Imperial Grant, etc., of £17,747 for Colonial Development Works.

§§ Includes £13,730 expended on Colonial Development Fund works.

The Assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1933, amounting to £34,347 8*s.* 11*d.* were made up as follows :—

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—			
In hands of Treasurer	6 9 7		
,, ,, Sub-Accountants ...	475 19 9		
At Barclays Bank (Current Account)	1,706 4 5		
		2,188 13 9	
Overdraft—			
Crown Agents' Current Account...		170 19 1	
			2,017 14 8
Investments—			
On account of Savings Bank		15,708 19 8	
,, ,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		1,663 16 5	
,, ,, Baron Trust Fund		103 15 11	
,, ,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund		100 3 0	
,, ,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund		142 10 6	
,, ,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund...		632 10 5	
,, ,, Public Buildings Insurance Fund...		252 10 0	
,, ,, Model Cottages Fund		155 5 6	
			18,759 11 5
Loans—			
Castries Town Board for Cemetery		103 14 5	
,, ,, ,, ,, Streets (from P.B. Insurance Fund) ...		2,550 0 0	
,, Water Authority for Waterworks ...		400 0 0	
Town of Soufriere for Market, etc.		240 0 0	
,, Vieux Fort for Seawall...		220 0 0	
,, ,, ,, Waterworks		33 6 8	
Village of Dennery for Waterworks		224 0 0	
,, Choiseul for Market, etc.		30 0 0	
,, Canaries for River-wall		60 0 0	
			3,861 1 1
Stores—			
Public Works Materials and Stores		2,063 4 6	
Colony Drug Store		761 4 7	
Packing House Crates, etc.		183 9 2	
			3,007 18 3
Carried forward			27,646 5 5

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d
Brought forward				27,646	5	5
Advances—						
Choiseul Village Fund	98	7	8			
Micoud Village Fund	197	18	3			
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	24	13	9			
Vieux Fort Town Fund	51	4	10			
Post Office Account	383	17	4			
Government of Grenada	164	2	7			
,, ,, St. Vincent	14	19	1			
Other Advances	1,792	3	2			
				2,727	6	8
Drafts and Remittances Account				3,973	16	10
Total Assets ...				£34,347	8	11

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1933, amounting to £30,385 10*s.* 4d., were as follows :—

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits—						
Savings Bank Depositors	16,696	8	0			
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account	136	5	2			
Sundry Deposits Account	398	6	9			
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	632	10	5			
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	100	3	0			
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	142	10	6			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,663	1	9			
Police Recreation Fund	38	12	0			
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	176	14	1			
Note Guarantee Fund	138	0	0			
Model Cottages Fund	155	5	6			
				20,277	17	2
Special Funds—						
Towns and Villages	855	2	7			
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account	149	12	6			
Castries Waterworks Reconstruction Loan Account	768	0	6			
Castries Town Fund	2,563	16	10			
Castries Town Board Electric Light Loan Account...	271	0	9			
				4,607	13	2
Advances—						
From Joint Colonial Fund				5,500	0	0
Total Liabilities				£30,385	10	4

The Assets, as seen above, exceeded the Liabilities by £3,961 18*s.* 7*d.*, made up as follows :—

Surplus and Deficit Account	131	9	3			
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	3,830	9	4			
				£3,961	18	7

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following Schedule :—

For every pound of the first £100	4*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, next £200	6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £300	1*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £400	1*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	2*s.* 3*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s.* 9*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	4*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	5*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, of the rest of the chargeable income	5*s.* 6*d.*

A temporary increase of 12½ per cent. was imposed in 1933.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows :—

Of an annual rental of :

Over £5 and not over £7 10*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.*
,, £7 10*s.* and not over £10	10*s.*
,, £10 and not over £12 10*s.*	15*s.*
,, £12 10*s.* and not over £15	20*s.*
,, £15 and not over £20	28*s.*
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed annual rental value.	

In the case of the towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed eight per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is Import Duty. There is a Preferential Tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an Excise Duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an Export Duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1932 and 1933 was as follows :—

	1932.	1933.
	£	£
Import Duties	38,465	38,502
Export Duties	2,033	1,739
Port, Harbour, etc., Dues	1,959	1,865
Spirit Licences	815	815
Distillery Licences	163	164
Animals, Vehicles and Guns	615	644
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boats, etc. ...	741	749
Excise Duty on Rum	7,256	7,033
Trade Duty on Spirits	3,424	3,294
Stamp Duty	1,530	1,141
Income-Tax	2,562	2,575
Succession Duty	829	1,247
Rural House Tax	642	1,141

Taxation was increased during the year 1933 by—

(1) the imposition of a temporary levy according to the subjoined schedule upon the emoluments of every public officer and upon emoluments payable from (*a*) the grant-in-aid of St. Mary's College and (*b*) the grants to the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, and the Methodist Church provided that such emoluments are not less than £50 per annum and provided that the total amount of the levy does not exceed 10 per cent. of the annual emoluments :—

On every pound of the first £50 or part thereof ...	1½*d.*
,, ,, ,, next £50 ,, ,, ...	3*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £50 ,, ,, ...	4½*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £50 ,, ,, ...	6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £100 ,, ,, ...	9*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £100 ,, ,, ...	1*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £100 ,, ,, ...	1*s.* 3*d.*
,, ,, exceeding £500	1*s.* 6*d.*

(Ordinance No. 13 of 1933) ;

(2) an increase of the income-tax by 12½ per cent., exempting from income-tax the amount of any levy made on the emoluments of Government officials and other persons, and exempting from such increase of income-tax the balance of such emoluments after deduction of levy (Ordinance No. 14 of 1933) ; and

(3) the imposition of a Customs duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* on certain specified items in the free list, when not of Empire origin. Such items may, however, be admitted duty free in certain circumstances (Ordinance No. 28 of 1933).

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Thomas Vans Best, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands was in residence in the Colony from 6th February to 7th March, and from 12th to 22nd March.

His Excellency went on vacation leave from 11th July, prior to retirement from the public service with effect from 2nd October.

His Honour Charles W. Doorly, C.B.E., Administrator and Colonial Secretary of St. Lucia was appointed to act as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands from 11th July, with headquarters at St. Lucia.

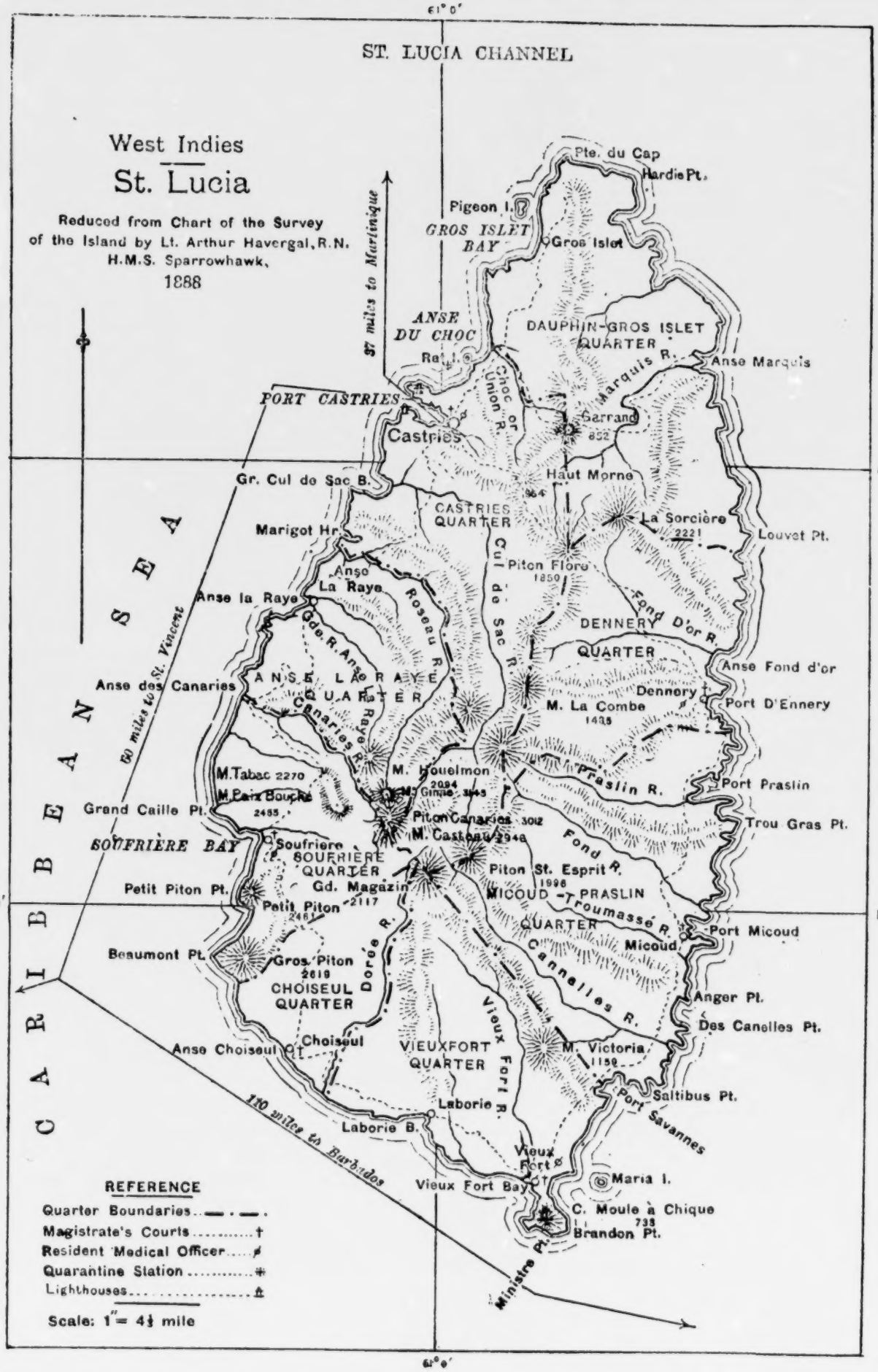
The following British ships of war visited the Colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Norfolk* in January.
H.M.S. *Frobisher* and H.M.S. *Scarborough* in March.

APPENDIX.

Publications.

Title.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*
St. Lucia : Historical, Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen	Longman Green, London.
The Memoirs of Pere Labot, 1695–1705.	Translated by John Eaden	Constable & Co., London.
" Chronological History of the West Indies."	Captain Thomas Southey, Commander, R.N.	Longman Green, London.
" The Cradle of the Deep "	Sir Frederick Treves ...	—



(26[illegible]-48) Wt. 2400—3308 500 12/34 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street — MANCHESTER 1: York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent — BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

Or through any Bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS,
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND,
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1703

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

GRENADA, 1933

(For Reports for 1931 and 1932 see Nos. 1605 and 1649 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each))

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller

1935

Price 1s. 0d. Net

58–1703

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s.* (£1 5*s.* 9*d.*).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)

Part I—Africa. 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88-1.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).
(Part II, Public Business, will shortly be issued as Colonial No. 88-2.)

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s.* 6*d.* (5*s.* 11*d.*).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d.* (2½*d.*).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s.* (6*s.* 5*d.*).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s.* (£1 10*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 11*d.*).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s.* (11*s.* 9*d.*).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s.* 9*d.*).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d.* (2½*d.*).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s.* 6*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
Or through any Bookseller

[*Continued on page iii of cover.*

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1933

CONTENTS.

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	10
VI.	Production	11
VII.	Commerce	13
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	13
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	14
X.	Communications and Transport	15
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	16
XII.	Public Works	16
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	18
XVI.	Land and Survey	23
	Appendix	24
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ north latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to the end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period, the climate, although not really unhealthy, is debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves, which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available in St. George's, fans are being introduced into houses and offices. The highest temperature in 1933 was 90° on several days and the lowest 70° on more than one occasion. The mean of maximum temperatures was 87° and the mean of minimum 71°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1933 was 95·68 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 74·97 inches.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1785–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils.

The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all *ex officio*, with such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of the appointment of members other than *ex officio* members is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an official majority. It consists of eight official members, three nominated members, and five elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has an original and a casting vote; the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all three *ex officio*; together with the officers lawfully discharging the functions of the following offices:—Chief Medical and Health Officer, Superintendent of Public Works, Director of Education, and the Commissioner of Carriacou.

In the absence of the Governor from Grenada the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator.

In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group automatically reverts to the Colonial Secretary of Grenada unless a dormant commission has been issued to another official. The Administrator of St. Lucia at present holds such a commission.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The numbers vary between 8 and 14 according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local government are the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Central Road Authority, the Electricity Authority, the Board of Secondary Education, the Board of Primary Education, and the Forestry Board.

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of:—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were females and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1933, was estimated at 82,624. The estimated totals at the end of the preceding 5 years were :—

1928	75,214
1929	75,867
1930	76,967
1931	78,662
1932	81,000

The following table indicates the birth- and death-rates per 1,000 during the past decade :—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1924	31·86	16·8
1925	33·54	16·5
1926	33·53	20·3
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
1932	32·60	13·8
1933	32·53	14·3
Averages	32·38	16·4

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below :—

Percentage of Deaths.

Year.	*Under One Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total percentages under 5 years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1929	20·9	15·6	3·6	1·5	·5	42·1	1,278
1930	24·5	17·2	3·7	1·1	1·1	47·6	1,220
1931	22·7	15·9	3·0	1·1	·7	43·4	1,355
1932	20·6	14·7	3·3	2·0	·5	41·1	1,104
1933	21·5	12·1	3·8	2·3	1·2	40·9	1,179

The death-rate per 100 births of infants dying under 1 year in 1933 was 9·44, as compared with 8·44 in 1932.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 319, being 36 more than in the preceding year. The rate for the year was 3·9 per thousand persons living. The numbers and rates for the preceding five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*	*Rate per 1,000.*
1928	381	5·0
1929	351	4·6
1930	345	4·4
1931	227	2·8
1932	283	3·5

The arrivals during the year were 3,384 and the departures 3,269 as against 3,124 and 2,323, respectively, in 1932.

IV.—HEALTH.

Main Diseases and Mortality.

Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis) form the largest disease group. From the departmental returns for 1933, covering a total incidence of 33,293 cases of general systemic and preventable diseases, the following percentage analysis shows the group incidence, and the percentage analysis of a total deaths' incidence—of 1,179 deaths—is also given :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis).	27·88	21·04
General diseases and injuries ...	22·76	34·00
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal).	19·14	6·03
Diarrhoea and enteritis	10·29	12·13
Skin and connective tissue diseases	6·15	1·27
Circulatory diseases	4·82	11·96
Respiratory diseases	3·46	6·11
Digestive diseases	2·93	2·88
Nervous diseases	2·57	4·58

On an analysis of infective diseases and their mortality—on a percentage basis of 9,282 cases reported with 272 deaths—these were grouped as follows :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Malaria	57·29	17·9
Influenza	15·69	4·0
Yaws	14·93	—
Gonorrhoea	6·48	—
Syphilis	4·02	34·65
Tuberculosis	0·56	25·8
Pneumonia	0·51	9·25
Enteric fevers	0·34	3·2
Tetanus	0·13	4·0
Septicaemia	0·03	1·2
Dysentery	0·02	—

The above returns show an increase in most groups as compared with those of the previous year.

Influenza was very prevalent throughout the year as was also whooping-cough, with marked effect on the incidence of respiratory diseases and the death-rate therefrom.

Meteorological conditions were abnormal. The first four months of the year in Grenada represent the dry season, and frequently actual drought is experienced during this period ; in 1933, however, in the first four months a rainfall of 25·5 inches was recorded, as compared with an average of 11·43 inches during the previous seven years. The remaining months of the year, in particular July to December, represent the rainy season, and during this period also the rainfall exceeded the seven years' average.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of malaria reported—5,318 as compared with 6,603 in 1932. On the other hand the number of deaths reported was greater, 73 deaths being registered as due to this cause, as against 37 deaths in the previous year.

The malaria campaign inaugurated with the assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation in 1929 and prosecuted up to the end of 1932 was in abeyance during 1933 from various causes. It is hoped that during 1934 the campaign will be resumed, and that, with a generous grant made by the Colonial Development Fund for drainage works, further advance will be made in this direction.

The incidence of venereal diseases is again higher than in the previous year, and constitutes a problem requiring attention. Prophylaxis introduced in the Police Force in 1930 continues to be of great value, there being only 2 cases reported during the year.

There was a slight decrease in the number of cases of yaws dealt with in 1933, 1,386 being treated, as compared with 1,464 in 1932.

While preventable diseases on the whole still maintain the highest incidence, the total death-rate from these was lower in comparison with other causes of mortality, notably so in the case of enteric fevers, where out of 32 cases notified there were only 8 deaths, as contrasted with 66 cases and 22 deaths during 1932.

No other disease occurring during the year calls for special comment.

The vast majority of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits, either on cocoa and nutmeg estates, or on small holdings and garden lots, where corn, fruit, ground provisions, and other vegetables are cultivated. There is an appreciable fishing industry, and sailing vessels and boats are constructed principally in Carriacou and Petite Martinique, two island dependencies of Grenada. Modern industrial undertakings are not found, and no disease occurring can be classified as occupational. Soil pollution, apart from anopheline mosquitoes, is responsible for the greater part of disease incidence.

Provisions for Treatment.

(*a*) *Medical and Health Staff.*

The staff of the Medical and Sanitary Department includes a Chief Medical and Health Officer; Resident Surgeon, (Colony Hospital); eight District Medical Officers; and a Medical Officer, Malaria Campaign (vacant). The nursing staff distributed through the medical institutions and district medical stations consists of one European Matron (Colony Hospital) and fifty nurses; there are also nine male and seven female attendants at the Mental Hospital. Hospitals and dispensaries have four stewards, and there are six dispensers. The Sanitary Department is staffed by a Chief Sanitary Inspector (vacant) and seven District Sanitary Inspectors. The usual minor staff of male nursing orderlies, messengers, porters, etc., is provided for. There is a small well-equipped bacteriological laboratory.

(*b*) *Hospitals and Dispensaries, etc.*

There is a well-equipped Colony Hospital (151 beds) at St. George's, which deals with the major part of the medical and surgical cases of the Colony, and two smaller district hospitals—one in the thickly populated parish of St. Andrew's (23 beds), and one in the island of Carriacou (30 beds). A hospital for consumptives has 20 beds, and there is provision for 20 lepers, 10 female and 10 male, at a Leper Settlement. The Mental Hospital has accommodation for 118 lunatics. The Poor Asylum, hitherto providing for 58 inmates, was enlarged during 1933 to accommodate 86 inmates, and the name was changed to House of Refuge.

There are seven dispensaries, and sixteen medical visiting stations, each with a resident nurse-midwife, and in each of which is a room with couch for emergency cases.

The Colony Hospital and the two district hospitals dealt with 1,975 cases during 1933; this total includes 831 cases in the maternity section, including 370 pregnancies and 362 births, the balance being cases of premature birth and abortion, of which latter there were 31.

The medical visiting stations, established in 1926, have provided an invaluable aid to the District Medical Service, especially in the field of maternity and child-welfare; during 1933 the District Nurses attended 846 confinements, 1,268 cases of infants, and 2,090 general nursing cases.

The dental clinic, established in 1931 at the Colony Hospital, was a valuable adjunct in the treatment of school children during 1933; in addition to children belonging to St. George's treated at the clinic, 200 children were brought in from schools in outlying parishes. A total of 937 patients was dealt with during the year, involving 1,548 treatments.

Preventive Measures.

The Sanitary Department has been active throughout the year, and much help has been received in improved water-supplies, drainage, and provision of latrines, etc. The extension of water-supplies to all villages and settlements is being continued, two new water supplies being installed during 1933 in remote areas.

In addition to assisting in anopheline destruction, the Sanitary Department takes measures all over the Colony to combat mosquito-breeding. Fly-breeding is also dealt with, and the remarkable reduction in the incidence of enteric fever and dysentery owes no small degree of its success to anti-fly measures together with extensive anti-typhoid inoculations, though no corresponding measure was applicable in cases of amoebic dysentery. This latter disease—so far as reported cases are concerned—seems to be disappearing, the total number of cases notified during the year being only 2 as compared with 30 in 1931.

Maternity and child-welfare is principally dealt with by District Nurses, resident all over the Colony. In St. George's and its environs the good work of the Maternity and Child-welfare League was continued. The infant mortality rate during 1933 was 94·12 per 1,000 living births; the rate in 1932 was 84 per 1,000.

Medical inspection of school children is carried out regularly by District Medical Officers who report to the Chief Medical and Health Officer on a form which gives the number inspected, the number of the various affections found, with a report on the general

condition of pupils, and on the sanitation and latrine accommodation of each school. Parents and guardians are sent a form signed by the Medical Officer advising treatment in the case of every child found in need thereof. During 1933 over 21,153 inspections were made by Medical Officers. Following up of cases by District Nurses to ensure the carrying out of treatment was a new feature of great value introduced during 1933.

Education in elementary hygiene continues to be conducted in the primary schools, and the teachers have been made to understand that this is a subject which must be treated as important in the school curriculum.

Instruction of the adult population is principally given by Medical Officers in their routine, and by the Sanitary Inspectors and District Nurses in the homes of the people.

V.—HOUSING.

The latest accurate information regarding the habitations of the people is that furnished by the census of 1921, which showed a total of 15,183 houses made up as follows :—

Class.	*One-room. Per cent.*	*Two-room. Per cent.*	*Three or more rooms. Per cent.*
Stone	16·3	15·1	68·6
Wood	13·5	71·2	15·3
Mixed	7·1	29·5	63·4
Other	21·5	78·3	0·2

Of the total population at that date there were in :—

	Per cent.
Stone houses	2·4
Wooden houses	85·2
Mixed houses...	8·2
Other houses	3·2
Public institutions	1·0

and the average number of inmates per house was :—

One-room	3·0
Two-room	4·6
Three or more	5·7
Average all classes. ...	4·6

The census report of 1921 stated that while the majority of houses in the Colony with one or two rooms contained less than the average number of inmates shown above, many others were occupied by a far greater number than they were probably capable of accommodating with anything like a proper regard to health, comfort, and decency, and that, proportionately, overcrowding

was more pronounced in the case of two-roomed houses. In one case there were as many as 13 persons in a one-roomed house, and in another 19 in a two-roomed house.

In the absence of a census in 1931 no recent accurate figures are available but according to the tax rolls of 1933, there were 8,061 houses outside the towns, and the rate rolls of the several towns listed 2,690 houses, a total of 10,751.

Generally speaking, housing conditions outside the towns have not materially changed in the past decade, though a considerable number of better-class houses have been erected in recent years by persons of the middle class, mainly returned emigrants and prosperous peasant proprietors.

Except in St. George's where housing schemes have been initiated by the District Board, no effort has been made to ameliorate conditions. Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure.

There is one Building Society in the Colony established in 1925.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The Colony is purely agricultural and for purposes of external trade produces cocoa, nutmegs, mace, cotton and cotton-seed, fruit, cattle, sheep, poultry, copra, lime-juice and lime-oil, vegetables, hides, turtle and turtle-shell, mahogany, cedar, and logwood. Considerable attention is being given also to the production of the Gros Michel banana.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for slightly over 50 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crop exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1929	90,987	210,082
1930	84,863	192,543
1931	87,656	153,923
1932	87,836	101,231
1933	91,339	106,535

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1929	22,666	100,323
1930	19,972	67,794
1931	26,195	54,808
1932	27,305	36,859
1933	28,287	37,024

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1929	3,765	55,766
1930	3,567	41,395
1931	3,658	28,864
1932	4,181	23,090
1933	4,416	22,476

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to propagate an improved variety.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1929	2,945	14,905
1930	3,256	15,395
1931	2,369	6,272
1932	3,119	6,776
1933	3,174	4,183

Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and the importation of raw sugar amounted in 1933 to 1,335,263 lb., of the value of £6,147. A project has been started with the object of increasing home production.

The values of lime and coconut products exported in 1933 were £7,466 and £3,106 respectively.

Rum is manufactured at ten sugar estates but none is exported. The quantity made last year was 36,892·6 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £428,610, imports representing £230,541, and exports £198,069, leaving an apparent unfavourable trade balance of £32,472.

Imports.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

Article.	*1933.* £	*1932.* £	*1931.* £
Flour	25,006	27,454	30,168
Cotton piece-goods	18,425	24,671	20,371
Fish, dried	8,984	9,735	10,765
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	8,701	10,031	9,320
Boots and shoes	7,025	7,606	6,433
Rice	6,424	7,104	10,387
Sugar, unrefined	6,147	13,767	11,705
Motor cars	5,501	5,609	2,353
Motor spirits	5,917	6,197	6,657
Kerosene oil	4,731	4,975	5,354
Motor parts	4,244	4,833	3,853
Hardware	3,567	4,269	3,990

Exports.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under :—

Article.	*1933.* £	*1932.* £	*1931.* £
Cocoa	106,535	101,231	153,923
Spices, nutmegs	37,024	36,859	54,808
Do. mace	22,476	23,090	28,864
Lime oil	6,613	10,720	9,269
Cotton, raw	4,183	6,776	6,272
Cotton seed	1,781	1,531	2,000

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1933 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports. £	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	98,949	44·7	85,287	43·0
United States of America ...	19,096	8·6	36,178	18·2
Canada	39,267	17·8	56,284	28·4
Other British possessions ...	44,584	20·2	18,925	9·5
Other foreign countries ...	19,224	8·7	1,395	·9

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 44·6 and 45·5 respectively.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have been maintained during 1933, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products,

estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week. Those employed obtain on the average two to three days work per week.

Ruling daily rates are :—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	1s. 2d.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh	8d. ,,
Chicken	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh	6d. ,,
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	3d. per bottle.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice	2½d. ,,
Butter	2s. 6d. per lb.
Sugar	2d. per lb.
Bread	3d ,,
Flour	2½d. ,,

Board and lodging can be had at £8—£9 per month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35—£40 a month, and, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20—£25 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education over which the Director of Education presides.

There is a Government Secondary School (boarding and day) for boys at which the attendance now averages about 143. The school has a science laboratory and gymnasium, as well as its own playing fields.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary school and the primary schools in a Manual Training Centre in St. George's.

Three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 85–120.

The total expenditure by Government was £1,515.

The number of recognized primary schools at the end of the year was 60.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1933 was 13,490, the average attendance being 8,071 or 59·6 per cent.

The total expenditure by the Government was £11,517.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from New York and from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados, and other neighbouring islands.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station is maintained at St. George's by Cable and Wireless, Limited, but is not in operation at the present time.

A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station is installed at Carriacou, and communicates with Grenada, direct or, as actually, via Barbados.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, recently reconstructed, has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges and 2,115 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1933 was 725.

The island is well supplied with roads. All the first-class roads and practically all the second- and third-class roads are suitable for motor traffic. The total mileage is 393.

There are regular services of motor omnibuses between all the towns.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five-dollar notes issued by the two banks are in circulation.

A co-operative bank was established in 1932, but there is no agricultural bank in the Colony.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

This Department is responsible for practically all Government engineering work including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, Crown lands and surveys, land drainage, machinery, harbour, sanitary, electric lighting, cold storage, etc.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two senior assistants, one electrician, and one mechanic at Headquarters, and two District Road Surveyors. The office staff comprises one chief clerk and accountant, one storekeeper, one second clerk, and two typists. The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1933, was £42,900, inclusive of a sum of over £10,924 expended on Colonial Development Works.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained during the year was 393 miles, which were surface treated with oil or emulsion and metal.

Owing to abnormally heavy rainfall, expenditure on removal of slides and repair of other storm damages amounted to £3,140. The principal works executed on this account were the reconstruction of a section of the Preference Byway in the parish of

St. Andrew's, and the completion of repairs to sea defence walls in Melville Street, St. George's, and at Dothan on the St. John's Main Road.

Improvements to waterworks were carried out at Les Avocats; and extensions were made to the services at Chantimelle and adjacent areas, St. David's South and Crochu.

The work of draining and filling the Queen's Park was continued during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two Magisterial Districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that District.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the proceedings therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance, and prosecutions for criminal offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases when counsel is employed.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. In the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,608, as compared with an average of 2,663 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,608, the number of summary convictions was 1,856, and that of convictions in the Supreme Court 19, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,911 summary convictions and 25 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 167 as against 146 in 1932, and 207 in 1931.

Police.

The strength of the Police Force on 31st December, 1933, was one officer in command, one inspector, and 86 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 192, for employment on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the police department assists in the protection of revenue, inspection of shops and weights

and measures, while a fire brigade and Government band are under its management and control.

Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 167 persons were committed to the male prison and 34 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 32·09 and 4·04 respectively.

No deaths occurred, and the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate place and at a different time from ordinary cases. There is no reformatory or other institution in the Colony for the detention of young offenders.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Magistrates' Courts.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

Motor Vehicles Licensing.
Unfermented Cocoa (Prohibition of Export).
Sale of Produce.
District Boards.
Trade Unions.
Land Settlement.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue of the Colony continued to be affected by trade depression during the year. The revenue from all sources amounted to £124,918, exclusive of the following amounts :—

	£
Receipts from the Colonial Development Fund ...	13,481
Reimbursements from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road temporarily met from Surplus Funds	356
Appreciation in market value of securities	2,509
	£16,346

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1933 :—

Head.	1929. £	1930. £	1931. £	1932. £	1933. £
Customs	79,906	70,743	59,494	58,206	62,548
Harbour and cargo dues	2,424	2,458	2,837	2,680	2,654
Licences, Excise, &c.	36,162	31,776	27,814	28,793	26,567
Estate duties	3,249	1,148	1,147	4,896	1,448
Income-tax	10,318	7,152	6,913	4,243	4,473
Fees of Office, &c.	5,918	6,471	6,005	6,095	8,069
Post Office	4,572	2,897	2,587	2,929	2,364
Telephones and electric lights ...	4,463	6,176	6,599	7,980	8,027
Water-supplies	2,898	2,981	2,829	2,837	2,875
Revenue from Government property...	5,760	5,547	4,536	25,489	6,076
Interest and Sinking Funds, &c. ...	1,309	1,289	1,343	1,390	1,231
Miscellaneous receipts	352	378	246	197	918
Land sales	971	179	134	168	177
Colonial Development Works	—	2,000	18,505	19,221	13,481
Repatriation payment	—	—	—	6,084	—
Reimbursement from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road.	—	—	—	29,247	356
Grant from Imperial Government under Trade Facilities Act	—	750	750	500	—
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation ...	—	—	—	525	—
Total Revenue ...	£158,302	£141,945	£141,739	£201,480	£141,264

No changes were introduced in the methods of raising revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £141,741, being more than the revenue by £477.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years :—

	£
1929	138,193
1930	168,088
1931	195,183
1932	155,343
1933	141,741

The expenditure for the year 1933 includes £10,925 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments at the end of 1933 was £172,874 16s. 6d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	66,670	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market ...	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water-supply Extension Loan ...	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	25,987	7	9
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System	3,624	0	0
Road Loan	29,307	17	6
	£176,805	16	7
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	3,931	0	1
Net indebtedness	£172,874	16	6

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,340, were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st of December, 1933, was £89,748, which includes £5,508 unspent receipts from the Colonial Development Fund. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at 31st of December, 1933, was £67,936 and the balance is made up as follows :—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards ...	3,473		
Loans to Central Water Authority	15,045	18,518	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		9,551	
			8,967
Public Works and Electricity Stores			5,933
Colony Drug Store			1,176
Grenada Land Settlement ...			275
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account			825
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board			1,089
Overdraft by St. Patrick's District Board			336
Other Advances			3,211
			£21,812

Taxation.

The first Schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected. Duties are payable at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* (British Preferential Tariff) on boots, chinaware, cotton manufactures, cutlery, electrical apparatus, glassware, wood manufactures of British origin, and 22½ per cent. *ad valorem* on similar foreign goods.

The tariff of import duties was revised in November, 1932, and among other changes amended duties were imposed as follows :—

	British Preferential	*General.*
Rubber and canvas boots and shoes, value 3s. per pair and under.	Free.	1s. per pair.
Do. value over 3s. per pair ...	4d. per pair.	1s. 4d. per pair.
Butter	—	£1 0s. 10d. per 100 lb.
Motor-cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hardware	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	25 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery—cotton and artificial silk, value 6d. per pair and under.	Free.	6d. per pair.
Hosiery—over 6d. per pair ...	3d. per pair.	9d. per pair.
Hosiery—silk	9d. per pair.	1s. 6d. per pair.

The following specific rates of duty on spirits and tobacco were enforced at 31st of December, 1933 :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy ...	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
Gin ...	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Rum ...	12s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	15s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Whisky ...	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,	22s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,
Cordials and Liqueurs ...	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured :—		
Cigars, Cigarettes ...	10s. 0d. ,,	14s. 0d. ,,
Other manufactured tobacco	7s. 0d. ,,	9s. 0d. ,,

An Ordinance was passed in October, 1932, providing for the temporary collection of 15 per cent. surtax on all import duties except those on wheaten flour, sugar—unrefined and refined, salted and dried fish, and empty bags and sacks. The rate was reduced to 5 per cent. effective from 1st July, 1933, and the surtax discontinued at the end of the year.

Export duty is levied on the following local products :—

Cocoa	1s. to 2s. or over per cwt. variable with price of cocoa in London market.
Cotton ...	1s. to 5s. per cwt. variable with price in Liverpool market.
Cotton seed ...	6d. per cwt.
Nutmegs ...	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Mace	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1d. to 4½d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime juice (raw)	10d. to 2s. 6d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime oil ...	1d. to 3d. per lb. according to f.o.b. price.
Green limes ...	6d. and over per barrel according to f.o.b. price.

A temporary tax on certain produce when not otherwise liable to import duty by reason of low market values was imposed during 1933 :—

Cocoa, copra, nutmegs and other spices.	6d. per 100 lb. or part thereof.
Mace	1s. per 100 lb. or part thereof.
Cotton	9d. per 100 lb. or part thereof.
Coconuts	1s. per 1,000 or part thereof.
Salt	2d. per 100 lb. or part thereof.
Lime juice (concentrated)	½d. per gallon.
,, (raw)	6d. per 100 gallons.
Lime oil	1d. per lb.
Limes, green	1d. per barrel.

Excise duty is collected on rum made in the Colony at the rate of 6s. per gallon. Total collections in 1933 amounted to £7,689. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. is collected on all spirits delivered for consumption.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 4s. to 28s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £20 p.a. pay 7 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by a trading company at 3s. on every £, and by a Life Insurance Company at 1s. 0½d. on every £.

XVI.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature is the number of small-holdings in Grenada. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various Land Settlement Schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The land holdings, according to the tax rolls, are as follows :—

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*
16,905	14,414	1,551	323	212	405

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

Trigonometrical and cadastral surveys of the Colony are contemplated.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1933.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

Report on Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

Report on Forestry in Grenada by Captain R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

(27887—48) Wt. 2995—3365 500 3/35 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 11*d*.).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s*. (5*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s*. (4*s*. 4*d*.).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3*s*. (3*s*. 4*d*.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 4*d*.).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 7*d*.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 8*d*.).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4283.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 3*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street — MANCHESTER 1: York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent — BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

Or through any Bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1714

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1934

(For Report for 1932 see No. 1619 (Price 1s. 3d.) and for Report for 1933 see No. 1676 (Price 1s. 0d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller

1935
Price 1s. 0d. Net

58-1714

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)
Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88-1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Part II—Public Business. [Colonial No. 88-2] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government.
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any Bookseller

[*Continued on page 3 of cover*

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1934

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	4
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	5
VI.—Production	6
VII.—Commerce	9
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	10
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	11
X.—Communications and Transport	12
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	14
XII.—Public Works	14
XIII.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	15
XIV.—Legislation	19
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.—Miscellaneous	22
Appendix.—List of Publications	24
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of England as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78°F. to 85°F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above sea level, was 82·88 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 2·41 inches on 5th July.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council, and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created instead, composed of twelve members, three *ex officio*, three nominated by the Crown, and six elected by the people.

This Constitution also was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex officio* members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial

publishing company, inc

member and three elected members. The island is divided into three Electoral Districts, each returning one elected member. An election takes place every three years, the last being held in May, 1931. The life of the existing Council was extended for a period of one year.

There is also an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. Every person not being an *ex officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

Municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board consisting of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race is as follows :—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans) ...	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1933 and 1934 :—

	1933.	1934.
Estimated population	52,006	53,622
Births, excluding stillbirths	2,133	2,087
Birth-rate per 1,000	43·15	38·92
Stillbirths	111	116
Percentage of live births to stillbirths ...	5·20 (95·5)	5·56
Death-rate per 1,000	15·19	14·48
Deaths of children under one year (excluding stillbirths)	155	228
Marriages	(2·94 per 1,000).	(3·24 per 1,000).
Emigration	3,008	2,831
Immigration	2,749	3,131

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1934 was comparatively healthy, in spite of the fact that the number of deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis was higher than that of the previous year. The pulmonary tuberculosis death rate was slightly lower than that in 1933.

	1933.	1934.
Attendances at dispensaries	38,961	39,174
Colonial Hospital—In-patients	1,254	1,309
,, ,, Out-patient casualties ...	424	585
Casualty Hospitals (2) In-patients	134	143
Pauper, Lunatic, and Leper Asylums ...	189	184
Tubercular Home	23	19
Totals	40,985	41,414

The following table shows the principal causes of death in the years 1933 and 1934 and the percentages :—

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*		*Percentages of total deaths.*	
	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	52	90	6·58	11·67
Senility	92	83	11·65	10·76
Bronchitis	38	45	4·81	5·83
Ascariasis	35	44	4·43	5·71
Tuberculosis	54	48	6·84	6·23
Broncho-pneumonia	—	33	—	4·28
Congenital debility	—	63	—	8·17

V.—HOUSING.

Taken as a whole the housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in country villages the houses are of primitive form, being built of mud and wattle with cane-trash roofs, and the same is true of the housing of the labourers on many estates. In most cases, estates rent house-spots to their labourers, leaving the latter

to erect their own dwellings—a task which they are apt to perform with the least possible exertion. The estate owner assists the labourer by renting him mountain lands to grow his provisions and sometimes a certain amount of grazing land for his livestock. It is a matter of moment that the sanitary authority has now stepped in and passed rules governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses. The enforcement of sanitary laws will have a beneficial effect on future construction.

Under the Dwelling House Regulations which are enforced by the Sanitary Department and apply to all parts of the Colony outside of Kingstown, the minimum requirements for dwelling houses are—a plot of land 75 feet by 50 feet, two rooms of 64 square feet each, a height of eight feet from floor to plate, pillars two feet off the ground, ventilation openings equivalent to one-tenth of the floor space, and a latrine. Since the introduction of the Dwelling House Regulations in 1930, 779 applications for permission to erect houses have been approved, and 523 of these houses have been completed. These figures are exclusive of the 100 peasants' cottages erected by Government with funds made available from the Colonial Development Fund.

An improvement is taking place in the construction of the better class of houses, especially in the case of dwellings recently erected in and around Kingstown. There has been a distinct break away from the old type of " box house " which had nothing to commend it but its apparent strength. The new buildings around Kingstown are of excellent appearance, being of modern design ; while retaining the solidity of the old type they are well ventilated, surrounded by spacious open verandas in nearly every case, and are provided with good sanitation.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

No minerals are found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The following table shows the kinds of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown respectively by peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentage used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products.

Crop.	Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage.		Estimated value.
		Plantations.	Peasants.	Used Locally.	Exported.	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	99,750	44	56	—	100	4,967
2. Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	53,907	20	80	—	100	1,123
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	130,000	70	30	40	60	1,300
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	6,863,584	75	25	2	98	78,000
5. Cassava ... ,,	640,000	67	33	25	75	4,000
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,520	100	—	50	50	11,900
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	360,000	80	20	27	73	15,000
8. Copra ... ... lb.	2,015,675	98	2	—	100	6,551
9. Maize ... ... ,,	50,000	25	75	67	33	150
10. Groundnuts ... ,,	27,000	60	40	50	50	170
11. Peas and beans ,,	200,000	65	35	50	50	1,200
12. Sweet potatoes ,,	4,000,000	20	80	75	25	8,500
13. Plantains ... stems	60,000	10	90	84	16	4,000
14. Tannias ... lb.	500,000	10	90	70	30	2,000
15. Yams ... ... ,,	132,800	10	90	60	40	415
16. Miscellaneous vegetables. ,,	110,000	10	90	75	25	496
17. Bananas ... stems	2,880	15	85	66	34	144
18. Tomatoes ... lb.	67,700	1	99	50	50	500
19. Oranges ... No.	77,200	45	55	50	50	110
20. Grapefruit ... No.	8,970	40	60	80	20	15
21. Coconuts ... No.	1,000,000	90	10	10	90	2,600
22. Limes ... ... brls.	2,600	22	78	43	57	329
23. Mace ... ... lb.	5,100	60	40	1	99	214
24. Nutmegs ... ,,	22,000	60	40	1	99	274
25. Ginger ... ... ,,	5,000	5	95	44	56	26

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers for their cotton by the Government Cotton Ginnery which gins, bales and ships it for them. When sold, 5 per cent. is deducted, the balance being distributed *pro rata* among them. Planters usually ship their own cotton.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

6. There is only one factory in the island where sugar is manufactured, but this plant though relatively small is among the most modern in the West Indies.

7. There are syrup factories of various capacities in the island. These factories are usually owned by planters who also grind the sugar-canes of peasants on a share basis.

9. Owing to the existence of unsold stocks of corn, no corn was purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery during 1934.

17. About 230 acres of bananas were planted during the year which will come into bearing during 1935. All bananas exported will be handled by a Co-operative Association, and sold to the Canadian Banana Company under an existing contract.

18. Tomatoes produced by peasants for export are graded, wrapped, packed, and shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. After account sales have been received, 10 per cent. is deducted for handling charges. The remainder is paid *pro rata* as a bonus to vendors.

Other fruit, such as avocado pears, limes, oranges, etc., is also shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

21. Not converted into copra.

Live-stock.

The following table shows the numbers of animals in the island as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Included in the table are the estimated values of the various classes of live-stock, the numbers of beasts owned by plantations and peasants respectively, the numbers exported during 1934, and the value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1934.*	*Value of Exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,174	3,705
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	19	108
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,372	633
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	103	127
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	800	438
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	9	333
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	1	10

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. Apart from this there are small whaling stations situated on some of the small islands. In 1934, 912 gallons of whale oil, valued at £99, and 653 lb. of turtle shells valued at £240 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, while on others they work on their own holdings. They are usually paid by the task, but payment by the day is of fairly frequent occurrence.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is similar to that performed on plantations. Broadly speaking, all peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they use the ordinary plantation methods, and follow the lead of the plantations as to the crops they raise. They receive advice from Agricultural Officers.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, and who own land, is approximately 2,763. Of this number, 2,614 possess areas from 1–10 acres, 116 from 10–20 acres, and 31 from 20–30 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and export.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses some excellent pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. A Government stud farm no longer exists, but several planters import pedigree and half-bred animals from the Government stock farm in Trinidad for breeding and for improving their ordinary stock.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is operated in conjunction with the sugar factory previously mentioned. In 1934, 26,919 proof gallons of rum, valued at £3,032, were distilled; of this 8,060 proof gallons, valued at £908, were exported, the balance being consumed locally.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £298,264 as against a total of £267,777 in 1933. The increase of £30,487 was due principally to the increased exports of arrowroot during 1934.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.		
		Island Produce.	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1930	200,830	146,704	5,033	151,737
1931	177,492	111,597	1,568	113,165
1932	149,289	95,693	1,606	97,299
1933	148,647	112,265	6,865	119,130
1934	163,035	129,833	5,396	135,229

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	73,802	74,256	65,274	66,326	71,125
Canada	43,763	34,346	25,954	25,227	26,008
British West Indies ...	15,091	10,078	10,635	10,636	10,943
India	1,199	418	595	703	2,549
Newfoundland	4,473	3,087	3,738	3,944	9,084
Ceylon	451	861	299	308	286
Other British Colonies ...	9,395	6,869	6,714	7,058	6,481
United States of America ...	39,008	34,850	23,191	22,300	24,664
France	3,597	3,301	2,838	1,621	1,262
Denmark	752	132	79	227	570
Germany	2,162	2,012	1,472	1,334	1,239
Holland	1,285	1,223	968	917	690
Foreign West Indies ...	629	272	263	360	662
Other Countries	3,308	4,079	4,969	6,335	5,762
Unclassified	1,915	1,708	2,300	1,351	1,710
	£200,830	£177,492	£149,289	£148,647	£163,035

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink, and tobacco.	71,715	56,227	49,835	49,269	55,118
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	18,785	15,497	15,300	6,929	17,660
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	108,083	103,928	81,608	90,778	88,090
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	2,247	1,840	2,546	1,671	2,167
	£200,830	£177,492	£149,289	£148,647	£163,035

The following are the percentages, in the last five years, of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	36·75	41·83	43·72	44·62	43·62
United States of America ...	19·43	19·64	15·53	15·00	15·13
Canada	21·79	19·35	17·39	16·97	15·96
All other Countries ...	22·03	19·18	23·36	23·41	25·29

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports excluding, in respect of 1934, exports other than Island produce, during the last five years :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
Country of destination.	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	64,800	44,600	30,108	34,263	37,425
Canada	15,816	12,334	9,376	14,026	13,078
Bermuda	429	526	278	182	756
British West Indies ...	38,814	23,625	25,366	29,029	24,803
British Guiana	532	205	445	216	669
United States of America ...	24,683	28,072	27,489	35,598	47,717
Other Countries	6,663	3,803	4,237	5,816	5,385

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are :—females 6d.–10d., males 1s. 3d.–2s., per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by task, the payment made being at the rate of 8d.–1s. per task of five to six hours. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers with house-spots at pepper-corn rentals and land for cultivation ; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land. Trees which produce mangoes, pears, breadfruit, and plants bearing other edible fruit are often found wild or can be obtained for the reaping. Fish are plentiful in the sea and rivers, and cost nothing but the effort of catching them.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from five to fifteen years but in senior schools pupils may be retained up to the age of sixteen years.

On 31st December, 1934, there were 37 primary schools. Of these, 13 belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. The religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the remaining 24 schools. Of the denominational schools nine are Anglican, 13 Methodist and two Roman Catholic. The salaries of all the teachers, most of the equipment of both Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the "non-provided" school buildings are met from the general revenue of the Colony.

The following comparative table gives particulars with regard to primary education in the Colony during the years 1932, 1933 and 1934 :—

	1932.	1933.	1934.
Number of schools	36	37	37
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	9,105	9,291	9,413
Average attendance	5,153	5,258	5,346
Percentage of average attendance...	56·6	56·6	56·7
Total expenditure by Government...	£7,476	£7,973	£8,043
Cost per child in average attendance	£1 9s. 0d.	£1 10s. 4d.	£1 10s. 2d.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £1,087 18s. 11d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age, but it is being steadily increased.

The Government maintains two secondary schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted where there are two or more pupils from the same family. At 31st December, 1934, the number of pupils in attendance at the Grammar School was 78, and at the Girls' High School 69.

Three scholarships open to pupils of the primary schools and tenable for a maximum period of six years at one or other of the

above-mentioned institutions are provided annually by Government. Four other scholarships are also annually awarded, one by the Town Board of Kingstown, two by the Anglican and Methodist Churches, and the Reeves' Memorial Scholarship given by a Committee, in memory of the late Headmaster of the Grammar School, Mr. F. W. Reeves.

At 31st December, 1934, sixteen boys and twelve girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 18.

There is a scholarship for university education of the annual value of £250. It is awarded biennially on the results of the London matriculation examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the seat of learning is also defrayed.

There are no technical or vocational schools, but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving greater attention than formerly in the primary schools.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide organizations continue to be active. There are now 13 troops of the former and 16 companies (including three Brownie Packs) of the latter.

A number of Friendly Societies, operating under the Friendly Society Ordinance, No. 49 of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or sickness.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, but also receiving a grant-in-aid from Government, in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free, but for the use of the circulating library a subscription of 6s. per annum is charged.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads of the Colony are divided into various sections as shown in the table below. The principal means of transport and communication between the windward coast and the capital, Kingstown, is afforded by motor vehicles, while the leeward coast is served by motor launch and canoes. Motor vehicles traverse the leeward section of roads when weather conditions permit.

Fourteen and a half miles of road between Kingstown and Georgetown in the windward district and four miles in the leeward district have been reconstructed and oiled. The remainder of the highways and by-ways on the mainland and the roads in the Grenadines have been maintained and improved as well as possible from the vote provided for the purpose during the year under review.

Roads.	*Mileage. Total.*	*Oiled mileage.*	*Macadamized mileage.*	*Earth mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Road ...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Kingstown District Road.	4	1½	2½	—	do.
Windward Road ...	25	13	12	—	do.
Vigie Road	11	—	9	2	do.
By-ways.					
Leeward	64¾	—	3	61¾	Carts and animals.
Windward	112¾	—	15	97¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Union Island... ...	12	—	—	12	Foot.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	67	—	—	67	do.

Postal.

The General Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 18 district post offices, of which 10 transact all classes of postal business, including the issue and payment of money orders and postal orders, while the others perform the usual postal delivery with the sale of stamps.

Mails are conveyed to the offices in the windward district by motor bus and to the leeward district by motor launch under contract.

Mails are conveyed to Bequia by sailing boat under contract and to the other Grenadines by the Government auxiliary sloop *Carib*.

Telegraph service is carried out by Cables and Wireless Limited. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service maintained by the Government links up Kingstown with two exchanges in the windward district and one in the leeward district. Ample call office facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. Fifteen of these call stations exist, linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

A large amount of reconstruction work was done in preparation for the installation of a central battery signalling switchboard at Kingstown, and a rural semi-automatic exchange at Mesopotamia, both of which will be installed in 1935.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

Steamers of other lines also call at various periods.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a note circulation of £12,285. It is estimated that the value of coin in circulation during 1934 amounted to between £4,000 and £6,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 2 per cent. per annum, particulars of which are unknown.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1934, was £6,759.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1934, was £16,225. Interest at 3 per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coin of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is four shillings and two pence of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A catchpit, filter, and reservoir were constructed in 1934 on the Lauders Estate, and a pipe-borne water supply was laid down thence along the Lowmans Byway, through a portion of the Windward Highway, on through lands of the Union Estate and along the Highway to Biabou Village. This work was undertaken from assistance granted by the Colonial Development Fund.

The building formerly known as "Judge's Lodge" was converted into residential quarters for the Head Mistress of the Girls' High School, and a new Girls' High School was erected on these premises with a covered-way leading to the Head Mistress's quarters. The buildings formerly used as the Girls' High School were not considered suitable for the purpose on account of their close proximity to the street, and these have been converted into the offices of the Education and Sanitary Departments.

andronicus pu

The following other works of importance were also carried out during the year :—

Completion of extension of the operating theatre, Colonial Hospital.

Completion of extension of Troumaca primary school.

Preparation of site and material for a new mental hospital.

Removal and extension of the Layou primary school.

Erection of three foot bridges, one each at Grove, Chapmans and Lowmans Villages.

Removal of the Audit Office.

Improvements to ponds in the Southern Grenadines.

Improvement to aqueduct at Fort Charlotte.

Erection of retaining wall at Chateaubelair police station yard.

Construction of two hexagonal kiosks, one each at the Colonial hospital and the Government cotton ginnery.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

ORGANIZATION OF JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which district is composed of the following :—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie, and Georgetown (on the windward coast).

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which district is comprised of the St. Vincent Grenadines—Bequia, Union Island, Mayreau, and Canouan.

STATISTICS OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS (First and Second Districts).

FIRST DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	14	16	92	122
Malicious injury of property ...	1	1	3	5
Praedial larceny	—	—	9	9
Offences against property ...	4	4	32	40
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	12	15	197	224
Other offences	16	21	529	566
	47	57	862	966

blishing company, inc.

Convictions.

Result of convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	75	—	3	15	—	176	451	720
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	1	1	2	2	—	2	1	9
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	6	—	1	7	—	—	39	53
Whipping	1	—	2	6	—	—	11	20
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	9	2	1	2	—	19	27	60
	92	3	9	32	—	197	529	862

Second District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	33	19	179	231
Malicious injury to property ...	1	4	6	11
Praedial larceny	3	28	195	226
Offences against property ...	17	24	112	153
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	5	11	203	219
Other offences	102	175	600	877
	161	261	1,295	1,717

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	120	3	112	63	—	201	420	919
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	19	1	17	12	—	2	70	121
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	18	—	19	27	—	—	53	117
Whipping	12	2	45	10	—	—	12	81
Bound over and other trivial punishment	10	—	2	—	—	—	45	57
	179	6	195	112	—	203	600	1,295

Police.

Organization of the Police Force.

Personnel.—The Police Force consists of two officers and fifty-one non-commissioned officers and men. The two officers and thirty-four other ranks are at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed between the nine out-stations.

The Chief of Police is, *ex officio*, Commandant of the Local Forces, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade, Chief Relieving Officer and Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The Sub-Inspector, in addition to his police duties, performs the duties of Adjutant and Drill Instructor to the St. Vincent Volunteer Corps.

During the year there were 2,346 police prosecutions. Convictions were obtained in 1,994 cases.

On the 31st December, 1934, the Force was up to strength. There are nine outstations in the Colony besides the Police Headquarters in Kingstown. All are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia Island and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under a semi-military organization the constables at Headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period the constable is deemed to continue enrolled for a further like period and so on from time to time unless he shall have signified his intention to resign before the end of such period.

Besides ordinary police duties the members of the Force are called upon to perform the following functions :—Water Police, Crew of the Administrator's boat when required, Firemen, Process Servers outside the Kingstown District, District Relieving Officers, and all duties in connection with emigration laws and control. All the clerical work within the Department is carried out by the uniformed staff.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise :—

(1) The record office, warders' mess room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery and bath-room for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper storey being occupied by the prison chapel and the warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing sixteen single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room and a weighing-room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison. When they are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning, and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. In nearly all cases those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks leave prison in better health than that in which they arrived.

INSTRUCTION BY SCHOOLMASTER.

The instruction commenced in August, 1933, has been continued during the year under review. The result has been most encouraging. In some cases prisoners who could not sign their names when admitted can now express themselves (if crudely) on paper.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important ordinances enacted during the year under review :—

No.	*Short Title.*
1	Agricultural Credit Societies.
4	Banana.
5	Importation of Textiles (Quotas).
8	Customs Duties (Amendment).
11	Bahamas and Leeward Islands Light Dues.
14	Labour (Minimum Wage).

There has been no factory legislation, compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years, excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1934	77,819	73,761
1933	72,873	68,150
1932	72,073	67,903
1931	68,550	79,543
1930	68,602	67,769

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1934, amounted to £91,923, of which £1,400 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £30,000 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £7,477.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1934, amounted to £25,375, of which £5,976 represents unallocated stores and loans to boards.

The main heads of taxation are :—

		£
Import Duties	yield for 1934	30,312
Export Duties	,, ,,	2,504
Licences	,, ,,	3,013
Excise Duties	,, ,,	4,793
Land and House Tax	,, ,,	6,287
Income-tax	,, ,,	2,665
Stamp Duties	,, ,,	1,109
Estate Duties	,, ,,	224
Trade Duties	,, ,,	2,344

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows :—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and shoes (canvas with rubber soles).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	10 per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s.* per pair.
Do. other kinds	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Flour, wheaten	4*s.* per 196 lb.	5*s.* per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s.* ,, 100 ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* ,, ,, ,,	1*s.* 6*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Machinery—marine, water and sewerage.	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Machinery — Agricultural, Electrical and other industrial.	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined ...	5*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 11*d.* per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	1*s.* 9*d.* ,, ,, ,,	5*s.* 3*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Hardware	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	20 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery, cotton and art. silk	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	10 per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d.* per pair.
,, silk	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	10 per. cent. *ad valorem* and 9*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured ...	6*s.* 3*d.* per lb.	9*s.* 4½*d.* per lb.
,, unmanufactured	1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.	1*s.* 9*d.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	6*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor cars (wholly British)	—	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts—except tyres—(wholly British).	—	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	2½*d.* per gal.	4*d.* per gal.
Meats, salted, etc.... ...	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	6*d.* per gal.	9*d.* per gal.
Metals	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter	8*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.	20*s.* 10*d.* per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes... ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

In addition to the foregoing a further duty of 12½ per cent. of such duties and an additional 5 per cent. is levied except on cotton piece-goods of an invoice value not exceeding 5d. per yard, and tobacco.

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 10 per cent. preferential tariff and 15 per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1934 was £4,793.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon is imposed on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £1,109 in 1934, the summary of the rates is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or for otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for			6
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes			1
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Shipping bill			1½

	£	s.	d.
Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property, for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards... ...			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof... ...		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax is levied of two shillings per acre or part thereof on land in St. Vincent, and of three pence to one shilling per acre or part thereof on land in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A graduated tax of from two shillings on houses of which the annual rental value exceeds £2 and does not exceed £5, to £4 per cent. on houses of an assessed rental value exceeding £20, is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent, and in Union Island a graduated tax of four shillings on houses of an assessed annual rental value exceeding £2 and not exceeding £5, to £7 per cent. on houses of an assessed annual rental value exceeding £20 is levied. No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £6,287.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of one shilling on amounts not exceeding £1 and five per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands.—The revenue collected during the year from the sale and rental of Crown Lands amounted to £632 19s. 3d. Arrears of rents, etc., totalled £984 3s. 0d. as against £717 9s. 3d. in the previous year. This further increase in arrears, despite the vigorous campaign of prosecutions against defaulters, is a further evidence of the economic depression.

Three Rivers Land Settlement Scheme.—The Three Rivers Estate, comprising about 627 acres of land, was purchased by Government in 1932 and divided into 132 allotments for land settlement purposes.

The sum of £1,037 7s. 0d. which included deposits on new purchases and instalments on lots, was realized. At the end of 1934, 18 plots equal to an area of approximately 100 acres still remained to be allotted. The purchase of allotments was stimulated during the year by decreasing the initial deposit from 20 per cent. to 10 per cent. of the value of the land, and by the formation of an Agricultural Credit Society in connexion with the settlement scheme.

The Society was granted a loan of £300 from Government surplus funds in July, 1934, at 2½ per cent. interest, and £265 has been loaned to the Society members at 6 per cent. interest. The number of members is at present 46. The Three Rivers Estate Arrowroot Works were repaired by Government and leased to the Society at a peppercorn rental for co-operative use by members. A satisfactory working profit was shown by the end of the year.

Legislation for the more effective control of Agricultural Credit Societies was passed during the year. The Ordinance now in force required members borrowing money from a Society to charge their crops or other property as securities.

Enquiry into the organisation of the Medical Service in St. Vincent.—Dr. P. J. Kelly, C.B.E., who was appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to undertake an enquiry into the Medical Service of St. Vincent, arrived in the Colony on 25th April, 1934, and left on 10th May.

Closer Union.—Instructions were received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies that no steps were to be taken preparatory to the next General Election in this Colony, pending a decision on the recommendations of the Closer Union Commissioners.

The life of the existing Council was further extended by one year by an Imperial Order in Council.

Visit of His Majesty's Ships.—His Majesty's Ships *Nelson* and *Malaya*, and four destroyers of the Home Fleet, visited the Colony in February, 1934.

Official.—His Honour C. W. Doorly, C.B.E., Administrator of Saint Lucia, administered the Government of the Windward Islands throughout the year.

Consequent on the departure of the Honourable H. R. R. Blood, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Grenada, in June, 1934, on promotion to Sierra Leone, the Administrator of St. Vincent acted as Colonial Secretary and Administrator of Grenada, and the Honourable J. H. Otway, Colonial Treasurer, acted as Administrator of St. Vincent.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Title of Publication.		*Price.* s.	d.	*Agent for Sale.*
St. Vincent Blue Book		10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do.	Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do.	Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

(31430—48) Wt 1611—3473 675 10/35 P. St. G 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3*s.* (3*s.* 4*d.*).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any Bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOCOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1718

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GRENADA, 1934

(For Reports for 1932 and 1933 see Nos. 1649 and 1703 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller

1935
Price 1s. 0d. Net

58-1718

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)
Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88-1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Part II—Public Business. [Colonial No. 88-2] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government.
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any Bookseller

[*Continued on page 3 of cover.*

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1934

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	3
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	10
VI.	Production	11
VII.	Commerce	12
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	13
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	14
X.	Communications and Transport	14
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	15
XII.	Public Works	16
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	16
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	18
XVI.	Land and Survey	22
	Appendix, Bibliography	23
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ north latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang

situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to the end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period, the climate, although not really unhealthy, is debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves, which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available in St. George's, fans are being introduced into houses and offices. The highest temperature in 1934 was 90° on several days and the lowest 70° on more than one occasion. The mean of maximum temperatures was 86° and the mean of minimum 72°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1934 was 105·80 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 84·44 inches.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795–96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils.

blishing company, inc.

The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all *ex officio*, with such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of the appointment of members other than *ex officio* members is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an official majority. It consists of eight official members, three nominated members, and five elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has an original and a casting vote ; the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all three *ex officio* ; together with the officers lawfully discharging the functions of the following offices :—Chief Medical and Health Officer, Superintendent of Public Works, Director of Education, and the Commissioner of Carriacou.

In the absence of the Governor from Grenada the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator.

In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group automatically reverts to the Colonial Secretary of Grenada unless a dormant commission has been issued to another official. The Administrator of St. Vincent at present holds such a commission.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The numbers vary between 8 and 14 according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local government are the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Central Road Authority, the Electricity Authority, the Board of Secondary Education, the Board of Primary Education, and the Forestry Board.

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of :—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were females and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1934, was estimated at 83,888. The estimated totals at the end of the preceding 5 years were :—

1929	75,867
1930	76,967
1931	78,662
1932	81,000
1933	82,624

The following table indicates the birth- and death-rates per 1,000 during the past decade :—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1925	33·54	16·5
1926	33·53	20·3
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
1932	32·60	13·8
1933	32·53	14·3
1934	32·16	13·6
Averages	32·40	16·04

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below :—

Percentage of Deaths.

Year.	*Under One Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total percentages under 5 years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1930	24·5	17·2	3·7	1·1	1·1	47·6	1,220
1931	22·7	15·9	3·0	1·1	·7	43·4	1,355
1932	20·6	14·7	3·3	2·0	·5	41·1	1,104
1933	21·5	12·1	3·8	2·3	1·2	40·9	1,179
1934	23·8	13·6	2·2	2·2	1·0	42·8	1,143

The death-rate per 100 births of infants dying under 1 year in 1934 was 10·0, as compared with 9·44 in 1933.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 409, being 90 more than in the preceding year. The rate for the year was 4·8 per thousand persons living. The numbers and rates for the preceding five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Number.*	*Rate per 1,000.*
1929	351	4·6
1930	345	4·4
1931	227	2·8
1932	283	3·5
1933	319	3·9

The arrivals during the year were 2,851 and the departures 3,142 as against 3,384 and 3,269, respectively, in 1933.

IV.—HEALTH.

Main Diseases and Mortality.

General diseases and injuries form the largest disease group. From the departmental returns for 1934, covering a total incidence of 31,131 cases of general systemic and preventable diseases, the following percentage analysis shows the group incidence, and the percentage analysis of a total deaths incidence—of 1,143 deaths—is also given :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis).	30·29	11·47
General diseases and injuries ...	32·12	37·10
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal).	23·14	4·26
Diarrhoea and enteritis	4·35	15·25
Skin and connective tissue diseases	7·05	·96
Circulatory diseases	·89	10·52
Respiratory diseases	·59	7·79
Digestive diseases	·79	8·47
Nervous diseases	·89	4·18

On an analysis of infective diseases and their mortality—on a percentage basis of 10,268 cases reported with 234 deaths—these were grouped as follows :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Malaria	66·11	24·79
Influenza	10·43	—
Yaws	11·32	—
Gonorrhoea	5·12	—
Syphilis	4·13	26·21
Tuberculosis	0·65	24·16
Pneumonia	0·43	15·81
Enteric fevers	0·73	2·53
Tetanus	0·12	3·85
Septicaemia	0·19	·88
Dysentery	0·77	1·77

Influenza and whooping cough were very prevalent throughout the year with marked effect on the incidence of respiratory diseases and the death-rate therefrom.

Meteorological conditions were abnormal. The first four months of the year in Grenada represent the dry season, and frequently actual drought is experienced during this period ; in 1934, however, in the first four months a rainfall of 21·37 inches was recorded, as compared with an average of 12·25 inches during the previous seven years. The remaining months of the year, in particular July to December, represent the rainy season, and during this period also the rainfall exceeded the seven years' average.

There was an increase in the number of cases of malaria reported —6,701 as compared with 5,318 in 1933. The number of deaths reported was also greater, 90 deaths being registered as due to this cause, as against 73 deaths in the previous year.

The incidence of venereal diseases is again higher than in the previous year, and constitutes a problem requiring attention. Prophylaxis introduced in the Police Force in 1930 continues to be of great value, there being no cases reported during the year.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of yaws dealt with in 1934, 1,181 being treated as compared with 1,386 in 1933.

While preventable diseases on the whole still maintain the highest incidence, the total death-rate from these was lower in comparison with other causes of mortality, notably so in the case of enteric fevers, where out of 36 cases notified there were only 6 deaths, as contrasted with 32 cases and 8 deaths during 1933.

No other disease occurring during the year calls for special comment.

The vast majority of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits, either on cocoa and nutmeg estates, or on small holdings and garden lots, where corn, fruit, ground provisions, and other vegetables are cultivated. There is an appreciable fishing industry, and sailing vessels and boats are constructed principally in Carriacou and Petite Martinique, two island dependencies of Grenada. Modern industrial undertakings are not found, and no disease occurring can be classified as occupational. Soil pollution, apart from anopheline mosquitoes, is responsible for the greater part of disease incidence.

Provisions for Treatment.

(*a*) *Medical and Health Staff.*

The staff of the Medical and Sanitary Department includes a Chief Medical and Health Officer; Resident Surgeon (Colony Hospital); eight District Medical Officers; and a Medical Officer, Malaria Campaign, which is vacant. The nursing staff distributed through the medical institutions and district medical stations consists of one European Matron (Colony Hospital) and fifty nurses; there are also nine male and eight female attendants at the Mental Hospital. Hospitals and dispensaries have four stewards, and there are six dispensers. The Sanitary Department is staffed by a Chief Sanitary Inspector (post vacant) and seven District Sanitary Inspectors. The usual minor staff of male nursing orderlies, messengers, porters, etc., is provided for. There is a small well-equipped bacteriological laboratory.

(*b*) *Hospitals and Dispensaries, etc.*

There is a well-equipped Colony Hospital (151 beds) at St. George's, which deals with the major part of the medical and surgical cases of the Colony, and two smaller district hospitals—one in the thickly populated parish of St. Andrew's (23 beds), and one in the island of Carriacou (30 beds). A hospital for consumptives has 20 beds, and there is provision for 20 lepers, 10 female and 10 male, at a Leper Settlement. The Mental Hospital has accommodation for 118 lunatics. The House of Refuge accommodates 86 inmates, 46 males and 40 females.

There are seven dispensaries, and seventeen medical visiting stations, each with a resident nurse-midwife, and in each of which is a room with couch for emergency cases.

The Colony Hospital and the two district hospitals dealt with 2,358 cases during 1934; this total includes 913 cases in the maternity section, including 504 pregnancies and 374 births, the balance being cases of premature birth and 30 cases of abortion.

The medical visiting stations, established in 1926, have provided an invaluable aid to the District Medical Service, especially in the field of maternity and child-welfare. During 1934 the District Nurses attended 1,011 confinements, 1,599 cases of infants, and 2,539 general nursing cases.

The dental clinic, established in 1931 at the Colony Hospital, was a valuable adjunct in the treatment of school children during 1934; in addition to children belonging to St. George's treated at the clinic, 200 children were brought in from schools in outlying parishes. A total of 935 patients was dealt with during the year, involving 1,771 treatments.

Preventive Measures.

The Sanitary Department has been active throughout the year all over the Colony to combat mosquito-breeding. Fly-breeding is also dealt with, and the remarkable reduction in the incidence of enteric fever and dysentery owes no small degree of its success to anti-fly measures together with extensive anti-typhoid inoculations, though no corresponding measure was applicable in cases of amoebic dysentery. This latter disease—so far as reported cases are concerned—seems to be disappearing, the total number of cases notified during the year being only 6 as compared with 30 in 1931.

Maternity and child-welfare is principally dealt with by District Nurses, resident all over the Colony. In St. George's and its environs the good work of the Maternity and Child Welfare League was continued. The infant mortality rate during 1934 was 102·0 per 1,000 living births; the rate in 1933 was 94·12 per 1,000.

Medical inspection of school children is carried out regularly by District Medical Officers who report to the Chief Medical and Health Officer on a form which gives the number inspected, the number of the various affections found, with reports on the general condition of pupils, and on the sanitation and latrine accommodation of each school. Parents and guardians are sent a form signed by the Medical Officer advising treatment in the case of every child found in need thereof. During 1934 over 20,457 inspections were made by Medical Officers. Following up of cases by District Nurses to ensure the carrying out of treatment was a new feature of great value introduced during 1933.

Education in elementary hygiene continues to be conducted in the primary schools, and the teachers have been made to understand that this is a subject which must be treated as important in the school curriculum.

Instruction of the adult population is principally given by Medical Officers in their routine, and by the Sanitary Inspectors and District Nurses in the homes of the people.

V.—HOUSING.

The latest accurate information regarding the habitations of the people is that furnished by the census of 1921, which showed a total of 15,188 houses made up as follows :—

Class.	*One-room. Per cent.*	*Two-room. Per cent.*	*Three or more rooms. Per cent.*
Stone	16·3	15·1	68·6
Wood	13·5	71·2	15·3
Mixed	7·1	29·5	63·4
Other	21·5	78·3	0·2

Of the total population at that date there were in :—

	Per cent.
Stone houses	2·4
Wooden houses	85·2
Mixed houses...	8·2
Other houses	3·2
Public institutions	1·0

and the average number of inmates per house was :—

One-room	3·0
Two-room	4·6
Three or more	5·7
Average all classes. ...	4·6

The census report of 1921 stated that while the majority of houses in the Colony with one or two rooms contained less than the average number of inmates shown above, many others were occupied by a far greater number than they were probably capable of accommodating with anything like a proper regard to health, comfort, and decency, and that, proportionately, overcrowding was more pronounced in the case of two-roomed houses. In one case there were as many as 13 persons in a one-roomed house, and in another 19 in a two-roomed house.

In the absence of a census in 1931 no recent accurate figures are available but according to the tax rolls of 1934, there were 9,003 houses outside the towns, and the rate rolls of the several towns listed 2,995 houses, a total of 11,998. These figures do not include houses of an annual rental value of £5 and under which are now exempt from taxation.

Generally speaking, housing conditions outside the towns have not materially changed in the past decade, though a considerable number of better-class houses have been erected in recent years by persons of the middle class, mainly returned emigrants and prosperous peasant proprietors.

Except in St. George's where housing schemes have been initiated by the District Board, no effort has been made to ameliorate conditions. Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure.

There is one Building Society in the Colony established in 1925.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The Colony is purely agricultural and for purposes of external trade produces cocoa, nutmegs, mace, cotton and cotton-seed, fruit, cattle, sheep, poultry, copra, lime juice and lime oil, vegetables, hides, turtle and turtle-shell, mahogany, cedar, and logwood. Considerable attention is being given also to the production of the Gros Michel banana.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for slightly over 50 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crop exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1930	84,863	192,543
1931	87,656	153,923
1932	87,836	101,231
1933	91,339	106,535
1934	77,423	100,743

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1930	19,972	67,794
1931	26,195	54,808
1932	27,305	36,859
1933	28,287	37,024
1934	31,284	48,778

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* *cwt.*	*Value.* £
1930	3,567	41,395
1931	3,658	28,864
1932	4,181	23,090
1933	4,416	22,476
1934	4,402	25,103

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat

similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to propagate an improved variety.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	cwt.	£
1930	3,256	15,395
1931	2,369	6,272
1932	3,119	6,776
1933	3,174	4,183
1934	2,570	4,101

Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and the importation of raw sugar amounted in 1934 to 1,721,776 lb., of the value of £7,731. A project has been started with the object of increasing home production.

The values of lime and coconut products exported in 1934 were £7,593 and £2,325 respectively.

Rum is manufactured at ten sugar estates but none is exported. The quantity made last year was 31,914·9 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £465,712, imports representing £246,862, and exports £218,850, leaving an apparent unfavourable trade balance of £28,012.

Imports.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

Article.	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£
Flour	31,171	25,006	27,454
Cotton piece-goods	19,701	18,425	24,671
Fish, dried	8,583	8,984	9,735
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	10,137	8,701	10,031
Boots and shoes	8,321	7,025	7,606
Rice	8,646	6,424	7,104
Sugar, unrefined	7,731	6,147	13,767
Motor cars	5,401	5,501	5,609
Motor spirits	6,130	5,917	6,197
Kerosene oil	4,155	4,731	4,975
Motor parts	1,411	4,244	4,833
Hardware	4,329	3,567	4,269

Exports.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under :—

Article.	*1934.* £	*1933.* £	*1932.* £
Cocoa	100,743	106,535	101,231
Spices, nutmegs	48,778	37,024	36,859
Do. mace	25,103	22,476	23,090
Lime oil	6,862	6,613	10,720
Cotton, raw	4,101	4,183	6,776
Cotton seed	1,298	1,781	1,531

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1934 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports. £	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	105,970	42·9	65,885	30·1
United States of America ...	25,823	10·5	74,440	34·1
Canada	40,998	16·6	46,063	21·0
Other British possessions ...	49,617	20·1	30,201	13·7
Other foreign countries ...	24,454	9·9	2,261	1·1

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 44·7 and 43·0 respectively.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have been maintained during 1934, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week. Those employed obtain on the average two to three days work per week.

Ruling daily rates are :—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	1s. 2d.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh	8d. ,,
Chicken	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh	6d. ,,
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	3d. per bottle.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice	2½d. ,,
Butter	2s. ,,
Sugar	2½d. ,,
Bread	3d. ,,
Flour	2½d. ,,

Board and lodging can be had at £8—£9 per month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35—£40 a month, and, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20—£25 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education over which the Director of Education presides.

There is a Government Secondary School (boarding and day) for boys at which the attendance now averages about 126. The school has a science laboratory and gymnasium, as well as its own playing fields.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary school and the primary schools in a Manual Training Centre in St. George's.

Three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 70–130.

The total expenditure by Government was £1,601.

The number of recognized primary schools at the end of the year was 60.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1934 was 13,400, the average attendance being 8,629 or 64·3 per cent.

The total expenditure by the Government was £11,673.

A public library is maintained by Government in St. George's.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with

cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south. These steamers call also at Boston, Massachusetts, during the summer.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from New York and from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Steamers of the American Caribbean Line bound for New York call fortnightly.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados, and other neighbouring islands.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of Cable and Wireless Ltd. connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station is maintained at St. George's by Cable and Wireless, Limited, but is not in operation at the present time.

A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station is installed at Carriacou, and communicates with Grenada, direct or, as is actually the case at present, via Barbados.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, recently reconstructed, has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges and 2,115 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1934 was 739.

The island is well supplied with roads. All the first-class roads and practically all the second- and third-class roads are suitable for motor traffic. The total mileage is 393.

There are regular services of motor omnibuses between all the towns.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five-dollar notes issued by the two banks are in circulation.

A co-operative bank was established in 1932, but there is no agricultural bank in the Colony.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

This Department is responsible for practically all Government engineering work including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, Crown lands and surveys, land drainage, machinery, harbour, sanitary, electric lighting, cold storage, telephones, etc.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two senior assistants, one electrician, and one mechanic at Headquarters, and three District Road Surveyors. The office staff comprises one chief clerk and accountant, one storekeeper, one second clerk, and two typists. The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1934, was £59,400, inclusive of a sum of over £21,000 expended on Colonial Development Works.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained during the year was 393 miles of which 82 miles are surface treated with oil or emulsion and about 250 miles metalled.

Special road work during the year consisted of the construction and surface treatment with oil or emulsion of a ¾-mile section of the Point Salines byway and eight miles of Grand Etang road.

Concrete mile-marks were also placed throughout the main highway round the Colony, a distance of over 50 miles.

Water-works improvements included completion of extension at Chantimelle, also separation of the Grand Anse district main from the St. George's works and its connexion to the Richmond Hill works with the object of improving the head and service generally. New supplies at Tuileries and Union were completed.

Land settlement schemes included the purchase and sub-division of five estates in Grenada and one in Carriacou.

Anti-malarial works were carried out in St. George's, St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's, and included drainage and reclamation of swampy areas.

Electric light extensions were completed through the districts of Springs and Belmont, about 2¼ imles.

The work of draining and filling the Queen's Park was continued during the year and completed.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two Magisterial Districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that District.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the proceedings therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance, and prosecutions for criminal offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases when counsel is employed.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. In the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,551, as compared with an average of 2,682 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,551, the number of summary convictions was 1,774, and that of convictions in the Supreme Court 28, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,924 summary convictions and 23 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 216 as against 167 in 1933, and 146 in 1932.

Police.

The strength of the Police Force on 31st December, 1934, was one officer in command and 87 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 204, for employment on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the police department assists in the protection of revenue, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a fire brigade and Government band are under its management and control.

Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 185 persons were committed to the male prison and 49 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 38·1 and 3·8 respectively.

No deaths occurred, and the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate building and at a different time from ordinary cases. There is no reformatory or other institution in the Colony for the detention of young offenders.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Magistrates' Courts.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following more important Ordinances were passed during the year :—

Importation of Textiles (Quotas).
Revised Edition of the Laws.
Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children.
Loan.
Land Acquisition.
Labour (Minimum Wage).
Workmen's Compensation.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue of the Colony continued to be affected by trade depression during the year. The revenue from all sources amounted to £130,883, exclusive of the following amounts :—

	£
Receipts from the Colonial Development Fund ...	9,164
Appreciation in market value of securities	3,451
	£12,615

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1934 :—

Head.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	70,743	59,494	58,206	62,548	66,956
Harbour and cargo dues	2,458	2,837	2,680	2,654	2,883
Licences, Excise, &c.	31,776	27,814	28,793	26,567	26,718
Estate duties	1,148	1,147	4,896	1,448	899
Income-tax	7,152	6 913	4,243	4,473	4,163
Fees of Office, &c.	6,471	6,005	6,095	8,069	5,684
Post Office	2,897	2,587	2,929	2,364	4,675
Telephones and electric lights ...	6,176	6,599	7,980	8,027	8,659
Water-supplies	2,981	2,829	2,837	2,875	3,933
Revenue from Government property...	5,547	4,536	25,489	6,076	4,357
Interest and Sinking Funds, &c. ...	1,289	1,343	1,390	1,231	4,994
Miscellaneous receipts	378	246	197	918	241
Land sales	179	134	168	177	172
Colonial Development Works	2,000	18,505	19,221	13,481	9,164
Repatriation payment	—	—	6,084	—	—
Reimbursement from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road.	—	—	29,247	356	—
Grant from Imperial Government under Trade Facilities Act	750	750	500	—	—
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation ...	—	—	525	—	—
Total Revenue ...	£141,945	141,739	201,480	141,264	143,498

No changes were introduced in the methods of raising revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £153,778, being more than the revenue by £10,280.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years :—

	£
1930	168,088
1931	195,183
1932	155,343
1933	141,741
1934	153,778

The expenditure for the year 1934 includes £21,292 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments at the end of 1934 was £200,601 11s. 9d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	63,230	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market ...	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water-supply Extension Loan ...	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	34,274	1	3
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System	3,442	16	0
Road Loan	29,307	17	6
Sundry Public Works Loan	24,885	9	11
	206,356	16	0
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	5,755	4	3
Net indebtedness	£200,601	11	9

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,440, were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st of December, 1934, was £86,089, which includes £6,620 excess expenditure to 31st December, 1934, on Colonial Development Works to be collected from Fund in 1935. The total liquid surplus assets of the

Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at 31st of December, 1934, was £60,435 and the balance is made up as follows :—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards ...	2,205		
Loans to Central Water Authority	15,045		
		17,250	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		10,484	
			6,766
Public Works and Electricity Stores			5,327
Colony Drug Store			1,223
Grenada Land Settlement ...			244
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account			781
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board			774
Overdraft by St. Patrick's District Board			379
Other Advances			3,540
			£19,034

Taxation.

The first Schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected. Duties are payable at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* (British Preferential Tariff) on boots, chinaware, cotton manufactures, cutlery, electrical apparatus, glassware, wood manufactures of British origin, and 22½ per cent. *ad valorem* on similar foreign goods.

The tariff of import duties was revised in November, 1932, and among other changes amended duties were imposed as follows :—

	British Preferential	*General.*
Rubber and canvas boots and shoes, value 3s. per pair and under.	Free.	1s. per pair.
Do. value over 3s. per pair ...	4d. per pair.	1s. 4d. per pair.
Butter	—	£1 0s. 10d. per 100 lb.
Motor-cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hardware	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	25 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery—cotton and artificial silk, value 6d. per pair and under.	Free.	6d. per pair.
Hosiery—over 6d. per pair ...	3d. per pair.	9d. per pair.
Hosiery—silk	9d. per pair.	1s. 6d. per pair.

The following specific rates of duty on spirits and tobacco were enforced at 31st of December, 1933 :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
Gin	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Rum	12s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	15s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Whisky	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,	22s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,
Cordials and Liqueurs ...	17s. 6d. ,, ,, ,,	20s. 0d. ,, ,, ,,
Tobacco, unmanufactured...	1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured :—		
Cigars, Cigarettes	10s. 0d. ,,	14s. 0d. ,,
Other manufactured tobacco	7s. 0d. ,,	9s. 0d. ,,

Export duty is levied on the following local products :—

Cocoa	6d. per cwt.
Cotton ...	1s. per cwt.
Cotton seed ...	3d. per cwt.
Nutmegs ...	6d. per cwt.
Mace	1s. per cwt.
Lime juice (concentrated)	1s. per 100 gallons.
Lime juice (raw)	3d. per 100 gallons.
Lime oil ...	6d. per lb.
Copra	3d. per cwt.

Excise duty on rum made in the Colony was reduced from 6s. to 4s. 2d. per proof gallon and Trade duty from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 1d. as from the 14th November and 12th December, 1934, respectively. Total collections of Excise duty in 1934 amounted to £7,682 0s. 8d. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. is collected on all imported spirits delivered for consumption; the total Trade duty collected for 1934 was £3,822 13s. 10d.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 5s. to 28s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £30 p.a. pay 8 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by a trading company at 3s. on every £, and by a Life Insurance Company at 1s. 0½d. on every £.

XVI.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature is the number of small-holdings in Grenada. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various Land Settlement Schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The land holdings, according to the tax rolls, are as follows :—

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*
17,028	14,367	1,731	314	206	410

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

Trigonometrical and cadastral surveys of the Colony are contemplated.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1934.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

Report on Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

Report on Forestry in Grenada by Captain R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

Report on Geological Survey of Carriacou by Dr. E. H. Lehner, 1935.

(31820—48) Wt. 1833—3495 625 11/35 P. St. G. 377/7

Andronicus pu

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 11*d*.).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s*. (5*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s*. (4*s*. 4*d*.).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 7*d*.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 8*d*.).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 3*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any Bookseller

lishing company, inc

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1743

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1934

(For Reports for 1932 and 1933 see Nos. 1648 and 1693 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller

1936

Price 1s. 3d. Net

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)

Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88-1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Part II—Public Business. [Colonial No. 88-2] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government.
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any Bookseller

[*Continued on page 3 of cover.*]

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1934

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	5
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	6
VII.	Commerce	11
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	14
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	15
X.	Communications and Transport	16
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	18
XII.	Public Works	18
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	19
XIV.	Legislation	20
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	21
XVI.	Miscellaneous	25
	Appendix	26
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 20,000.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain a population of 7,000. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1934 was 83° F. in the shade. The maximum was 90° F. and the minimum 64° F., a range of 26°. The hot season extends from May to November, and the cool season from December to May. No exceptional rain-storms occurred throughout the rainy season. The hurricane season was also bare of incident, and as usual over a long period of years, the periodical revolving storms had no serious local effect.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, was 66·35 inches and is the lowest rainfall on record (45 years) in contradistinction to that for the previous year which was the highest on record, being approximately twice the amount now recorded. This was also 23·54 inches below the average rainfall for 45 years (1890–1934), the average now being 90·90 inches per annum.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on 30th November when a relatively low fall of 2·24 inches was recorded, and 4·02 inches rainfall was recorded on the same date as the highest maximum precipitation for the Colony. Dry and fine weather was the general meteorological feature, but the distribution of rains throughout the year was so well averaged that no general drought occurred.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs, and continued in their possession till 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663, Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession till the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, d'Orléans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrées, and in 1722, the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island, and it was declared neutral.

In 1744, the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained till the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French till 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782, Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay, in St. Lucia, with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse, when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops, 12,000 strong, under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia, and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms, and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

andronicus publi

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 21st March, 1924, which came into operation on 1st December, 1924, a partly elective Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of six *ex-officio* members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. On 12th February, 1931, that Order in Council was amended to provide that the Council should consist of three *ex-officio* members, three nominated official members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. This island is divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. The first election under this Constitution was held in March, 1925.

III.—POPULATION.

On 31st December, 1933, the resident population of the Colony was computed at 62,000—males 29,499; females 32,501. By 31st December, 1934, the figure had increased to 63,804—males 30,572; females 33,232. The natural increase during 1934 was 1,172. The number of persons arriving in the Colony exceeded the number of departures by 632. The net increase in population was therefore 1,804.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 273.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 114) totalled 2,211—males 1,096; females 1,115. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 32·8 per thousand of the population—an increase of 1·3 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,039—males 504; females 535. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 14·4 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 1·7 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were:—malaria, 59; pulmonary tuberculosis, 21; phthisis, 21; syphilis, 58; diseases of the heart, 55; bronchitis, 39; pneumonia, 21; gastro-enteritis, 81; infantile debility, 50; senile decay, 115; heart failure, 41

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout the year. There were only four cases of enteric fever and one of dysentery notified. There was a marked decrease in the incidence of malarial fever in Castries and its surroundings, but the figures for the country districts are similar to those of the previous year. Throughout the year constant oiling of ravines and pools was carried out by the sanitary staff, and great benefit has been derived from the excellent report made by Dr. Earle, Malariologist of the Rockefeller Institute.

hing company, inc.

It is not an exaggeration to state that in Castries mosquitoes are now rarely seen. There was again an increase in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified.

During the months of May and June, Dr. P. James Kelly, C.B.E., late Surgeon-General, British Guiana and a member of the Colonial Advisory Medical Committee, conducted an enquiry into the medical services of the Colony. It is expected that, as a result of this investigation and the recommendations which will be made, the medical services of the Colony will be brought into line with those of the more advanced Colonies.

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer, who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Sanitary Departments; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital and five District Medical Officers. The Medical Officer of District I is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital situated in close proximity to the town of Castries; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere; and a pauper asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

A number of new stores and general shops have been erected since 1933, mainly in concrete, or concrete and wood. These have much improved the appearance of the business section of the town.

An additional ten model cottages have been erected on the reclaimed land, leading to a marked improvement in the locality. This is reflected to some extent in the better type of private cottages gradually replacing the earlier wooden hut usually erected in the town area.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The staple crops of St. Lucia are sugar, cocoa, copra, and limes; but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e. bananas, oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples, for the Bermuda, American, Canadian and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to

andronicus

as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory, at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory, usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The total crop production for 1934 was 5,498 tons of first and second sugars, of which 4,730 tons were exported. This compares favourably with production for the previous year as given below. The production of molasses and syrup was decreased somewhat, 194,000 gallons being made as against 207,000 gallons in 1933, and there was difficulty in disposing of these products. A proportion of the molasses was utilized for the manufacture of rum for local use, and a considerable quantity still remained unsold at the end of the year. There was also no export trade in rum.

The weather was generally favourable throughout the year, although the threat of drought in April to June had a general retarding effect on growth, and caused losses in the southern canefields. The crop for 1935 is therefore likely to be lower from this area, but otherwise should be satisfactory.

The total cane area has been re-extended by replanting operations, and is now approximately 4,500 acres, a small proportion of this consisting of small-holders' canes.

A new low record for sugar prices was created in November–December, and the markets generally were very dull. Prices ranged from 10*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.* 6*d.* in the first half of the year to 8*s.* 1*d.* and 6*s.* 4*d.* per cwt., f.o.b., and 8*s.* raw preferential 96° c.i.f. towards the end of the year.

The following figures show the exported quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1930	4,567	45,289
1931	3,973	35,554
1932	4,990	46,466
1933	4,940	46,493
1934	4,730	39,396

publishing company, inc.

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Gal.	£
1930	157,254	2,872
1931	24,837	1,194
1932	32,988	1,453
1933	43,260	1,417
1934	23,080	1,431

Rum.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	P. Gal.	£
1930	1,583	278
1931	—	—
1932	—	—
1933	—	—
1934	—	—

Cacao.—The cacao market remained depressed generally throughout the year, and a reduction in area further accounts for the continued restriction, and the loss of importance of this once valuable crop. Exports augmented slightly, 6,349 cwt. valued at £6,032 being consigned mainly to Canada, the United Kingdom and Trinidad. The interest shown by the Canadian market has been a great encouragement to the depressed producers, and better prices are now being realized in this market. A better reception is thus indicated with regard to proposals to classify the local grades to accepted standards in order to retain and improve this market. Quotations ranged from 20*s*. to 30*s*. per cwt., c.i.f., the Canadian price being approximately 26*s*. c.i.f. The crop for 1934 was only fair, and the amount exported was low, 6,349 cwt. valued at £6,032, as compared with 6,056 cwt. valued at £6,778 in the previous year.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Cwt.	£
1930	10,449	19,261
1931	10,419	14,125
1932	8,188	9,091
1933	6,056	6,778
1934	6,349	6,032

Limes.—The exported lime crop of the Colony from January to December, 1934, estimated in barrels of limes, amounted to 43,703 barrels valued at £21,582 as compared with 38,683 barrels valued at £15,828 in 1933. This apparent increase is to some extent due to a carry-over from 1933 being exported in 1934. There is, however, a moderate increase in the total crop for the Colony as compared with that of the previous year.

The exports of concentrated juice decreased owing to low prices for this product. A larger volume of trade was done in raw lime juice, 10,525 gallons valued at £471 being exported. The production of distilled lime oil was again the principal feature of the crop, the quantity made being 12,618 lb. valued at £12,275, a considerable excess on that for the previous year—7,582 lb. valued at £7,412. The market prices were erratic, from 20*s*. to 27*s*. per lb., c.i.f. Handpressed oil was less in demand and a smaller quantity was exported, viz., 1,770 lb. valued at £1,868, as compared with 2,430 lb. valued at £3,021 in 1933. Quotations ranged from 31*s*. to 37*s*. per lb., c.i.f.

The crops for the last five years in barrels of limes are :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1930	42,844
1931	50,339
1932	44,762
1933	44,019
1934	45,000

Coconuts.—This crop has now assumed the position of third staple industry, largely through the increased value of nuts exported, the total quantity exported being 2,616,175 nuts valued at £7,298, as against 1,199,808 nuts valued at £3,527 in 1933.

The coconut crop continued to increase steadily and 302 tons of copra were exported. There was an increase of 118 per cent. in the exports of nuts, the total value of coconut products being £9,890. The copra trade was concurrently less active, quotations being low throughout the year generally, from £9 per ton, c.i.f.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1930	268,078	862
1931	367,350	1,178
1932	650,240	2,430
1933	1,199,808	3,527
1934	2,616,175	7,298

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1930	400	7,428
1931	498	5,869
1932	432	5,389
1933	542	5,167
1934	302	2,592

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of vegetables and salad fruits such as cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce and carrots has continued mainly for local supply, and there has been very little export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has however maintained its position and in several respects has markedly improved, the principal exports being green limes in crates and barrels, crated mangoes, crated avocado pears, and bananas.

The exports of bananas were somewhat lower than for 1933, through the new crop not being yet available, and more rigid selection of export fruit being practised. A total of 18,377 bunches valued at £1,499 being exported as against 22,258 bunches at £1,626.

There was also some improvement in the mango export trade, and experimental shipments in cold storage were made to London. These gave a satisfactory return.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £12,308 as compared with £10,081 in 1933 and is shown in detail below :—

Article.	*Quantity exported to*						*Value.*	
	Canada.	Bermuda.	U.K.	U.S.A.	Other places.	Total.	1934.	1933.
							£	£
Green limes Brls.	261	727	55	4,947	11	6,001	7,010	4,445
Grapefruit Crates	13	19	—	—	—	32	13	13
Oranges ,,	1	160	1	2	210	374	92	141
Mangoes ,,	288	3,535	298	—	3,760	7,881	1,372	1,212
Avocado pears ,,	4	2,241	—	—	—	2,245	389	610
Pineapples ,,	—	36	—	—	—	36	16	31
Bananas Bchs.	17,136	—	713	—	528	18,377	1,499	1,626
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,917	2,003
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,308	10,081

A total of 11,872 packages of fruit and 17,849 bunches of bananas was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 15,029 in 1933.

Under the Colonial Development Fund Act, 1929, a grant of £1,480 was made in 1930 for the supply of planting material to peasants, the topworking of common mangoes to produce choice fruit, and the purchase of farm animals for breeding. The work is nearing completion. The gross expenditure up to the end of 1934 was £1,448.

Farm Stock.—Extensive use has been made of the Government breeding bulls and boars for services, and interest in better breeds of cattle and small animals is being stimulated. Continued importations of day-old chicks have resulted in the introduction and establishment of the more important laying and table breeds for domestic and market purposes.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1934, and as compared with 1933, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1934.	1933.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	57,770	49,813
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	23,637	26,724
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	88,029	85,803
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including parcel post.	3	4,670
Totals	£169,439	£167,010

The above table shows an increase of £2,429 in the total value of imports for 1934 as compared with the previous year. Classes I and III show increases viz., £7,957 and £2,226 respectively.

Postal parcels formerly shown separately are now incorporated in their appropriate classes.

The values of imports for 1934 and 1933, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1934.	1933.
	£	£
United Kingdom	93,059	97,185
Other parts of the British Empire	48,864	42,658
Foreign Countries	27,516	22,502
Parcel Post	—	4,665
Totals	£169,439	£167,010

The value of imports from the United Kingdom suffered a setback of £4,126, whereas that from other parts of the British Empire increased by £6,206.

Imports from foreign countries increased by £5,014—the principal countries contributing thereto being Czecho-Slovakia and Japan. There was, however, a drop in Japanese cotton piece-goods, from £1,599 in 1933 to £1,285 in 1934, which was more than offset by an increase in apparel from £160 to £1,454.

The value of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1933 and 1934 was as follows :—

Article.	1933.	1934.
	£	£
Coal, bituminous	23,955	21,251
Cotton—		
Piece-goods	10,543	14,320
Other manufactures ...	8,359	3,156
Fish, salted and dried, etc. ...	5,706	4,702
Flour, wheaten	15,426	19,798
Oil, edible	5,034	4,766
Totals	£69,023	£67,993

The following table is given as suggestive of openings for British products :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1934.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Butter (cooking)	1,378	899
Cotton manufactures :		
Piece-goods	14,320	10,068
Other kinds	3,156	2,032
Oleomargarine	1,752	1,226
Paper	1,436	364
Totals	£22,042	£14,589

Exports.

The values of exports in 1934, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1934.	1933.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	68,502	70,527
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	8,171	10,592
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	18,553	14,480
IV. Miscellaneous	509	426
V. Bullion and Specie	6,324	2,453
Totals	£102,059	£98,478

The principal increases occurred in Heads III and V. Whilst there was a large decline in exports to United Kingdom from £56,433 in 1933 to £30,375 in 1934, there was an appreciable increase to other parts of the British Empire, viz., £22,788 in 1933 to £43,128 in 1934.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

Article.	*Value in* 1934.	*Value in* 1933.
	£	£
Cocoa	6,032	6,778
Limes and lime products ...	21,852	15,778
Fancy syrup and molasses ...	1,431	1,417
Sugar	39,396	46,493
Copra	2,592	5,167
Charcoal...	4,486	4,327
Coconuts	7,298	3,527
Bananas	1,499	1,626
Other fresh fruits	3,802	4,010

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.		*Total.* 1934.	*Total.* 1933.
United Kingdom—	£	£	£
Domestic exports	29,986		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	389	30,375	56,433
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic exports	39,798		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	3,330	43,128	22,788
Foreign countries—			
Domestic exports	21,895		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	337	22,232	16,804
Totals		£95,735	£96,025

The values of supplies to ships during the last two years were as follows :—

	1934.	1933.
	£	£
Bunker coal	30,885	29,831
Ships' stores	1,042	1,043
Totals	£31,927	£30,874

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which exceptional facilities exist for quick despatch to steamers calling for bunkers, was again favourable in 1934 ; 76 steamers took 25,670 tons of coal, as compared with 25,179 tons taken by 74 steamers in 1933.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual and artisan—have been maintained during 1934, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Manual	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Semi-skilled	1*s.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Skilled	3*s.* to 5*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*

In domestic service the monthly wage which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10*s.* and 16*s.* for housemaids and yard boys, 15*s.* to 20*s.* [illegible] and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10*s.* per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	8*d.* per lb.
Mutton, fresh	9*d.* per lb.
Pork, fresh...	8*d.* per lb.
Chicken	6*d.* per lb.
Fish, fresh	5*d.* per lb.
Eggs	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per dozen.
Milk	2*d.* per bottle.
Potatoes	2*d.* per lb.
Rice	2½*d.* per lb.
Butter	2*s.* per lb.
Sugar	2*d.* per lb.
Bread	3*d.* per lb.
Flour	2½*d.* per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 48 recognized primary schools in the Colony. None of these are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of head teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1934, the Government paid a total of £5,131 18*s.* 3*d.* to the school managers for salaries; to this sum the total amount added by the managers was £40 7*s.* 0*d.* The school buildings (the estimated annual rental value of which is £1,517 9*s.* 0*d.*) are the property of the churches, who spent, during 1934, £292 15*s.* 0*d.* on repairs and furniture for them.

Elementary agriculture is taught, and gardens are attached to most schools. The Agricultural Department advises in this work, and the standard is reasonably high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee to which the Government nominates three of the five members; and St. Joseph's Convent School for girls, managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to twelve scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools, and five for girls at St. Joseph's Convent.

Both schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1934, St. Mary's College received £502 14s. 7d., and St. Joseph's Convent £178.

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils. Elementary agricultural science is taught at St. Mary's College, and certain commercial subjects may be taken at both schools.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination (First Division).

Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available, but owing to the lack of facilities for the study of science in the secondary schools, these scholarships are seldom sought.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association continued to do good work during 1934 with Mrs. (now Lady) Doorly as President, and Mrs. F. Floissac as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association is not subsidized by the Government, but contributions are made by the public in the way of money and kind. The Government, however, provides medicines, etc., free of charge and Medical Officers give their services voluntarily to the clinics which are held thrice weekly.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football and cricket are the favourite games but regular competition is confined entirely to the capital, though there are cricket matches at rare intervals between the districts.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,290, of a total tonnage of 1,811,002 tons. Of this total 689 were steamships and 601 sailing vessels. In addition, 105 American seaplanes visited the Colony during the year.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means:—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness Withy Company.

(4) A fortnightly service to and from Canada, and a monthly one to the United States of America and most of the British West Indian Colonies by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Company.

andronicus pub

(5) A four-weekly service direct to London by steamers of the Harrison Line. These steamers do not usually call at St. Lucia on the outward voyage. Passengers and mails from England are transhipped at Barbados.

(6) A weekly seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports *en route*, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

(7) *Post Office.*—A General Post Office is established at last, and there are nine Sub-Post Offices in the country districts, four of which which are also Money Order Offices. Inland mails are regularly despatched by land and sea routes. Mails for England are sent as opportunity offers via Barbados or the United States and direct by the Harrison Line every four weeks. Air mail letters for England are despatched via Miami, U.S.A. Mails for other destinations are sent by all the steamers of the lines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Roads.

Internal communication is maintained solely by a road system which is divided into three classes, viz., main roads, by-ways and unclassified roads with a total roadage of 350 miles, divided as follows :—

Main roads		127½ miles.
By-ways :—		
Maintained by the Public Works Department	33½	148½ ,,
Maintained by Road Boards	115	
Unclassified roads		74 ,,

Main Roads.—This is the most important class and connects all the important towns and villages with the capital. This class provides the main avenue of transport of the produce of the island, and has been maintained in a practicable condition throughout the year for vehicular traffic as fixed by law.

By-ways.—This class connects the larger estates with the main roads, and is divided into five districts of which three are maintained by Road Boards and two by the Public Works Department. Sixty-three miles are motorable.

Unclassified Roads.—This class serves agricultural pioneers in the interior and connects mainly with by-ways. They are entirely bridle roads maintained by the Public Works Department.

Motor-boat Service.

There is a daily coastal motor-boat service along the western, or leeward, coast of the island. This vessel is operated by a private company.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, associated companies of Cable and Wireless Limited.

shing company, inc.

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained entirely by the Government, and consists of nine exchanges situated in towns and villages. One hundred and sixteen miles of trunk lines connect these exchanges, and four hundred and thirty-four miles of branch lines serve subscribers.

During 1934, the old grounded system was replaced by a metallic system in Castries and its environments.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the island, but United States gold is also legal tender. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia, but land quantities are frequently expressed in a local unit of measurement known as a *carré* equal to about three acres, thirty-two perches.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

This Department supervises the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves, and jetties, dredging of the harbour and the floating plant. The Crown Lands and Telephone Departments are also controlled by the Superintendent of Works. The Government Stores are also attached to this Department and supply materials for the various works and to the Government Workshop in which artisans of most trades are employed.

The following works were carried out during the year under review :—

Area metalled, rolled and oiled ...	23,065	square yards.
Reforming	325,199	,, ,,
Metalling	34,024	,, ,,
Drains redug and cleaned	2,987	chains of 100 ft.
Macadam applied	27,142	barrels.

Public buildings were maintained in good condition at a cost of £862 2*s*. 0*d*.

A section of Western Wharf, 61 feet long, was reconstructed in ferro-concrete. The amount expended was £177 6*s*. 7*d*.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

In criminal cases tried in the Royal Court facts are decided upon by a jury of twelve as in England.

For magisterial cases the island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1897. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, who also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this Force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

lishing company, inc

The total number of cases heard and of persons convicted of various crimes in the Colony over a period of 5 years is as follows :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
Magistrate's Courts (Cases heard)	1,714	1,807	1,657	1,826	1,755
Magistrate's Courts (Convictions)	1,164	1,287	1,132	1,326	1,239
Royal Court (Convictions)	22	14	22	14	13

The following table shows the number of offences dealt with by the Magistrates in 1934 as compared with 1933 in the Colony. It is satisfactory to note that there were 71 less cases than in 1933.

	1933.	1934.
Offences against the person, including homicide...	274	292
Praedial larceny	124	206
Offences against property other than praedial ...	196	203
Other offences	1,232	1,054
Total number of offences reported...	1,826	1,755

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council passed 23 Ordinances including two Appropriation Ordinances. New legislation consisted of the Banana Ordinance, 1934, creating a body corporate to market bananas and to regulate and control the export thereof ; the Official Emoluments Levy Ordinance, 1934, authorising the imposition of a temporary levy upon official emoluments during the year 1934 ; the Official Emoluments Levy Ordinance (No. 2), 1934, imposing a temporary levy upon official emoluments during the year 1935 ; the Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Ordinance, 1934, relating to the importation of textiles from foreign countries ; the Marchand Recreation Ground Ordinance, 1934, vesting in the Castries Town Board a piece of land at Marchand in the vicinity of Castries for use as a recreation ground ; the Bahamas and Leeward Islands Light Dues Ordinance, 1934, signifying the opinion of the Legislature that all lawful fees ordered by His Majesty in Council under the provisions of section 670 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, ought to be levied in this Colony ; the Barnett Isaie and Medouze Pensions Ordinance, 1934, legalizing the payment of pensions to certain head teachers of primary schools ; the employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance, 1934, providing for the carrying out of certain conventions of the League of Nations relating to the employment of women, young persons and children.

There were 30 Statutory Rules and Orders issued dealing chiefly with administrative routine and the new legislation mentioned above. They included, *inter alia*, a Royal Order in Council extending the life of the Legislative Council for an additional year, and a Proclamation fixing the 31st March, 1934, as the operative date of Ordinance No. 26 of 1933, intituled an Ordinance relating to Trade Unions.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Local Revenue.* £	*Total Revenue including Imperial Grants.* £	*Local Expenditure.* £	*Total Expenditure including Development Scheme.* £
1930	73,524	82,588	86,313	91,453
1931	70,740	98,902	87,867	103,893
1932	79,713	130,207	79,626	96,278
1933	72,569	92,816	81,002	94,732
1934	75,229	85,079	84,532	90,953

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £120,365 11*s.* 2*d.* at the close of the year while the accumulated Sinking Fund towards its redemption amounted to £10,263 9*s.* 5*d.*

The Imperial Grants received have been as follows :—

Year	In aid of Administration £	For Colonial Development £	Reparation Receipt £
1930	6,664	2,409	—
1931	7,700	20,462	—
1932	35,300	15,194	3,956
1933	2,500	17,747	—
1934	8,000	1,850	—

The Assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1934, amounting to £34,131 2*s.* 5*d.* were made up as follows :—

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—			
In hands of Treasurer	156 19 9		
,, ,, Sub-Accountants ...	327 11 6		
,, ,, Crown Agents ...	142 2 8		
At Barclays Bank (Current Account)	1,009 0 3		
		1,635 14 2	
Investments—			
On account of Savings Bank		18,538 13 4	
,, ,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		1,631 3 0	
,, ,, Baron Trust Fund		105 17 7	
,, ,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund		102 3 3	
,, ,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund		145 7 9	
,, ,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund		840 1 2	
,, ,, Model Cottages Fund		271 3 6	
,, ,, Public Buildings Insurance Fund		50 1 10	
,, ,, Castries Town Board Building Fund		33 2 10	
			21,717 14 3

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				21,717	14	3
Loans—						
Castries Town Board for Streets (from P.B. Insurance Fund) ...	2,400	0	0			
,, ,, ,, ,, Cemetery	85	14	5			
,, Water Authority for Waterworks ...	300	0	0			
Village of Dennery for Waterworks	192	0	0			
,, Choiseul for Market, etc.	22	10	0			
,, Canaries for River-wall	54	0	0			
Town of Soufriere for Market, etc.	216	0	0			
,, Vieux-Fort for Sea-wall	198	0	0			
				3,468	4	5
Stores—						
Public Works Materials and Stores	3,062	18	5			
Colony Drug Store	689	12	0			
				3,752	10	5
Advances—						
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	85	7	7			
Choiseul Village Fund	85	6	1			
Micoud Village Fund	244	15	6			
Vieux Fort Town Fund	38	9	6			
Castries Electric Lights Fund	695	6	0			
Post Office Account	667	5	11			
Packing & Crates Suspense Account	177	17	7			
Government of St. Vincent	394	18	7			
Other Advances	715	15	7			
				3,105	2	4
Drafts and Remittances Account				451	16	10
Total Assets ...				£34,131	2	5

The Liabilities, as seen hereunder, exceeded the Assets by £1,783 4*s.* 9*d.*, made up as follows :—

Surplus and Deficit Account	5,742	11	2			
Less—						
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	3,959	6	5			
				£1,783	4	9

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1934, amounting to £35,914 7*s.* 2*d.*, were as follows :—

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits—						
Savings Bank Depositors	18,964	1	4			
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account	138	6	10			
Sundry Deposits Account	155	6	6			
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	879	4	9			
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	102	3	3			
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	145	7	9			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,656	8	1			
Police Recreation Fund	13	7	9			
Police Fines Fund	5	12	6			
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	160	18	6			
Model Cottages Fund	271	3	6			
Note Guarantee Fund	126	10	0			
Castries Town Board Building Fund	33	2	10			
				22,651	13	7

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward		22,651 13 7
Special Funds—		
Towns and Villages	910 10 10	
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account	128 13 5	
Castries Waterworks Reconstruction Loan Account	155 3 7	
Castries Town Fund	2,837 9 9	
Castries Town Board Electric Light Loan Account...	11 4 11	4,043 2 6
Advances—		
From Joint Colonial Fund	9,000 0 0	
,, Government of Grenada	219 11 1	9,219 11 1
Total Liabilities		£35,914 7 2

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following Schedule :—

For every pound of the first £100	4*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, next £200	6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £300	1*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £400	1*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	2*s.* 3*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s.* 9*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	4*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	5*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, of the rest of the chargeable income	5*s.* 6*d.*

A temporary surcharge of 12½ per cent. imposed in 1933 is still in force.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows :—

Of an annual rental of :

Over £5 and not over £7 10*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.*
,, £7 10*s.* and not over £10	10*s.*
,, £10 and not over £12 10*s.*	15*s.*
,, £12 10*s.* and not over £15	20*s.*
,, £15 and not over £20	28*s.*
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed rental value.	

In the case of the towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed eight per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is Import Duty. There is a Preferential Tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an Excise Duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an Export Duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1933 and 1934 was as follows :—

	1933.	1934.
	£	£
Import Duties	38,502	40,925
Export Duties	1,739	1,936
Port, Harbour, etc., Dues	1,865	1,903
Spirit Licences	815	801
Distillery Licences	164	162
Animals, Vehicles and Guns	644	678
Petroleum, Cocoa, Boats, etc. ...	749	713
Excise Duty on Rum	7,033	6,338
Trade Duty on Spirits	3,294	3,004
Stamp Duty	1,141	1,140
Income-Tax	2,575	2,994
Succession Duty	1,247	1,426
Rural House Tax	1,141	794

The following temporary taxes remain in force :—

(1) the imposition of a temporary levy according to the subjoined schedule upon the emoluments of every public officer provided that such emoluments are not less than £50 per annum and provided that the total amount of the levy does not exceed 10 per cent. of the annual emoluments :—

On every pound of the first £50 or part thereof ...	1½*d.*
,, ,, ,, next £50 ,, ,, ...	3*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £50 ,, ,, ...	4½*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £50 ,, ,, ...	6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £100 ,, ,, ...	9*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £100 ,, ,, ...	1*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, £100 ,, ,, ...	1*s.* 3*d.*
,, ,, exceeding £500	1*s.* 6*d.*

(Ordinance No. 2 of 1934) ; and

(2) an increase of the income-tax by 12½ per cent., exempting from income-tax the amount of any levy made on the emoluments of Government officials and exempting from such increase of income-tax the balance of such emoluments after deduction of levy (Ordinance No. 4 of 1934).

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No permanent appointment having been made to the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands rendered vacant by the retirement from public service of Sir Thomas Vans Best, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., in the preceding year, Mr. (afterwards Sir) Charles W. Doorly, C.B.E., then holding the substantive office of Administrator and Colonial Secretary of St. Lucia, continued to act as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands throughout the year with headquarters at St. Lucia.

The Acting Governor visited the Colonies of St. Vincent and Grenada twice during the year, leaving St. Lucia on the first occasion on the 18th April, returning on the 23rd May, and on the second occasion leaving St. Lucia on the 31st August, returning on the 26th September.

The following British ships of war visited the Colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Crescent*, *Kempenfelt*, *Cygnet*, *Crusader*, *Achilles*, *Scarborough*, and *Frobisher* in February.

H.M.C.S. *Saquenay*, *Skeena*, *Vancouver* and *Champlain* in March.

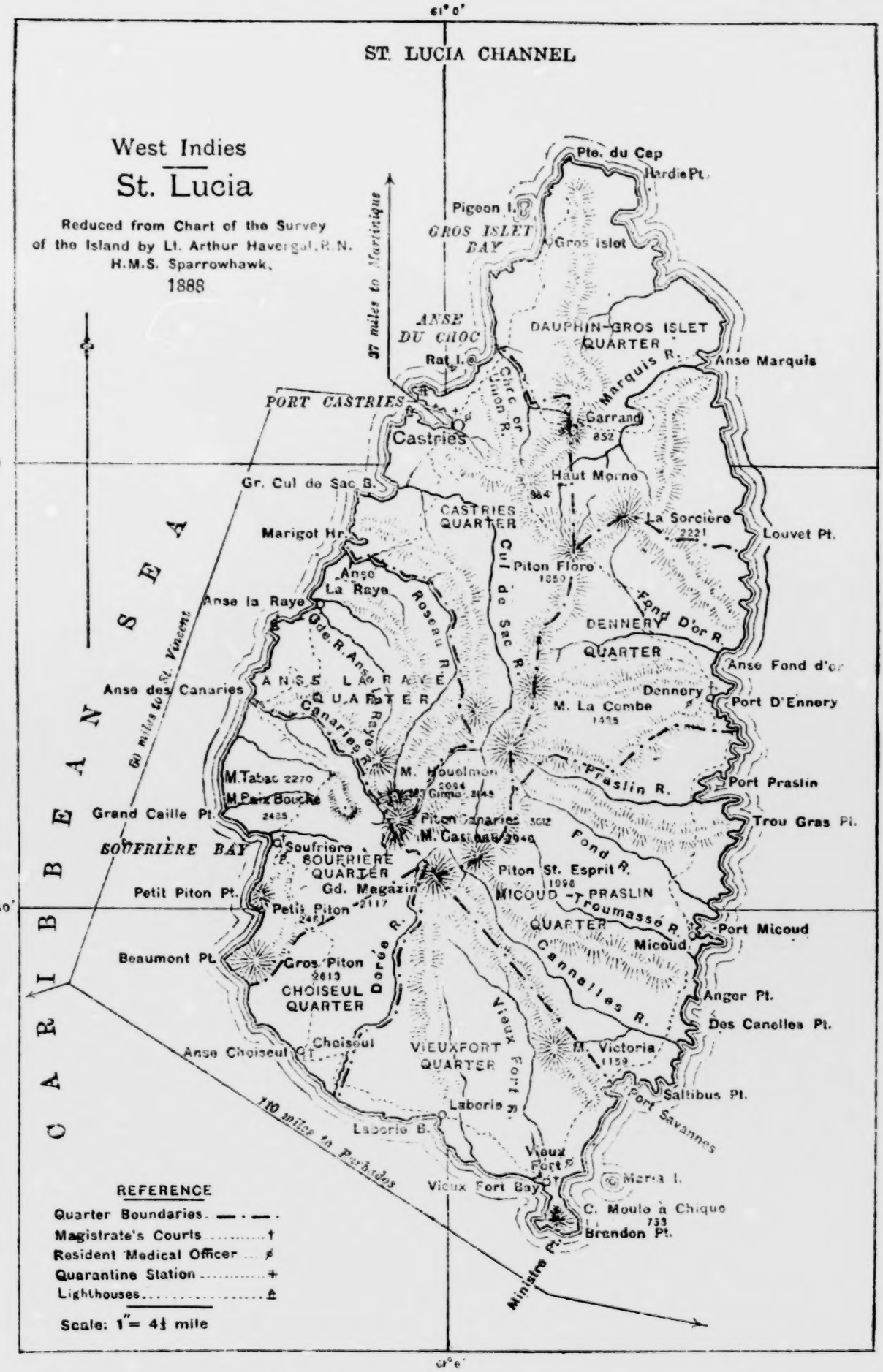
APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

(a) *Official or Semi-Official Publications*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
Saint Lucia Gazette	—	St. Lucia Government Printing Office.	Fortnightly	12*s.* per annum, 6*d.* per copy.
Saint Lucia Blue Book	—	Do.	Annually	10*s.*
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia (Cmd. 3996).	—	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1932	2*s.*
West India Sugar Commission Report 1929 (Cmd. 3517).	—	Do.	1930	2*s.*
Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands. Report of a Commission appointed to consider Problems of Primary Education (Colonial No. 79).	—	Do.	1933	2*s.*
Year Book of the West Indies	—	Thomas Skinner & Co., London.	Annually	7*s.* 6*d.*
The West India Committee Circular ...	—	The West India Committee, London.	Fortnightly	2 guineas per annum.
Government of the West Indies ...	Hume Wrong	Clarendon Press	1923	—
Historical Geography of the British Colonies, Vol. II, West Indies.	Sir C. P. Lucas	Clarendon Press	1905	7*s.* 6*d.*
History, Resources, and Progress of British West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall	Pitman	1912	7*s.* 6*d.*
Pocket Guide to the West Indies ...	Sir A. Aspinall	Sifton Praed & Co., Ltd.	1931	10*s.* 6*d.*
Handbook of the West Indies	Sir A. Aspinall	West India Committee ...	1929	5*s.* 6*d*

		(b) *Descriptive Publications.*		
English in the West Indies	J. A. Froude	Longman, Green & Co. ..	1888	18*s.*
Cradle of the Deep	Sir Frederick Treves ...	Smith, Elder & Co. ...	1908	12*s.*
A Wayfarer in the West Indies	Sir A. Aspinall	West India Committee ...	1928	8*s.*
		(c) *Historical Publications.*		
St. Lucia: Historical, Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen	Longman Green, London	—	—
Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794.	Willyams	T. Bensley, London ...	1796	—
Chronological History of the West Indies.	Captain Thomas Southey	Longman Rees; Orme Brown & Green.	1827	—
History of British Colonies in the West Indies.	Bryan Edwards	John Stockdale	1793	—
History of Caribee Islands	De Rochefort (translated by J. Davis).	—	1666	—
Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique	J. B. Labat	Husson and others, La Haye.	1742	—
Pere Labat (1693–1705), Memoirs of ...	(Translated by John Eaden.)	Constable & Co.	1931	7*s.* 6*d.*
The West Indies in 1837	Sturges and Harvey ...	Hamilton	1838	8*s.* 6*d.*
West Indian Tales of Old...	Sir A. Aspinall	Duckworth	1912	8*s.*
		(d) *Scientific Publication.*		
Obeah	H. J. Bell	Sampson Low	1889	2*s.* 6*d.*
		(e) *Fiction.*		
A West Indian Pepper-Pot	Sir Reginald St. Johnston. K.C.M.G.	Philip Alan Co.	1928	10*s.* 6*d.*



33494—48) Wt. 2696—3561 625 2/36 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any Bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS,
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND,
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58–1743

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1759

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1935

(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see Nos. 1676 and 1714 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1936

Price 1s. 0d. net

PRINTED AND
PUBLISHED IN
GREAT BRITAIN

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)
Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88-1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Part II—Public Business. [Colonial No. 88-2] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government.
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1935

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	4
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	5
VI.—Production	6
VII.—Commerce	9
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	10
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	11
X.—Communications and Transport	12
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	14
XII.—Public Works	14
XIII.—Justice, Police and Prisons	15
XIV.—Legislation	18
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.—Miscellaneous	23
Appendix.—List of Publications	24
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of Saint Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of England as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78° F. to 85° F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 ft. above sea level, was 92·72 ins. for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 3·80 ins. on 5th October.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council, and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created instead, composed of 12 members, three *ex-officio*, three nominated by the Crown, and six elected by the people.

This Constitution also was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio*

members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial member and three elected members. The island is divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. An election takes place every three years, the last being held in May, 1931. The life of the existing Council was extended for a period of one year.

There is also an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney General and the Treasurer as *ex-officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. Every person not being an *ex-officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

Municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board consisting of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race is as follows :—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans)	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1934 and 1935 :—

	1934.	1935.
Estimated population	53,622	55,219
Births, excluding still births ...	2,087	2,211
Birth rate per 1,000	38·92	40·04
Still births	116	119
Percentage of still births ...	5·56	5·11
Death rate per 1,000	14·48	15·39
Deaths of children under one year (excluding still births)	228	246
Marriages	(3·24 per 1,000)	6·98
Emigration	2,831	2,501
Immigration	3,131	2,737

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1935 was again comparatively healthy. The death rate was a little higher (from 14·4 to 15·3 per mille) and the incidence of deaths shows some variation from that of the previous year. Nearly 50 per cent. of the total deaths occurred under 5 years of age. The tuberculosis rate was again slightly lower but the deaths ascribed to worm infections were nearly doubled. Admissions to the hospitals have increased.

	1934.	1935.
Attendance at dispensaries ...	39,174	47,379
Colonial Hospital—		
Inpatients treated	1,309	1,456
Outpatient casualties ...	585	509
Other outpatient attendances	—	7,535
Casualty Hospitals (2)—		
Inpatients	143	193
Pauper, Lunatic and Leper Asylums	184	177
Tuberculosis Home	19	18
Totals	41,414	57,267

The following table shows the principal causes of death in the years 1934 and 1935 and the percentages :—

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*		*Percentages of total deaths.*	
	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	90	69	11·67	8·11
Senility	83	94	10·76	11·06
Bronchitis	45	37	5·83	4·35
Ascariasis	44	87	5·71	10·24
Tuberculosis	48	45	6·23	5·29
Broncho-pneumonia	33	28	4·28	3·29
Congenital debility	63	81	8·17	9·53

V.—HOUSING.

Taken as a whole the housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in country villages the houses are of primitive form, being built of mud and wattle with cane trash roofs, and the same is true of the housing of the labourers on many estates. In most

cases estates rent house sites to their labourers, leaving the latter to erect their own dwellings—a task which they are apt to perform with the least possible exertion. The estate owner assists the labourer by renting him hill lands to grow his provisions and sometimes a certain amount of grazing land for his livestock. The Sanitary Authority has now stepped in and passed rules governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses. The enforcement of sanitary laws will have a beneficial effect on future construction.

Under the Dwelling House Regulations which are enforced by the Sanitary Department and apply to all parts of the Colony outside Kingstown, the minimum requirements for dwelling houses are—a plot of land 75 feet by 50 feet, two rooms of 64 square feet each, a height of eight feet from floor to plate, pillars two feet off the ground, ventilation openings equivalent to one-tenth of the floor space, and a latrine. Since the introduction of the Dwelling House Regulations in 1930, 936 applications for permission to erect houses have been approved, and most of these houses have been completed. These figures are exclusive of the 100 peasants' cottages erected by Government with funds made available from the Colonial Development Fund.

Some improvement is taking place in the construction of the better class of house, especially in the case of dwellings recently erected in and around Kingstown. Unfortunately, however, there has been little attempt at zoning or town planning in the past and the results of this deficiency must become increasingly apparent as time goes on.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

No minerals are found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The following table shows the kinds of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown respectively by peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentage used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products :—

Crop.	Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage.		Estimated value.
		Plantations.	Peasants.	Used Locally.	Exported.	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	164,000	44	56	—	100	7,945
2. Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	38,604	20	80	—	100	804
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	97,242	70	30	40	60	915
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	7,488,800	75	25	2	98	87,000
5. Cassava ... ,,	1,040,000	67	33	25	75	5,300
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,500	100	—	50	50	12,812
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	350,000	80	20	27	73	14,000
8. Copra ... ... lb.	840,602	98	2	—	100	3,418
9. Maize ... ... ,,	60,000	25	75	67	33	200
10. Groundnuts ... ,,	20,000	60	40	50	50	140
11. Peas and beans ,,	200,000	65	35	50	50	1,200
12. Sweet potatoes ,,	4,000,000	20	80	75	25	8,500
13. Plantains ... stems	60,000	10	90	84	16	4,000
14. Tannias ... lb.	500,000	10	90	70	30	2,000
15. Yams ... ... ,,	132,800	10	90	60	40	415
16. Miscellaneous vegetables. ,,	110,000	10	90	75	25	496
17. Bananas ... stems	8,000	64	36	35	65	650
18. Tomatoes ... lb.	40,000	1	99	75	25	350
19. Oranges ... No.	50,000	45	55	50	50	50
20. Grapefruit ... ,,	8,000	40	60	80	20	12
21. Coconuts ... ,,	3,500,000	90	10	10	90	11,000
22. Limes ... ... ,,	1,200,000	22	78	43	57	320
23. Mace ... ... lb.	7,000	60	40	1	99	300
24. Nutmegs ... ,,	31,000	60	40	1	99	380
25. Ginger ... ... ,,	3,000	5	95	44	56	8

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers for their cotton by the Government Cotton Ginnery, which gins, bales and ships it for them. When sold, 5 per cent. is deducted, the balance being distributed *pro rata* among them. Planters usually ship their own cotton.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

6. There is only one factory in the island where sugar is manufactured, but this plant, though relatively small, is among the most modern in the West Indies.

7. There are syrup factories of various capacities in the island. These factories are usually owned by planters, who also grind the sugar-canes of peasants on a share basis.

9. Owing to present market conditions no corn was purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery during 1935.

17. About 330 acres of bananas were planted during the year which will come into bearing during 1936. All Gros Michel bananas exported are handled by a Co-operative Association, and sold to the Canadian Banana Company under an existing contract.

18. Tomatoes produced by peasants for export were graded, wrapped, packed and shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. After account sales had been received, 10 per cent. was deducted for handling charges. The remainder was paid *pro rata* as a bonus to vendors.

Other fruit, such as avocado pears, limes, oranges, etc., was also shipped by the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. The Bureau was closed down in July, 1935, but the export of green limes will be continued by the Government Cotton Ginnery.

21. Not converted into copra.

Live-stock.

The following table shows the numbers of animals in the island as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Included in the table are the estimated values of the various classes of livestock, the number of beasts owned by plantations and peasants respectively, the numbers exported during 1935 and the value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1935.*	*Value of Exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,390	3,954
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	22	135
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,114	758
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	45	85
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	958	485
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	2	55
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	2	25

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. Apart from this there are small whaling stations situated on some of the small islands. In 1935, 1,675 gallons of whale oil valued at £163 and 832 lb. of turtle shells valued at £269 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, while on others they work on their own holdings. They are usually paid by the task, but payment by the day is of fairly frequent occurrence.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is similar to that performed on plantations. Broadly speaking, all peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they use the ordinary plantation methods, and follow the lead of the plantations as to the crop they raise. They receive advice from Agricultural Officers.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, and who own land, is approximately 2,763. Of this number, 2,614 possess areas from 1-10 acres, 116 from 10-20 acres, and 31 from 20-30 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and export.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses some excellent pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. A Government stud farm no longer exists, but several planters import pedigree and half-bred animals from the Government stock farm in Trinidad for breeding and for improving their ordinary stock.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is operated in conjunction with the sugar factory previously mentioned. In 1935, 28,447 proof gallons of rum, valued at £3,334 were distilled; of this 5,468 proof gallons, valued at £641 were exported, the balance being consumed locally.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £306,314 as against a total of £298,264 in 1934, an increase of £8,050.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. *Island Produce.*	Exports. *Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1931	177,492	111,597	1,568	113,165
1932	149,289	95,693	1,606	97,299
1933	148,647	112,265	6,865	119,130
1934	163,035	129,833	5,396	135,229
1935	171,392	132,004	2,918	134,922

Imports.

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	74,256	65,274	66,326	71,125	79,084
Canada	34,346	25,954	25,227	26,008	31,385
British West Indies ...	10,078	10,635	10,636	10,943	9,552
India...	418	595	703	2,549	3,299
Newfoundland	3,087	3,738	3,944	9,084	4,767
Ceylon	861	299	308	286	266
Other British Colonies ...	6,869	6,714	7,058	6,481	6,583
United States of America ...	34,850	23,191	22,300	24,664	23,642
France	3,301	2,838	1,621	1,262	1,300
Denmark	132	79	227	570	379
Germany	2,012	1,472	1,334	1,239	1,204
Holland	1,223	968	917	690	1,116
Japan	1,258	1,890	3,662	3,417	3,602
Foreign West Indies ...	272	263	360	662	598
Other Countries	2,821	3,079	2,673	2,345	2,195
Unclassified	1,708	2,300	1,351	1,710	2,420
	£177,492	£149,289	£148,647	£163,035	£171,392

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	56,227	49,835	49,269	55,118	54,114
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	15,497	15,300	6,929	17,660	14,923
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	103,928	81,608	90,778	88,090	99,725
Class IV.—Animals not for food.	—	—	—	—	210
Class V.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	1,840	2,546	1,671	2,167	2,420
	£177,492	£149,289	£148,647	£163,035	£171,392

The following are the percentages, in the last five years, of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	41·83	43·72	44·62	43·62	46·14
United States of America ...	19·64	15·53	15·00	15·13	13·79
Canada	19·35	17·39	16·97	15·96	18·31
All other Countries ...	19·18	23·36	23·41	25·29	21·76

Exports.

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports (excluding in respect of the years 1934 and 1935, exports other than island produce) during the past five years :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Country of destination.	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	44,600	30,108	34,263	37,425	37,775
Canada	12,334	9,376	14,026	13,078	10,934
Bermuda	526	278	182	756	70
British West Indies ...	23,625	25,366	29,029	24,803	20,151
British Guiana	205	445	216	669	196
United States of America ...	28,072	27,489	35,598	47,717	57,565
Other Countries	3,803	4,237	5,816	5,385	5,313

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are :—females 6d.-10d., males 1s. 3d.-2s. per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by task, the payment made being at the rate of 8d.-1s. per task of five to six hours. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers with house-spots at peppercorn rentals and land for cultivation ; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land. Trees which produce mangoes, pears, breadfruit, and plants bearing other edible fruit are often found wild or can be obtained for the reaping. Fish are plentiful in the sea and rivers, and cost nothing but the effort of catching them.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from five to fifteen years, but provision has been made for the retention to the age of 16 years of pupils attending schools recognized as senior schools.

On the 31st of December 1935 there were 37 primary schools. Of these 13 belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance, and the remaining 24 to the religious denominations. Of the denominational schools, nine are Anglican, 13 Methodist and two Roman Catholic. The salaries of all the teachers, most of the equipment of both Government and denominational schools and part of the cost of upkeep of the denominational school-buildings are provided from the general revenue of the Colony.

The following comparative table gives the main figures of primary education in the Colony :—

	1933.	1934.	1935.
Number of schools	37	37	37
Enrolment on 31st December	9,291	9,413	10,432
Enrolment per 1,000 of population ...	179	176	189
Average attendance	5,258	5,346	5,998
Percentage in average attendance ...	56·6	56·7	57·5
Total Government expenditure	£7,973	£8,043	£8,548
Cost per child in average attendance ...	£1 10s. 4d.	£1 10s. 2d.	£1 8s. 5½d.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £978 9s. 10d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age but it is being steadily increased.

The Government maintains two secondary schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted when there are two or more pupils from the same family. On 31st December 1935 the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 81 and at the Girls' High School 77.

The entry of primary school pupils into the secondary schools is assisted by the annual award, on the results of a competitive examination, of four free places, three of them provided by the Government and one by the municipality of Kingstown. Places, available at biennial or longer intervals, are also maintained by the Anglican Church, the Methodist Church and by the Reeves Memorial Scholarship Committee.

On 31st December 1935, seventeen boys and fourteen girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 21 in the Boys' School and 18 in the Girls' School.

There is a scholarship for University education of the annual value of £250. It is awarded biennially on the results of the London Matriculation examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the seat of learning is also provided.

There are no technical or vocational schools but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving attention in the primary schools.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guides organizations are well established. There are 13 troops of the former and 13 companies of the latter.

A number of Friendly Societies, established under the Friendly Society Ordinance of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or ill health.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, supplemented by a grant from Government, in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free but for the use of the circulating library an annual subscription of 6s. is charged.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads of the Colony are divided into three principal sections, viz. : Leeward, Windward and Grenadines. Four miles and thirteen miles respectively of the highways in the Leeward and Windward sections have been reconstructed and oiled.

Communication and transport between the Leeward Coast and Kingstown, the capital, is carried on chiefly by means of motor launch and canoes, and on the Windward Coast by means of motor vehicles. Between the Grenadines and the mainland, the only means of communication is by sailing boats, and the Government Revenue Sloop *Carib*, which has an auxiliary engine.

Below is appended a table of the Highways and Byways in the Colony :—

Roads.	*Mileage Total.*	*Oiled mileage.*	*Macadamized. mileage.*	*Earth mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Highway...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads, Kingstown District.	4	1½	2½	—	do.
Windward Highway	25	13	12	—	do.
Vigie Road... ...	11	—	9	2	do.
By-ways.					
Leeward	64⅜	—	3	61⅜	Carts and animals.
Windward	112¾	—	15	97¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Union Island ...	12	—	—	12	Foot.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	78	—	—	78	do.

Postal.

The General Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 19 district post offices, of which 10 transact all classes of postal business, including the issue and payment of money orders and postal orders, while the others perform the usual postal delivery with the sale of stamps.

Mails are conveyed to the offices in the Windward district by motor bus and to the Leeward district by motor launch under contract.

Mails are conveyed to Bequia by sailing boat under contract and to the other Grenadines by the Government auxiliary sloop *Carib*.

Telegraph service is carried out by Cable and Wireless Limited. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service maintained by the Government links up Kingstown with two exchanges in the Windward district and one in the Leeward district.

The Kingstown exchange area was converted from magneto working to central battery signalling during the year and the manual exchange at Mesopotamia was replaced by a rural semi-automatic exchange. Ample call facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. Sixteen of these call stations exist linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

Steamers of other lines also call at various periods.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a note circulation of £12,741 13s. 4d. It is estimated that the value of coin in circulation during 1935 amounted to between £4,000 and £8,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 1½ per cent. per annum, particulars of which are unknown.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 4 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December 1935 was £6,250.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December 1935 was £17,884. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coin of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is four shillings and two pence of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The only work undertaken from assistance granted by the Colonial Development Fund was the completing of the Lowmans Biabou Water Supply.

The more important works carried out during 1935 are :—

Erecting storeroom at Cotton Research Station.
Improving mixing room at bakery, Kingstown Prison.
Provision of pipe-line to Layou Primary School.
Erection of greenhouse at Cotton Research Station.
Erection of lean-to shed at Cumberland Post Office.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Organization of Justice.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which district is composed of the following :—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie and Georgetown (on the windward coast).

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which district is comprised of the St. Vincent Grenadines-Bequia, Union Island, Mayreau and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

STATISTICS OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS.
(FIRST AND SECOND DISTRICTS.)

FIRST DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	1	9	71	81
Malicious injury of property ...	—	2	1	3
Praedial larceny	—	7	7	14
Offences against property ...	—	1	3	4
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	2	2
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	--	24	167	191
Other offences	10	59	371	440
	11	102	622	735

FIRST DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	32	—	3	3	2	105	214	359
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	12	—	—	—	—	49	56	117
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	16	—	1	—	—	—	46	63
Whipping	1	—	1	—	—	—	26	28
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	10	1	2	—	—	13	29	55
	71	1	7	3	2	167	371	622

SECOND DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person ...	45	19	125	189
Malicious injury to property ...	1	3	18	22
Praedial larceny	8	15	133	156
Offences against property ...	12	5	38	55
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	18	31	301	350
Other offences	101	65	501	667
	185	138	1,116	1,439

SECOND DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	62	12	61	28	—	289	311	763
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	27	2	25	6	—	12	114	186
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	28	—	22	4	—	—	39	93
Whipping	7	3	24	—	—	—	15	49
Bound over and other trivial punishment	1	1	1	—	—	—	22	25
	125	18	133	38	—	301	501	1,116

Police.

ORGANIZATION OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Personnel.—The Police Force consisted for the first part of the year of two Officers and 51 Non-commissioned Officers and men. The two Officers and 34 other ranks were at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed among the nine outstations.

In November, on account of the serious rioting which took place on 21st October, an increase of ten Non-commissioned Officers and men was authorized.

The Chief of Police is, *ex-officio*, Commandant of the Local Forces, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade, Chief Relieving Officer and Inspector of Weights and Measures. The Sub-Inspector, in addition to his Police duties, performs the duties of Adjutant and Drill Inspector to the St. Vincent Volunteer Corps.

During the year there were 1,877* police prosecutions. Convictions were obtained in 1,655 cases. (See note.)

On the 31st of December 1935 the Force was one below strength. All outstations are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under a semi-military organization the constables at Headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, etc.

Enlistment is for three years after which period the constable is deemed to continue enrolled for a further like period and so on from time to time unless he shall have signified his intention to resign before the end of such period.

Besides ordinary police duties, the members of the Force are called upon to perform the following functions:—Water Police, Crew of the Administrator's boat when required, Firemen, Process Servers outside the Kingstown District, District Relieving Officers and all duties in connexion with emigration laws and control. All the clerical work within the department is carried out by the uniformed staff.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise :—

(1) The record office, warders' mess room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery and bath room for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper storey being occupied by the prison chapel and the warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four associated wards (average floor space 220 sq. ft.) and the upper storey containing 16 single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room and a weighing room.

Note.—*This figure does not include cases arising out of the October riots, which were not dealt with in the year under review.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the Matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison. When they are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. In nearly all cases those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks leave prison in better health than that in which they arrived.

Instruction by Schoolmaster.

The instruction commenced in August 1933, has been continued during the year under review. The result continues encouraging.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important Ordinances enacted during the year under review :—

No.	*Short Title.*
1.	Importation of Textiles (Quotas) (Amendment).
6.	Unrefined Sugar (Local Consumption).
14.	Plant Protection.
15.	Income Tax (Amendment).
20.	Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children.
22.	Newspaper Control.
24.	Board of Agriculture.
35.	Pedlars.
36.	Education (Amendment).
40.	Cotton Seed Control.
41.	Pensions (Amendment).
42.	Licences (Amendment).
43.	Customs Duties (Amendment No. 4).
47.	Seditious Publications.
52.	Juvenile Offenders (Punishment).

There has been no factory legislation, legislation regarding compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years, excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1935	77,758	77,559
1934	77,819	73,761
1933	72,873	68,150
1932	72,073	67,903
1931	68,550	79,543

The Public Debt at 31st December 1935, amounted to £90,538 of which £1,400 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £30,000 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £7,656.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December 1935, amounted to £25,609 of which £6,709 represents unallocated stores and loans to Boards.

The main heads of taxation are :—

	Yield for 1935.
	£
Import Duties	32,087
Export Duties	2,763
Licences	3,043
Excise Duties	4,802
Land and House Tax	5,758
Income Tax	3,457
Stamp Duties	1,384
Estate Duties	14
Trade Duties	2,316

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows :—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and shoes (canvas with rubber soles).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s.* per pair.
Boot and shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and elastic).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 3*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes other kinds	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Flour, wheaten	5*s.* per 196 lb.	7*s.* 6*d* per 196 lb..
Fish, dried	1*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	3*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* 3*d.* ,, ,, ,,	3*s.* ,, ,, ,,

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Machinery—marine, water and sewerage and industrial.	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Machinery — Agricultural, Electrical.	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined ...	6*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	4*s.* 2*d.* ,, ,, ,,	6*s.* 3*d.* ,, ,, ,,
Hardware—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery—cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7*d.* and under per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d.* per pair.
Hosiery—cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7*d.* per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per. cent. *ad valorem* and 7*d.* per pair.
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* 9*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 8*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible, lucca, olive and similar oils.	1*s.* per gal.	1*s* 6*d.* per gal.
Oils, edible, cotton seed and soya bean oil.	10*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 3*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured—cigars and cigarettes.	8*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	12*s.* 6*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, snuffs and other manufactured tobacco.	5*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	8*s.* 3*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	2*s.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	7*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	11*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor cars (wholly British)	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor-car parts	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Motor-car parts (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor-car tyres and tubes	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	3*d.* per gal.	5*d.* per gal.
Meats—beef and pork ...	6*s.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	9*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 3*d.* per gal.
Metals—all kinds	12 per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter	10*s.* 5*d.* per 100 lb.	25*s.* per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes... ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1*s.* and under per yard).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1*s.* per yard).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent. preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1935 was £4,802.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon is imposed on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £1,384 in 1935; the summary of the rates is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof ...		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or for otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for ...			6
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof ...		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds—not exceeding £1			1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10 ...			2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25 ...			3
For each additional £25 or part thereof ...			3
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100 ...		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof ...		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25 ...		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50 ...		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof ...		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Shipping bill			1½

Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof ...	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property, for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards ...			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof ...		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax is levied of two shillings per acre or part thereof on land in St. Vincent, and of three pence to one shilling per acre or part thereof on land in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A graduated tax of from two shillings on houses of which the annual rental value exceeds £2 and does not exceed £5, to £4 per cent. on houses of an assessed rental value exceeding £20, is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent and in Union Island. No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £5,758.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of one shilling on amounts not exceeding £1 and five per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

Water Tax in Country Districts.

Certain districts outside of the limits of the various towns have been provided with pipe-borne water supplies. The boundaries of these districts are prescribed by Order in Council and a graduated tax is levied on all houses situated within such a district.

A house of which the assessed annual rental does not exceed £2 10s. 0d. is taxed 6d., a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeds £2 10s. 0d. but does not exceed £5 is taxed 1s., and a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeds £5 is taxed 2s.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands.—The revenue collected during the year from sales and leases of Crown Lands amounted to £753 13s. 1d. and the arrears stood at £1,065 14s. 5d. as compared with £984 3s. 0d. in the year 1934. This increase in arrears despite the efforts made to collect rent, etc., is proof of the economic depression throughout the Colony.

Surveys.—Eleven surveys were carried out by the Crown Surveyor and none by surveyors in private practice.

Three Rivers Land Settlement Scheme.—The Three Rivers Estate, comprising about 627 acres of land, was purchased by Government in 1932 and divided into 132 allotments for land settlement purposes. The sum of £1,858 19s. 8d., which includes deposits on new purchases and instalments on lots, was realized. The receipts in 1935 totalled £821 12s. 8d. At the end of 1935, 19 plots equal to an area of approximately 92 acres still remained unsold of which 11 lots equal to 39 acres are reserved allotments. The purchase of allotments was facilitated during the year by the extension of the period of purchase from 10 to 20 years.

An agricultural Credit Society was formed in 1934 in connection with the settlement scheme. No loan was made to the Society in 1935 but a loan will probably be made by Government in 1936 with interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. which the Society will lend to its members at 6 per cent.

The Three Rivers Estate Arrowroot and Syrup Works owned by Government are leased to the Society at a peppercorn rental for co-operative use by members. A satisfactory working profit was shown by the end of the year.

The Ordinance now in force requires members borrowing money from a Society to charge their crops or other property as securities.

Civil Disturbances.—On the 21st October disorders occurred, resulting in the destruction of property, looting of stores and other acts of violence by irresponsible persons. In consequence, it became necessary to read the Riot Act, declare a state of emergency and take all possible measures to restore law and order.

During the disturbances H.M.S. *Challenger* arrived and the Captain's prompt action in sending a landing party ashore helped to re-establish confidence among the inhabitants.

Visits of His Majesty's Ships.—His Majesty's Ship *York* visited the Colony in January 1935. Through the courtesy of the Captain and Officers the Administrator was enabled to fly over the St. Vincent Grenadines and round the headquarters island.

In February 1935 His Majesty's Ships *Nelson*, *Orion* and other units of the Home Fleet visited the Island.

The U.S.S. tender *Lapwing* with a squadron of seaplanes also visited the Colony in January 1935.

Official.—His Excellency Sir Selwyn Grier, C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, was in the Colony for the following periods during the year: from 5th to 26th June; 17th to 31st October; and 15th to 19th November.

His Honour A. F. Grimble, C.M.G., Administrator, was on short leave from 7th to 22nd August 1935. During his absence the Government was administered by the Honourable C. C. Ross, Attorney-General.

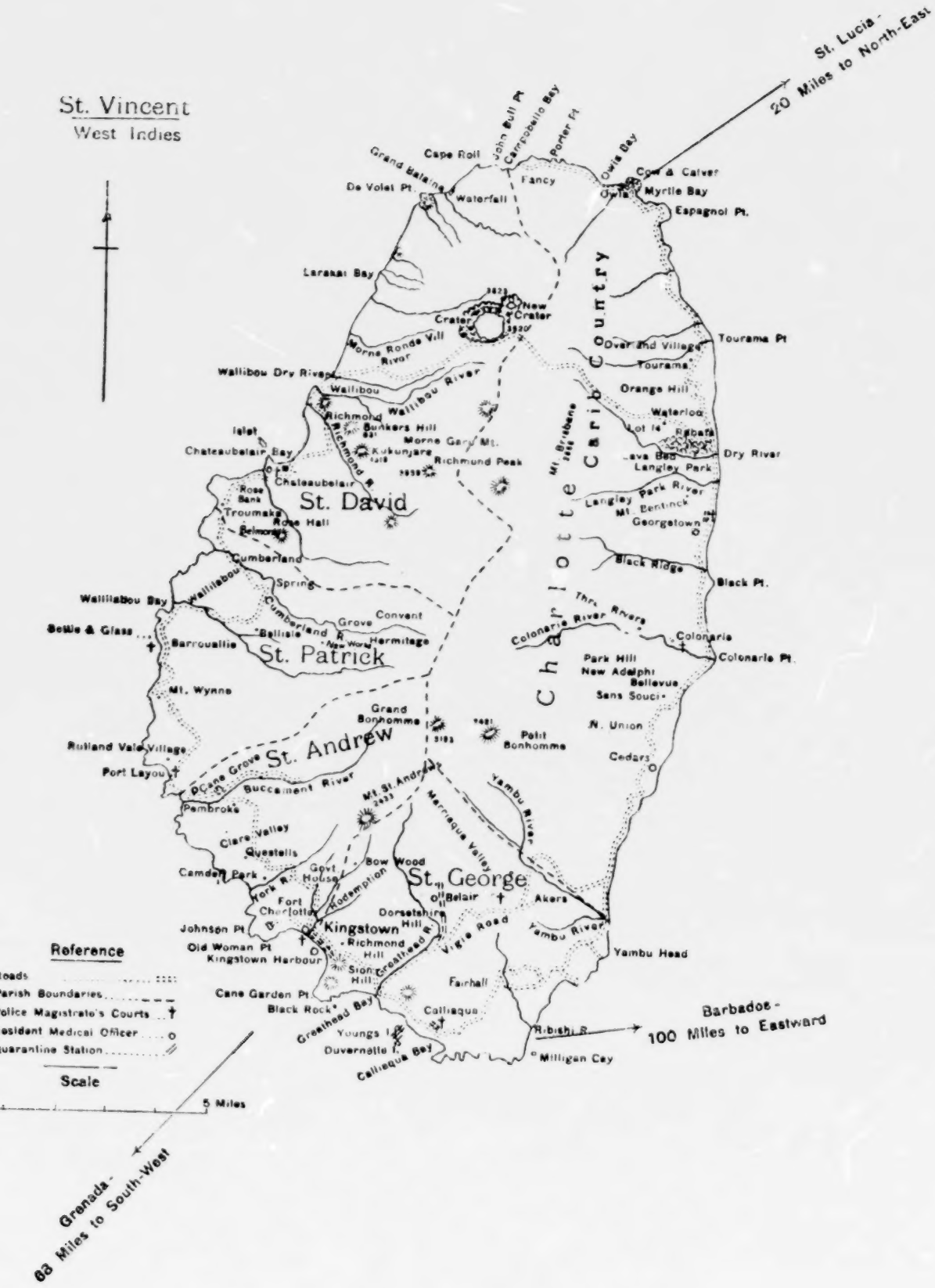
Electricity.—Kingstown and environs are lighted by electricity generated by a modern and up to date Diesel plant of 130 kilowatts capacity generating at 230-400 volts A.C. three phase 50 cycles.

A refrigerating plant is also run as an adjunct with the Electricity Department.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Title of Publication.		*Price.*		*Agent for Sale.*
		s.	d.	
St. Vincent Blue Book		10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do.	Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do.	Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.



(19—48) Wt. 2076—3685 625 9/36 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).
Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).
East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).
Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1759

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1761

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1935

(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see Nos. 1693 and 1743 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1936

Price 1s. 3d. net

PRINTED AND
PUBLISHED IN
GREAT BRITAIN

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1932.
[Colonial No. 95.] £1 5*s*. (£1 5*s*. 9*d*.).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.
[Colonial No. 97.] (3 volumes.)
Part I—Africa. 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.)
Part II—Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)
Part III—West Indies. 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.)

COLONIAL REGULATIONS.
Regulations for His Majesty's Colonial Service.
Part I—Public Officers. [Colonial No. 88–1.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Part II—Public Business. [Colonial No. 88–2] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 4*d*.).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST.
1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).
Supplement to 1st Edition, 1st January, 1934.
[Colonial No. 92.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL SERVICE.
Report of Committee on Leave and Passage Conditions for the Colonial Service. [Cmd. 4730.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Fifth Annual Report covering the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. [Cmd. 4634.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).

EMPIRE SURVEY.
Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1931.
[Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932.
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements.
[Cmd. 4174.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

NEWFOUNDLAND.
Report of Royal Commission, with Appendices and Maps.
[Cmd. 4480.] 5*s*. 6*d*. (5*s*. 11*d*.).
Papers relating to the Report. [Cmd. 4479.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s*. (6*s*. 5*d*.).
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit to East Africa, 1929. [Cmd. 3378.] 9*d*. (10*d*.).
Report of Joint Select Committee. H.C. 156.
Vol. I—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.).
Vol. II—Minutes and Evidence ... £1 10*s*. (£1 10*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III—Appendices ... ... 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 11*d*.).

KENYA LAND COMMISSION.
Report, September, 1933. [Cmd. 4556.] 11*s*. (11*s*. 9*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91.]
Vol. I ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. II ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Vol. III ... ... £2 (£2 0*s*. 9*d*.).
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government.
[Cmd. 4580.] 2*d*. (2½*d*.).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA.
Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda, and the Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters.
[Cmd. 4623.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 96.] £1 (£1 0*s*. 6*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1935

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	6
VII.	Commerce	10
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	13
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	13
X.	Communications and Transport	15
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	16
XII.	Public Works	17
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.	Miscellaneous	23
	Appendix	24
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 19,915.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain a population of 7,146. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1935 was 82·5° F. in the shade. The maximum was 91° F. and the minimum 62° F., a range of 29° F. The hot season extended from April to October, and the cool season from November to March. The hurricane season was bare of incident, and as usual over a long period of years, the periodical revolving storms had no serious local effect.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1935, was 81·79 inches. This was 15·44 inches above that of the previous year which was the lowest on record, and 8·93 inches below the average rainfall for 46 years (1890-1935), the average now being 90·74 inches per annum.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on 17th August when a relatively low fall of 2·24 inches was recorded, being the same maximum as for the previous year. The highest maximum precipitation for the Colony in general was 8 inches recorded on 11th January. Otherwise the distribution of rain was more generally normal than for the previous year.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs, and continued in their possession till 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663, Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession till the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, D'Orleans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrees, and in 1722 the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island, and it was declared neutral.

In 1744, the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained till the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence ; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French till 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782, Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay, in St. Lucia, with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse, when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops, 12,000 strong, under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia, and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms, and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens ; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 21st March 1924, which came into operation on 1st December 1924, a partly elective Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of six *ex-officio* members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. On 12th February 1931 that Order in Council was

amended to provide that the Council should consist of three *ex-officio* members, three nominated official members, three nominated unofficial members, and three elected members. This island is divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. The first election under this Constitution was held in March, 1925.

Arising out of the Report of the Closer Union Commission important constitutional changes are contemplated and will probably take place during 1936.

III.—POPULATION.

On 31st December 1934 the resident population of the Colony was computed at 63,804—males 30,572 ; females 33,232. By 31st December, 1935, the figure had increased to 64,959—males 31,132 ; females 33,827. The natural increase during 1935 was 1,040. The number of persons arriving in the Colony exceeded the number of departures by 115. The net increase in population was therefore 1,155.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 278.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 113) totalled 2,185—males 1,108 ; females 1,077. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 31·8 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 1·0 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,145—males 548 ; females 597. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 15·8 per thousand of the population—an increase of 1·4 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were :—malaria, 82 ; syphilis, 36 ; diseases of the heart, 30 ; bronchitis, 36 ; pneumonia, 21 ; gastro-enteritis, 54 ; infantile debility, 60 ; senile decay, 100 ; accidental drowning, 45 (owing to the *St. George* disaster off the coast of Laborie on 23rd February 1935, when she capsized and 42 people lost their lives) ; heart failure, 92 ; debility, 32.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout the year. There were eighteen cases of enteric fever and none of dysentery notified.

In the country districts there was an increase in the incidence of malarial fever during the year. In Castries, however, and its surroundings, comparatively few cases of this disease were seen. Throughout the year the sanitary staff carried out repeated oiling of ravines and pools and a large swamp in the Dennery district was obliterated by drainage.

There was a small outbreak of measles among school children during the early part of the year, but this epidemic was localized in two country villages.

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer, who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Sanitary Departments; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital and five District Medical Officers. The Medical Officer of District I is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital situated in close proximity to the town of Castries; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere; and a pauper asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

Several additions have been made to the number of new stores and general shops which have been erected since 1933, mainly in concrete, or concrete and wood. These have much improved the appearance of the business section of the town of Castries. The installation of electric light by the Castries Town Board has ameliorated living conditions considerably. Thirty-seven model cottages have been erected on the reclamation land in Castries and this has led to a marked improvement in the locality. This is increasingly reflected in the better type of private cottage now replacing the earlier wooden hut usually erected in the town area.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The staple crops of St. Lucia are sugar, cocoa, copra, and limes; but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e. bananas, oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples, for the Bermuda, American, Canadian and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory, at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory, usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The total crop production for 1935 was 7,285·9 tons of first and second sugars, of which 6,080 tons were exported. This compares very favourably with production for the previous year as given below, and constitutes a record. The production of molasses and syrup was also increased considerably, 256,900 gallons being made as against 194,000 gallons in 1934. There was again some difficulty in disposing of these products. A proportion of the molasses was utilized for the manufacture of rum for local use, and a considerable quantity still remained unsold at the end of the year. There was also no export trade in rum.

The weather was generally favourable throughout the year, and no serious floods occurred. The crop for 1936 is in a very promising condition.

The total cane area is now approximately 4,600 acres, due to some re-establishment of the Dennery cane fields.

The average price for sugar showed a reduction of 7*s.* per ton on last year's prices and ranged from 8*s.* 0½*d.* in February to 8*s.* 10¼*d.* per cwt. c.i.f. raw preferential 96° in December.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1931	3,973	35,554
1932	4,990	46,466
1933	4,940	46,493
1934	4,730	39,396
1935	6,080	48,377

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gal.	*Value.* £
1931	24,837	1,194
1932	32,988	1,453
1933	43,260	1,417
1934	23,080	1,431
1935	169,003	2,401

Cacao.—The cacao market remained depressed generally throughout the year, and a reduction in area further accounts for the continued restriction, and the loss of importance of this once valuable crop. Exports were reduced to 5,603 cwt. valued at £6,042, consigned to Canada, the United Kingdom and Trinidad. More interest was shown by the Canadian market. Quotations ranged from 30*s.* 4*d.* to 34*s.* 4*d.* per cwt. c.i.f. London, the Canadian price being approximately 26*s.* c.i.f.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1931	10,419	14,125
1932	8,188	9,091
1933	6,056	6,778
1934	6,349	6,032
1935	5,603	6,042

Limes.—The exported lime crop of the Colony from January to December 1935, estimated in barrels of limes, amounted to 38,189 barrels valued at £21,124 as compared with 43,705 barrels valued at £21,582 in 1934. This decrease is to some extent due to spells of wet weather, the destructive effects of red-root disease, and die-back brought about by the citrus weevil *Diaprepes*. To this estimate of crop has to be added a quantity of lime oil which has not yet been shipped.

The export of concentrated juice decreased owing to low prices for this product. A large volume of trade was done in raw lime juice, 29,613 gallons valued at £854 being exported. The production of distilled lime oil was again the principal feature of the crop, the quantity made being 10,261 lb. valued at £9,673, as against 12,618 lb. for the previous year valued at £12,275. The market prices were stable, due largely to the co-operative shipments of oils, and remained at 22*s.* 6*d.* per lb. c.i.f. Hand-pressed oil was in demand, 1,501 lb. being exported, valued at £2,517, as compared with 1,251 lb. in 1934 valued at £1,868. Quotations ranged from 32*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.* per lb. c.i.f.

The crops for the last five years in barrels of limes are :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1931	50,339
1932	44,762
1933	44,019
1934	45,000
1935	38,189

Coconuts.—This crop has now assumed the position of third staple industry, largely through the increased value of nuts shipped, the total quantity exported being 2,814,965 nuts valued at £7,632, as against 2,616,175 nuts valued at £7,298 in 1934.

The copra trade was concurrently less active, quotations being low until September onwards, when there was a marked improvement from £9 per ton to £14 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton c.i.f. The copra exported amounted to 215 tons valued at £1,871.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1931	367,350	1,178
1932	650,240	2,430
1933	1,199,808	3,527
1934	2,616,175	7,298
1935	2,814,965	7,632

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1931	498	5,869
1932	432	5,389
1933	542	5,167
1934	302	2,592
1935	215	1,871

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of choice vegetables and salads such as cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce and carrots has continued mainly for local supply, and there has been no export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has, however, maintained its position and in several respects has markedly improved, the principal exports being green limes in crates and barrels, crated mangoes, crated avocado pears, and bananas.

The exports of bananas increased from 18,377 bunches valued at £1,499 to 60,439 bunches valued at £5,209. The Banana Association continued to function satisfactorily, and paid 50c. per count bunch at the wharf.

There was also some improvement in the mango export trade, and experimental shipments in cold storage were made to London. These gave a satisfactory return.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £17,426 as compared with £12,308 in 1934 and is shown in detail below :—

Article.	*Quantity exported to*						*Value.*	
	Canada.	Bermuda.	U.K.	U.S.A.	Other places.	Total.	1934.	1935.
							£	£
Green limes Brls.	452	915	131	5,113	8	6,619	7,010	8,035
Grapefruit Crates	71	45	1	—	5	122	13	35
Oranges ,,	12	90	—	—	161	263	92	91
Mangoes ,,	334	3,372	465	—	2,385	6,556	1,372	1,567
Avocado pears ,,	2	3,850	1	2	2	3,857	389	709
Pineapples ,,	—	13	—	—	—	13	16	3
Bananas Bunches	59,894	—	—	—	545	60,439	1,499	5,209
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,917	1,777
Total... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,308	17,426

A total of 75,142 packages of fruit, including 59,894 bunches of bananas, was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 39,521 in 1934.

Under the Colonial Development Fund Act, 1929, a grant of £1,480 was made in 1930 for the supply of planting material to peasants, the topworking of common mangoes to produce choice fruit, and the purchase of farm animals for breeding. This work has been completed.

Farm Stock.—Extensive use has been made of the Government breeding bulls and boars for services, and interest in better breeds of cattle and small animals is being stimulated. Continued importations of day-old chicks has resulted in the introduction and establishment of the more important laying and table breeds for domestic and market purposes.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1935, and as compared with 1934, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1935.	1934.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	58,319	57,770
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	41,881	23,637
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	95,873	88,029
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles.	55	3
Totals	£196,128	£169,439

The above table shows an increase of £26,689 in the total value of imports for 1935 as compared with the previous year, made up as follows :—Class I, £549, Class II, £18,244, Class III, £7,844 and Class IV, £52.

The values of imports for 1935 and 1934, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1935.	1934.
	£	£
United Kingdom	120,337	93,059
Other parts of the British Empire	46,980	48,864
Foreign Countries	28,811	27,516
Totals	£196,128	£169,439

The value of imports from the United Kingdom increased by £27,278, whereas that from other parts of the British Empire suffered a setback of £1,884.

Imports from foreign countries increased by £1,295.

The value of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1935 and 1934 was as follows :—

Article.	1935.	1934.
	£	£
Coal, bituminous	38,934	21,251
Cotton piece-goods	16,070	14,320
Fish, salted and pickled ...	6,695	4,702
Flour, wheaten	16,795	19,798
Machinery, sugar	7,750	3,000
Oil, edible	5,611	4,766
Totals	£91,855	£67,837

Exports.

The values of exports in 1935, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1935.	1934.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	83,905	68,502
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	8,104	8,171
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	17,157	18,553
IV. Miscellaneous	250	509
V. Bullion and Specie	2,330	6,324
Totals	£111,746	£102,059

There was an increase of £9,687 in the total value of exports for 1935 as compared with the previous year. An increase occurred in Class I only.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

Article.	1935. £	1934. £
Cocoa	6,042	6,032
Limes and lime products ...	21,124	21,852
Fancy syrup and molasses ...	1,380	1,431
Sugar	48,377	39,396
Copra	1,871	2,592
Charcoal...	3,367	4,486
Coconuts	7,632	7,298
Bananas	5,209	1,499
Other fresh fruits	4,104	3,802

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.	£	*Total.* 1935. £	*Total.* 1934. £
United Kingdom—			
Domestic exports	21,146		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	499	21,645	30,375
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic exports	64,322		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	5,260	69,582	43,128
Foreign countries—			
Domestic exports	17,764		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie).	425	18,189	22,232
Totals ...		...£109,416	£95,735

The values of supplies to ships during the last two years were as follows :—

	1935. £	1934. £
Bunker coal	41,590	30,885
Ships' stores	1,457	1,042
	£43,047	£31,927

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which exceptional facilities exist for quick despatch to steamers calling for bunkers, showed an increase over that of 1934; 149 steamers took 35,142 tons of coal, as compared with 25,670 tons taken by 76 steamers in 1934.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual and artisan—have been maintained during 1934, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Manual	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Semi-skilled	1*s.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Skilled	3*s.* to 5*s.*	2*s.* to 3*s.*

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10*s.* and 16*s.* for housemaids and yard boys, 15*s.* to 20*s.* for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10*s.* per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows:—

Beef, fresh	7*d.* per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8*d.* per lb.
Pork, fresh...	8*d.* per lb.
Chicken	6*d.* per lb.
Fish, fresh	5*d.* per lb.
Eggs	9*d.* per dozen.
Milk	2*d.* per bottle.
Potatoes	2*d.* per lb.
Rice	2½*d.* per lb.
Butter	1*s.* 10*d.* per lb.
Sugar	2*d.* per lb.
Bread	2*d.* per lb.
Flour	2½*d.* per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 47 recognized Primary Schools in the Colony. None of these are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of head teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant.

During 1935, the Government paid a total of £5,095 6*s.* to the school managers for salaries; to this sum the total amount added by the managers was £40 7*s.* 10*d.* The school buildings (the estimated annual rental value of which is £1,511 7*s.* 6*d.*) are the property of the churches, who spent, during 1935, £675 15*s.* 9*d.* on repairs and furniture for them, Government making building grants-in-aid of £25.

Elementary agriculture is taught, and gardens are attached to most schools. The Agricultural Department supervises this work, and the standard is reasonably high. The Government distributed garden implements to the value of £25 to the schools during the year.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee to which the Government nominates three of the five members; and St. Joseph's Convent for girls, managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to 12 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools, and five for the girls at St. Joseph's Convent.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1935, St. Mary's College received £450, and St. Joseph's Convent £175. In addition the Government makes maintenance and book grants to scholarship holders, amounting in 1935 to £38 8*s.* 10*d.*

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination (First Division).

Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available, but owing to the lack of facilities for the study of science in the secondary schools, these scholarships are seldom sought.

Child Welfare.

As in previous years the Child Welfare Association carried on its much appreciated work with Mrs. Baynes as President, and Mrs. F. Floissac, M.B.E., as Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association, which is not subsidized by the Government, is maintained by contributions of money and kind by the public.

The Government, however, provides medicines, etc., free of charge, and during the year appointed a trained nurse to help the clinic.

Medical Officers give their services voluntarily to the clinics which are held twice weekly.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia ; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football and cricket are the favourite games but regular competition is confined entirely to the capital, though there are cricket matches at rare intervals between the districts.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,458, of a total tonnage of 2,236,007 tons. Of this number 843 were steamships and 615 sailing vessels.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means :—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness Withy Company.

(4) Communication with Canada, the United States of America and most of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Company and the American Caribbean Line, respectively.

(5) A four-weekly service direct to London by steamers of the Harrison Line and by the Booker Line, respectively.

(6) The former seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports *en route*, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated was discontinued in November 1935.

Post Office.—In addition to the General Post Office there are nine sub post offices in the country districts, four of which are also money order offices. Inland mails are regularly despatched by land and sea routes. Mails are sent by all the steamers of the lines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Roads.

The internal communications of the island are maintained by a system of roads, pack roads and tracks, which are divided into three classes as follows:—

Main roads		128 miles.
By-ways:—		
Maintained by the Public Works Department	33	148 ,,
Maintained by Road Boards	115	
Unclassified roads		75 ,,

Main Roads.—Of the total mileage of main roads only about 92 miles are motorable, the remainder being only suitable for horses and pedestrians.

By-ways.—Some 60 miles of these can be negotiated by motor vehicles.

Unclassified Roads.—Some 40 miles of these can be used by motor vehicles.

The classification of roads was drawn up many years ago and is now obsolete.

The reclassification of the Island's internal communication is now under consideration.

Motor-boat Service.

There is a coastal motor-boat service along the western, or leeward, coast of the Island. This service is operated by private concerns.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, associated companies of Cable and Wireless Limited.

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained entirely by the Government, and consists of nine exchanges situated in towns and villages. One hundred and sixteen miles of trunk lines connect these exchanges, and 434 miles of branch lines serve subscribers.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the Island. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia, but land quantities are frequently expressed in a local unit of measurement known as a *carré* equal to about three acres, 32 perches.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the harbour, the telephone system and the control of the Crown lands. The Government unallocated stores are also attached to this Department. The Government Workshop in which artisans of most trades are employed, is also a useful adjunct.

The expenditure for the year was :—	£
Personal emoluments and other charges	3,405
Annually recurrent	9,378
Extraordinary	1,204

No new construction work of any magnitude was carried out.

A few minor items were, the construction of the nurses' quarters at the Pauper Asylum, £229 ; two bridges, £400 ; part construction of a wharf in ferro-concrete, £156 ; electrifying Victoria Hospital, £111.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

In criminal cases tried in the Royal Court facts are decided upon by a jury of 12 as in England.

For magisterial cases the Island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the Island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, who also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

The total number of cases heard and of persons convicted of various crimes in the Colony over a period of five years is as follows :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Magistrate's Courts (Cases heard)	1,807	1,657	1,826	1,755	1,551
Magistrate's Courts (Convictions)	1,287	1,132	1,326	1,239	1,154
Royal Court (Convictions)	14	22	14	13	6

The following table shows the number of offences dealt with by the Magistrates in 1935 as compared with 1934. It is satisfactory to note that there were 204 less cases than in 1934.

	1934.	1935.
Offences against the person, including homicide...	292	362
Praedial larceny	206	147
Offences against property other than praedial ...	203	215
Other offences	1,054	827
Total number of offences reported...	1,755	1,551

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council passed 17 Ordinances including two Appropriation Ordinances. The more important Ordinances were as follows :—

The Customs Duties Amendment Ordnance, 1935, providing, *inter alia*, for an extension of duty free privilege in the case of Boy Scouts ;

The Animal Disease Ordinance, 1934, providing against the importation of diseased animals into the Colony; The Criminal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1935, providing when intoxication shall be a defence in criminal charges; The Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, 1935, empowering the Governor in Council to fix a minimum wage for particular industries in the Colony; The Colonial Currency Note (Winding-up) Ordinance, 1935, providing for the winding up of the Government note issue circulating in the Colony; The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1935, limiting the time during which claims for relief from double income tax taxation may be established, and providing for exemption in certain circumstances; The Legislative Council (Elected Members) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1935, enabling preparation of new register at any time; The Banana Cess Ordinance, 1935, providing for the collection of a cess of 1d. per bunch or part thereof on bananas exported; The British Colonial and Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance, 1935, setting up a procedure for the enforcement of Imperial and foreign judgments in the Colony; The Castries Town Board (Amendment) Ordinance, 1935, providing for equal electoral and representative rights to women and giving a right of appeal against assessments.

There were a number of Statutory Rules and Orders issued dealing chiefly with administrative routine and the carrying out of the details of the provisions of various statutes. Royal Orders in Council were issued including, *inter alia*, Royal Orders relating to the extension of the duration of the Legislative Council of the Colony; the imposition of sanctions against Italy.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Local Revenue.*	*Total Revenue including Imperial Grants.*	*Local Expenditure.*	*Total Expenditure including Development Scheme.*
	£	£	£	£
1931	70,740	98,902	87,867	103,893
1932	79,713	130,207	79,626	96,278
1933	72,569	92,816	81,002	94,732
1934	75,229	85,079	84,532	90,953
1935	79,872	96,146	86,000	87,959

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £118,609 10*s.* 5*d.* at the close of the year while the accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption amounted to £13,354 4*s.*

The Imperial grants received have been as follows:—

Year.	*In aid of Administration.*	*For Colonial Development.*	*Reparation Receipt.*
	£	£	£
1931	7,700	20,462	—
1932	35,300	15,194	3,956
1933	2,500	17,747	—
1934	8,000	1,850	—
1935	14,000	2,274	—

The assets of the Colony at 31st December 1935, amounting to £37,565 0*s.* 7*d.*, were made up as follows :—

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—		
In hands of Treasurer	209 8 4	
,, ,, Sub-Accountants...	307 10 2	
,, ,, Crown Agents	438 3 8	
At Barclays Bank (Current Account)... ...	2,396 18 0	
		3,352 0 2
Investments—		
On account of Savings Bank	18,810 1 3	
,, ,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,633 0 7	
,, ,, Baron Trust Fund	108 0 2	
,, ,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	104 4 4	
,, ,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	148 6 2	
,, ,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	896 7 8	
,, ,, Castries Town Board Building Fund	286 2 10	
		21,986 3 0
Loans—		
Castries Town Board for Streets (from Public Buildings Insurance Fund)	2,250 0 0	
,, ,, ,, for Cemetery	67 14 5	
,, Water Authority for Waterworks ...	200 0 0	
Village of Dennery for Waterworks	160 0 0	
,, Choiseul for Market, etc.	15 0 0	
,, Canaries for River-wall	48 0 0	
Town of Soufriere for Market, etc.	192 0 0	
,, Vieux-fort for Sea-wall	176 0 0	
		3,108 14 5
Advances—		
Micoud Village Fund	236 15 3	
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	101 17 3	
Choiseul Village Fund	95 11 3	
Packing and Crate Suspense Account	156 1 1	
Post Office Account	1,354 19 6	
Colonial Development Fund Grants, etc., Account	219 9 8	
Other Advances	1,103 6 10	
		3,268 0 10
Joint Colonial Fund		2,500 0 0
Stores—		
Public Works Materials and Stores	2,768 14 10	
Colony Drug Store	581 7 4	
		3,350 2 2
Total Assets ...		£37,565 0 7

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December 1935, amounting to £31,041 4*s.* 8*d.*, were as follows :—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits—		
Savings Bank Depositors	20,057 0 9	
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account	140 9 5	
Sundry Deposits Account	489 6 4	
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	1,130 6 4	
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	104 4 4	
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	148 6 2	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,759 9 7	
Police Recreation Fund	12 4 5	
Police Fines Fund	7 13 4	
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	160 18 6	
Model Cottages Fund	241 14 6	
Note Guarantee Fund	126 10 0	
Castries Town Board Building Fund	286 2 10	
Purchase of "Old" Barclays Bank Building...	1,500 0 0	
Deposit on account of Savings Bank at Barclays Bank	2 0 0	
Castries Electric Lights Fund	32 11 0	
		26,198 17 6
Special Funds—		
Towns and Villages	935 17 6	
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account	288 6 2	
Castries Waterworks Reconstruction Loan Account	144 7 7	
Castries Town Fund	2,871 5 9	
Castries Town Board Electric Light Loan Account...	11 4 11	
		4,251 1 11
St. Vincent Intercolonial Account		122 15 4
Grenada Intercolonial Account		406 0 11
Drafts and Remittances Account		62 9 0
Total Liabilities		£31,041 4 8

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following Schedule :—

For every pound of the first £100	4*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, next £200	6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £300	1*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £400	1*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	2*s.* 3*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3*s.* 9*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	4*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, £500	5*s.* 6*d.*
,, ,, ,, of the rest of the chargeable income	5*s.* 6*d.*

A temporary surcharge of 12½ per cent. imposed is still in force.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax

is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows:—

Of an annual rental of:

Over £5 and not over £7 10*s*.	7*s*. 6*d*.
,, £7 10*s*. and not over £10	10*s*.
,, £10 and not over £12 10*s*.	15*s*.
,, £12 10*s*. and not over £15	20*s*.
,, £15 and not over £20	28*s*.
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed rental value.	

In the case of towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed 8 per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is import duty. There is a preferential tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an excise duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an export duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1934 and 1935 was as follows:—

	1934.	1935.
	£	£
Import duties	40,925	42,281
Export duties	1,936	1,880
Port, harbour, etc., dues	1,903	2,665
Spirit licences	801	805
Distillery licences	162	163
Animals, vehicles and guns	678	770
Petroleum, cocoa, boats, etc.	713	791
Excise duty on rum	6,338	6,899
Trade duty on spirits	3,004	3,314
Stamp duty	1,140	1,713
Income tax	2,994	2,732
Succession duty	1,426	88
Rural house tax	794	1,015

The following temporary taxes remain in force:—

(1) the imposition of a temporary levy according to the subjoined schedule upon the emoluments of every public officer provided that such emoluments are not less than £50

per annum and provided that the total amount of the levy does not exceed 10 per cent. of the annual emoluments :—

On every pound of the first £50 or part thereof							...	1½*d.*
,,	,,	,,	next £50		,,	,,	...	3*d.*
,,	,,	,,	,,	£50	,,	,,	...	4½*d.*
,,	,,	,,	,,	£50	,,	,,	...	6*d.*
,,	,,	,,	,,	£100	,,	,,	...	9*d.*
,,	,,	,,	,,	£100	,,	,,	...	1*s.*
,,	,,	,,	,,	£100	,,	,,	...	1*s.* 3*d.*
,,	,,	,,	,,	£500	...	...	...	1*s.* 6*d.*

(Ordinance No. 2 of 1934) ; and

(2) an increase of the income-tax by 12½ per cent., exempting from income-tax the amount of any levy made on the emoluments of Government officials and exempting from such increase of income-tax the balance of such emoluments after deduction of levy (Ordinance No. 4 of 1934).

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Selwyn McGregor Grier, C.M.G., arrived at Grenada on 20th February 1935, and that day assumed the administration of the Government of the Windward Islands. His Excellency visited the Colony on 22nd February 1935.

Sir Charles W. Doorly, C.B.E., Administrator of the Colony left on vacation leave of absence on the 20th February 1935, prior to retirement, and Mr. G. H. Frith, Treasurer, assumed the administration of the Government of the Colony pending the arrival in July 1935 of Mr. E. W. Baynes, C.B.E., late Colonial Secretary, Leeward Islands, who was appointed to succeed Sir C. Doorly.

The Jubilee of His late Majesty King George the Fifth was celebrated throughout the Colony on 6th May 1935 with great loyalty and enthusiasm.

The Governor visited the Colony on three occasions during the year.

The following British ships of war visited the Colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *York* and *Guardian* in January.

H.M.S. *Achilles*, *Valiant*, *Neptune*, *Echo*, *Eclipse*, *Encounter*, *Escapade*, *Guardian*, *Escort*, *Esk*, *Scarborough* and *Frobisher* in February.

H.M.S. *Ajax* in August.

H.M.S. *Challenger* and *Dundee* in November.

H.M.S. *Dundee* in December.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

(a) *Official or Semi-Official Publications.*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
Saint Lucia Gazette	—	St. Lucia Government Printing Office.	Fortnightly	12*s.* per annum, 6*d.* per copy.
Saint Lucia Blue Book	—	Do.	Annually	10*s.*
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia (Cmd. 3996).	—	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1932	2*s.*
West India Sugar Commission Report 1929 (Cmd. 3517).	—	Do.	1930	2*s.*
Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands. Report of a Commission appointed to consider Problems of Primary Education (Colonial No. 79).	—	Do.	1933	2*s.*
Year Book of the West Indies	—	Thomas Skinner & Co., London.	Annually	7*s.* 6*d.*
The West India Committee Circular ...	—	The West India Committee, London.	Fortnightly	2 guineas per annum.
Government of the West Indies ...	Hume Wrong	Clarendon Press	1923	—
Historical Geography of the British Colonies, Vol. II, West Indies.	Sir C. P. Lucas	Clarendon Press	1905	7*s.* 6*d.*
History, Resources, and Progress of British West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall	Pitman	1912	7*s.* 6*d.*
Pocket Guide to the West Indies ...	Sir A. Aspinall	Sifton Praed & Co., Ltd.	1931	10*s.* 6*d.*
Handbook of the West Indies	Sir A. Aspinall	West India Committee ...	1929	5*s.* 6*d.*

(b) *Descriptive Publications.*

English in the West Indies	J. A. Froude	Longman, Green & Co. ...	1888	18*s.*
Cradle of the Deep	Sir Frederick Treves ...	Smith, Elder & Co. ...	1908	12*s.*
A Wayfarer in the West Indies	Sir A. Aspinall	West India Committee ...	1928	8*s.*

(c) *Historical Publications.*

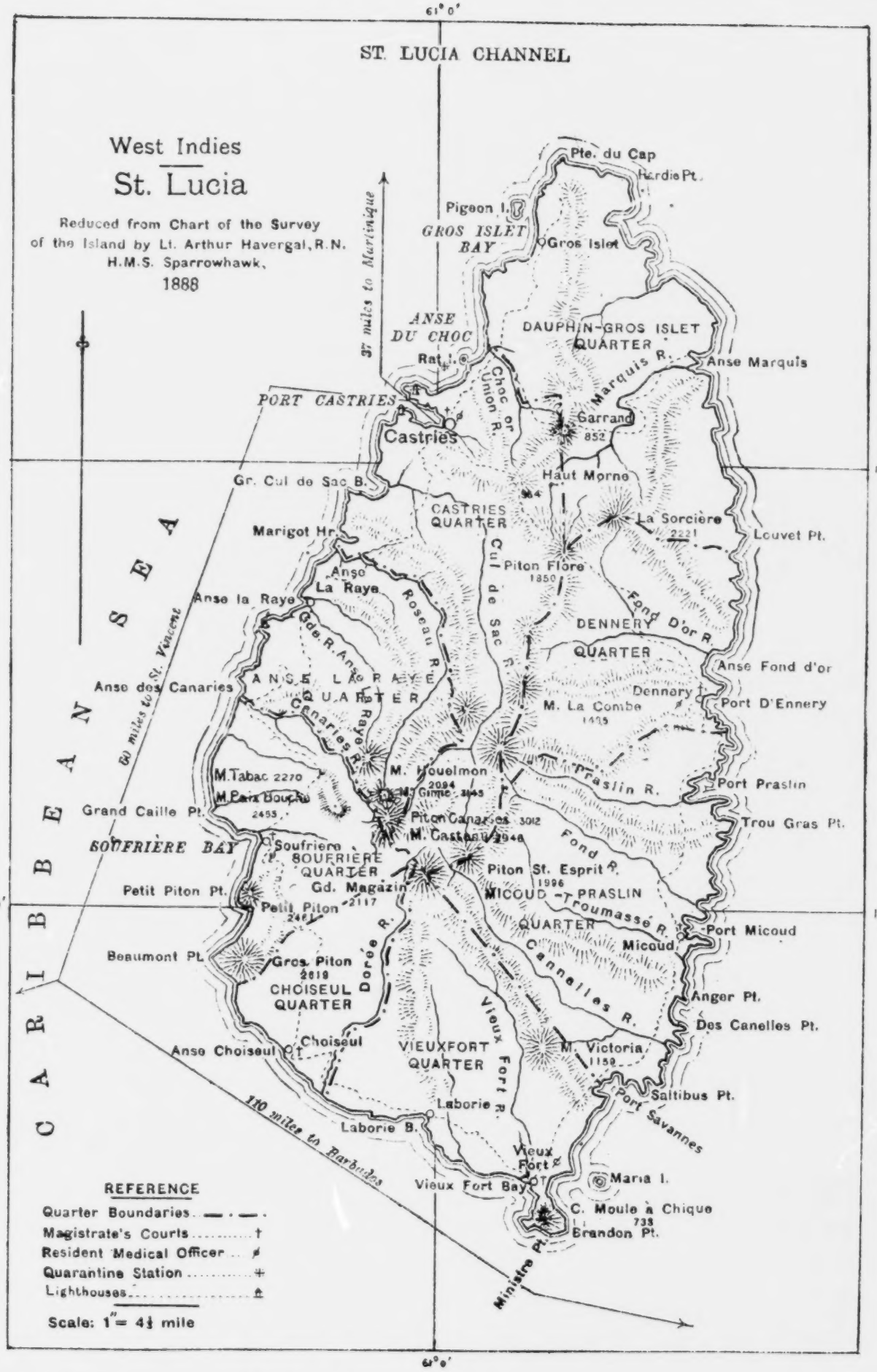
St. Lucia: Historical, Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen	Longman Green, London	—	—
Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794.	Willyams	T. Bensley, London ...	1796	—
Chronological History of the West Indies.	Captain Thomas Southey	Longman Rees; Orme Brown & Green.	1827	—
History of British Colonies in the West Indies.	Bryan Edwards	John Stockdale	1793	—
History of Caribee Islands	De Rochefort (translated by J. Davis).	—	1666	—
Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique	J. B. Labat	Husson and others, La Haye.	1742	—
Pere Labat (1693–1705), Memoirs of ...	(Translated by John Eaden.)	Constable & Co.	1931	7*s.* 6*d.*
The West Indies in 1837	Sturges and Harvey ...	Hamilton	1838	8*s.* 6*d.*
West Indian Tales of Old...	Sir A. Aspinall	Duckworth	1912	8*s.*

(d) *Scientific Publication.*

Obeah	H. J. Bell	Sampson Low	1889	2*s.* 6*d.*

(e) *Fiction.*

A West Indian Pepper-Pot	Sir Reginald St. Johnston, K.C.M.G.	Philip Alan Co.	1928	10*s.* 6*d.*



(37803—48) Wt. 2047—3686 625 9/36 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 8*d*.)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 11*d*.).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s*. (5*s*. 9*d*.).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s*. (4*s*. 4*d*.).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s*. 6*d*. (1*s*. 7*d*.).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 8*d*.).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s*. 6*d*. (3*s*. 9*d*.).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s*. 6*d*. (2*s*. 9*d*.).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s*. 3*d*. (1*s*. 5*d*.).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 1*d*.).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s*. 6*d*. (4*s*. 10*d*.).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 2*d*.).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s*. (3*s*. 3*d*.).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s*. (2*s*. 3*d*.).

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON: Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2;
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street; MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street;
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent; BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street;
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
CYPRUS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.
FIJI.
GAMBIA.
GIBRALTAR.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.
GOLD COAST.
GRENADA.
HONG KONG.
JAMAICA.
JOHORE.
KEDAH AND PERLIS.
KELANTAN.
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.
LEEWARD ISLANDS.
MAURITIUS.
NEW HEBRIDES.
NIGERIA.
NORTHERN RHODESIA.
NYASALAND.
ST. HELENA.
ST. LUCIA.
ST. VINCENT.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOMALILAND.
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
BRITISH CAMEROONS.
BRITISH TOGOLAND.

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1761

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1789

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GRENADA, 1935

(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see Nos. 1703 and 1718 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1936

Price 1s. 0d. net

PRINTED AND
PUBLISHED IN
GREAT BRITAIN

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

This comprehensive Survey, which is divided into two Parts—(1) Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the Individual Dependencies, (2) Memoranda on the Products of the Colonial Empire—is issued periodically. The Survey for the year 1933 was issued in 1935 as Colonial No. 109, £1 5s. (£1 5s. 7d.). The Survey for the year 1935 is in course of preparation

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Published periodically in three Parts—(1) Africa, (2) Eastern, Mediterranean and Pacific, (3) West Indies. The last edition, which contained information relating to the Tariffs up to the beginning of July, 1934, was issued in September, 1934, as Colonial No. 97. Part I, 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.); Part II, 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.); Part III, 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.). Amending Leaflets have been published from time to time. A revised complete edition of this work is in course of preparation

INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

The second Edition was issued in 1935 as Colonial No. 101, 3s. (3s. 3d.). A revised edition is in course of preparation

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)

Part II—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices)

Second Edition, 1st March, 1936 [Colonial No. 114] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 31st March, 1936)

First Edition, 1936 [Colonial No. 115] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1936)

Second Edition, 1936 [Colonial No. 120] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)

First Edition, 1936 [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

THE COLONIAL POLICE SERVICE LIST

These Lists are in course of preparation. The Lists will include the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the respective Services, and Schedules of Offices

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935. The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trignometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps

[Colonial No. 111] £1 (£1 0s. 6d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Reports of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1935

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	3
III.	Population	4
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	9
VI.	Production	10
VII.	Commerce	11
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	12
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	13
X.	Communications and Transport	14
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	15
XII.	Public Works	16
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	19
XVI.	Land and Survey	22
	Appendix, Bibliography	23
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ north latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters; one, called the Grand Etang, is

situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast.

Climate.

The climate is good and during the months from December to the end of April, when the trade winds prevail, it is delightful.

From July to October there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. The climate may be regarded as hot during this period but it is not unhealthy at any time during the year.

There is an astonishing variation of rainfall. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches in the year, and in the lowlands to the south of the island the annual rainfall is as low as 30 inches.

The first four months of the year are regarded as the dry season, and the heaviest rain occurs during July to December. The rainfall for the year under review was under the average; but except in Carriacou, where water became very scarce during the dry season, the weather was favourable to every condition of agriculture and the rainfall was well distributed.

The total rainfall at St. George's for 1935 amounted to 67·42 inches as compared with 105·80 in 1934.

The highest shade temperature recorded in 1935 was 91° and the lowest 71°. The mean maximum was 85°, and the mean minimum 72°.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils.

The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all *ex officio*, with such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of the appointment of members other than *ex officio* members is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an official majority. It consists of eight official members, three nominated members, and five elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has an original and a casting vote, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all three *ex officio*; together with the officers lawfully discharging the functions of the following offices:—the Chief Medical and Health Officer, the Superintendent of Public Works, the Director of Education, and the Commissioner of Carriacou.

Amendment of the Constitution is under consideration.

In the absence of the Governor from Grenada, the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator of Grenada.

In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group devolves on the officer holding a dormant commission. The Administrator of St. Lucia at present holds such a commission. If no dormant commission has been issued, the administration of the group is assumed by the Colonial Secretary of Grenada.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The numbers vary between eight and fourteen according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local Government are the Agricultural Board, the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Central Road Authority, the Electricity Authority, the Board of Secondary Education, the Board of Primary Education, the Forestry Board, and the Charity Advisory Committee with District Committees under the several District Boards.

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of:—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were female and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1935, was estimated at 85,626. The estimated totals at the end of the five preceding years were :—

1930	76,967
1931	78,662
1932	81,000
1933	82,624
1934	83,888

The following table indicates the birth-rate and death-rate per 1,000 during the past decade :—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1926	33·53	20·3
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
1932	32·60	13·8
1933	32·53	14·3
1934	32·16	13·6
1935	31·07	14·3
Averages	32·16	15·82

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below :—

Percentage of Deaths.

Year.	*Under One Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total percentage under 5 years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1931	22·7	15·9	3·0	1·1	·7	43·4	1,355
1932	20·6	14·7	3·3	2·0	·5	41·1	1,104
1933	21·5	12·1	3·8	2·3	1·2	40·9	1,179
1934	23·8	13·6	2·2	2·2	1·0	42·8	1,143
1935	18·5	16·2	3·9	1·2	·6	40·4	1,224

In 1935 the death-rate per 100 births in the case of infants who died under one year of age was 8·49, as compared with 10·08 in 1934.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 320, as compared with 409 in 1934 and 319 in 1933.

The arrivals during the year were 3,549 and the departures 3,248, as against 2,851 and 3,142 respectively, in 1934.

IV.—HEALTH.

Main Diseases and Mortality.

The percentage of preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis) has increased over the figure for last year and now forms the largest disease group.

The increase is attributable in the main to the increased incidence of malaria which is engaging the serious attention of Government.

The following table shows the percentage analysis both of total incidence and total mortality.

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis)	55·28	20·0
General diseases and injuries	4·88	33·26
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal)	·67	6·23
Diarrhoea and enteritis	2·36	11·22
Skin and connective tissue diseases	1·82	1·23
Circulatory diseases	1·37	10·73
Respiratory diseases...	·76	7·13
Digestive diseases	32·22	6·07
Nervous diseases	·66	4·13

On an analysis of infective diseases and their mortality—on a percentage basis of 16,086 cases reported with 323 deaths—these were grouped as follows :—

	Total Incidence. Percentage.	*Total Deaths. Percentage.*
Malaria	77·09	25·20
Influenza	12·70	1·23
Yaws	4·63	—
Gonorrhoea	2·29	1·23
Syphilis	2·28	16·42
Tuberculosis	·47	38·98
Pneumonia	·13	11·20
Enteric fevers	·18	1·85
Tetanus	·08	2·36
Septicaemia	·03	·92
Dysentery	·12	·61

There were many cases of influenza of a mild character throughout the year.

The incidence of venereal diseases, although lower than last year, is still regrettably high and, as noted in last year's report, constitutes a problem which requires the increasing attention of Government. It is, however, gratifying to be able to report that with the continuation of prophylactic measures in the Police Force only one case was reported in the Force during the year.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of yaws treated.

The number of cases of enteritis decreased from 36 to 29 but there were again six deaths in 1935.

At the beginning of the year there was a fairly widespread epidemic of measles which necessitated the closing of several schools during the first quarter. This disease is somewhat difficult to deal with as it is not taken seriously by parents.

No other disease occurring during the year calls for special comment.

Provisions for Treatment.

(a) *Medical and Health Staff.*

The staff of the Medical and Sanitary Department is under the control of the Chief Medical and Health Officer whose title will be changed to Senior Medical Officer when the new Constitution is brought into force. The staff consists of a Resident Surgeon, who is in charge of the Colony Hospital, and eight District Medical Officers distributed throughout the Colony.

The nursing staff is composed of 50 nurses who are locally recruited and receive their training at the Colony Hospital, and a Matron who is appointed from the United Kingdom to the Colony Hospital.

There are nine male and seven female attendants at the Mental Hospital, and one steward and one female attendant at the Leper Asylum.

Two nurse attendants (female) staff the Marie Louise (Tuberculosis) Hospital. It is proposed to increase the number as soon as the new tuberculosis hospital, to which reference is made below, is opened.

The Sanitary Department consists of eight District Sanitary Inspectors who are under the direct control of the District Medical Officers. The post of Chief Sanitary Inspector has not yet been filled.

(b) *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*

The Colony Hospital (151 beds) at St. George's is exceptionally well-equipped. Paying patients can be admitted into a private ward, or for a slightly higher fee into a separate block which is composed of single-bedded rooms.

There are two smaller district hospitals, one in St. Andrew's with 23 beds, and one in the island of Carriacou with 30 beds. The latter hospital is undergoing complete reconstruction.

A new hospital for consumptives is at present being built on a more suitable site, and will accommodate 20 beds.

The Mental Hospital has accommodation for 118 lunatics.

The Leper Asylum can provide for 20 lepers.

The House of Refuge, which is controlled by Government, can take 86 inmates and is used for the destitute and infirm.

There are seven dispensaries, and 17 medical visiting stations, each with a resident nurse-midwife, and in each of which is a room for emergency cases.

The Colony Hospital and the two district hospitals dealt with 2,565 cases during 1935; this total includes 910 cases in the maternity section, including 520 pregnancies and 479 births, the balance being cases of premature birth and 12 cases of abortion.

The Medical Visiting Stations, established in 1926, have provided an invaluable aid to the District Medical Service, especially in the field of maternity and child-welfare. During 1935 the District Nurses attended 876 confinements, 1,424 cases of infants, and 2,358 general nursing cases. In St. George's and its environs the good work of the Maternity and Child Welfare League, which provides free milk for babies, was continued.

There was a marked decrease in the infantile mortality during 1935, the death-rate falling from 108·0 in 1934 to 84·9 per thousand births in 1935.

Two private dental practitioners attend the Dental Clinic on agreement once a week, and in addition to school children living in St. George's have treated 80 children brought in from the schools in outlying parishes. A total of 857 patients, involving 1,143 treatments, were dealt with at the clinic during the year. The figures for the treatment of children show a decrease on the figures for 1934. This is due to the difficulty of transporting the children to St. George's.

Preventive Measures.

The routine work of the Sanitary Department was continued throughout the year, and numerous collections of mosquito and fly larvae were dealt with. Filling and drainage of swamps by the Public Works Department was actively carried out, and considerable areas were reclaimed and drained during the year.

All cases notified of tuberculosis, enteric and dysentery were investigated by the Sanitary officials. Disinfection of housing, etc., was carried out, and appropriate advice given. In cases of enteric, arrangements were made for the inoculation of contacts.

The medical inspection of school children is carried out regularly by District Medical Officers who report to the Chief Medical and Health Officer on a form which gives the number inspected, the number of the various affections found, and reports on the general condition of pupils, and on the sanitation and latrine accommodation of each school. Parents and guardians are sent a form signed by the Medical Officer advising such treatment as may be necessary; but although District nurses and Head Teachers endeavour to keep a record of the action taken by the parents, difficulty is experienced in arranging for the treatment of children in outlying districts, with particular reference to dental treatment (see paragraph on Dental Clinic), and the question of the provision of transport is receiving the attention of Government. During 1935 over 17,415 inspections were made by the Medical Officers.

Education in elementary hygiene continues to be conducted in the primary schools, and the teachers have been made to understand that this is a subject which must be regarded as an important item in the curriculum. District Medical Officers, Sanitary Inspectors and District Nurses are continually giving instruction

on this vital subject in the homes of the people, and once a year the Education Department in conjunction with the Medical Department hold a "Health Week" during which lectures and demonstrations are given in every school to both parents and children.

V.—HOUSING.

The latest accurate information regarding the habitations of the people is that furnished by the census of 1921, which showed a total of 15,188 houses made up as follows :—

Class.	*One room. Per cent.*	*Two rooms. Per cent.*	*Three or more rooms. Per cent.*
Stone	16·3	15·1	68·6
Wood	13·5	71·2	15·3
Mixed	7·1	29·5	63·4
Other	21·5	78·3	0·2

The total population at that date was distributed as follows :—

	Per cent.
Stone houses	2·4
Wooden houses	85·2
Mixed houses...	8·2
Other houses	3·2
Public institutions	1·0

and the average number of inmates per house was :—

One-room	3·0
Two-room	4·6
Three or more	5·7
Average, all classes	4·6

The census report of 1921 stated that while the majority of houses in the Colony with one or two rooms contained less than the average number of inmates shown above, many others were occupied by a far greater number than they were probably capable of accommodating with anything like a proper regard to health, comfort, and decency, and that, proportionately, overcrowding was more pronounced in the case of two-roomed houses. In one case there were as many as thirteen persons in a one-roomed house, and in another nineteen were accommodated in a two-roomed house.

No record of the actual number of houses in the Colony is available, but according to the tax rolls of 1935 there were 3,926 houses outside the towns, and the rate rolls of the several towns listed 2,587 houses, giving a total of 6,513. These figures exclude houses of a rental value not exceeding £5.

Generally speaking, housing conditions outside the towns have not materially changed in the past decade, though a considerable number of better-class houses have been erected in recent years by persons of the middle class, mainly returned emigrants and prosperous peasant proprietors; and in St. George's housing schemes have been initiated by the District Board.

Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure.

There is one Building Society in the Colony, established in 1925.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The Colony is dependent entirely upon agriculture, and for the past three years there has been a welcome upward tendency in the total value of the exports of the Colony as follows :—

Year.	*Value of Exports.* £
1933	185,635
1934	194,553
1935	223,084

The relative importance of the various products of the island is shown by the following table of values of the exports in 1935 :—

	£
Cocoa	97,824
Nutmegs and mace	97,602
Lime and by-products	10,371
Cotton and cotton seed	7,822
Bananas	4,257
Coconut products	1,396

The cocoa fields have suffered as a result of the depressed prices, and the possibility that a diminished yield will go far to set off any benefits from a hardening of the price is causing the Government concern. On the other hand the export value of nutmegs with its derivative mace is encouraging.

The following table shows the relative quantity and value of the exports of these three crops over the last five years :—

	Cocoa.		*Nutmegs.*		*Mace.*	
Year.	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £
1931 ...	87,656	153,923	26,195	54,808	3,658	28,864
1932 ...	87,836	101,231	27,305	36,859	4,181	23,090
1933 ...	91,339	106,535	28,287	37,024	4,416	22,476
1934 ...	77,423	100,743	31,284	48,778	4,402	25,103
1935 ...	80,851	97,824	29,516	56,754	5,120	40,848

The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is the Marie Galante which is similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price. Steps are being taken to propagate an improved variety. The year under review produced a good crop of cotton.

The production of the Gros Michel banana increases slowly and steadily, and the export to Canada is becoming an important industry.

A modern sugar factory is nearing completion, and next year it is anticipated that the local demand for sugar will be fully met by the new factory.

Rum is manufactured at nine sugar estates but none of this product is exported. The quantity made last year was 21,053·5 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's and at a private factory in Beausejour—three miles from the capital.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported, and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

These is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good fresh fish are obtainable, and there are several good fishing grounds near the Grenadines. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

VII.—COMMERCE.

There has been an increase in trade during 1935, the total value of the import and export trade amounting to £527,484 as compared with £465,712 in 1934.

Imports.

The principal articles imported during the last three years were as follows :—

Article.	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*
	£	£	£
Flour	29,658	31,171	25,006
Cotton piece-goods	20,942	19,701	18,425
Fish, dried	9,836	8,583	8,984
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	8,407	10,137	8,701
Boots and shoes	7,008	8,321	7,025
Rice	9,361	8,646	6,424
Sugar, unrefined	6,513	7,731	6,147
Motor cars	7,934	5,401	5,501
Motor spirits	4,390	6,130	5,917
Kerosene oil	3,978	4,155	4,731
Motor parts and tyres	4,594	3,845	4,244
Hardware	4,481	4,329	3,567

Exports.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under :—

Article.	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*
	£	£	£
Cocoa	97,824	100,743	106,535
Spices, nutmegs	56,754	48,778	37,024
Spices, mace	40,848	25,103	22,476
Lime oil	9,847	6,862	6,613
Cotton, raw	5,886	4,101	4,183
Cotton seed	1,936	1,298	1,781

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1935 may be seen from the following table :—

	Imports.	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.*	*Percentage of total.*
	£		£	
United Kingdom	146,054	52·9	104,083	41·4
United States of America	24,060	8·6	50,298	20·0
Canada	31,507	11·4	54,568	21·7
Other British Possessions	52,808	19·2	38,896	15·5
Other Foreign Countries ...	21,587	7·9	3,623	1·4

The percentages of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom show a satisfactory increase over the figures for 1934, which were 42·9 and 30·1 respectively.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have not changed during 1935, though owing to the low prices still obtaining for staple products, estates have been compelled again to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days of employment per week. Those employed obtain on the average two to three days work per week. There are indications that there will be improvement in this respect in 1936.

Ruling daily rates are :—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	—

In May, 1935, a Minimum Wage Committee was appointed to enquire into the rates of wages paid to agricultural labourers and to consider whether such rates were reasonable having regard to the general economic position of the Colony.

The Committee held meetings in various townships of the island and as a result of their recommendations a minimum rate of wages for agricultural labourers was fixed by law in August, 1935, at 1s. a day for a man and 10d. a day for a woman.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies from 10s. to 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. a month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh	8d. ,,
Chicken	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh	6d. ,,
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	3d. per bottle.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice	2½d. ,,
Butter	1s. 8d. ,,
Sugar	2½d. ,,
Bread	3d. ,,
Flour	2d. ,,

Board and lodging can be had at £8-£9 a month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35-£40 a month, and, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20-£25 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The control of all educational matters is at present in the hands of two Boards—the Board of Primary Education and the Board of Secondary Education—over which the Director of Education presides.

As a result of the recommendations of the Mayhew-Marriott Report, it is proposed to revise the present rather cumbersome organization, and it is hoped that next year Government will be in a position to introduce a Bill to repeal existing legislation, and to establish one central Board of Education giving more direct control of educational matters by the Governor.

During the year under review a Handwork Exhibition, showing the progress made in vocational and artistic training in the elementary schools, was held, with great success.

There was an average attendance of 118 at the Government Boys' Secondary School during 1935. The school is open to any boy between the ages of ten and nineteen whom the headmaster considers fit. The fee is two guineas a term : an additional 16s. 8d. a week is charged for boarders. There was an average of seven boarders at the school during the year.

The present buildings are too small and strenuous endeavours are being made by Government and the Old Boys' Association to provide better buildings on a more suitable site.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary and the primary schools in a manual training centre at St. George's. There are also four other manual training centres in the country districts which are doing very good work.

Three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from Government but there is no Government Girls School. Domestic science is taught at the St. Josephs Convent High School by a specially trained teacher. The Anglican High School is providing similar instruction.

There are 50 recognized primary schools which are under the control of various religious denominations and which receive financial assistance from Government. There are also ten Government primary schools.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1935 was 13,343, the average attendance being 8,253 or 61·7 per cent. as compared with 13,400 and 8,629 or 64·3 per cent. in 1934. This drop in the number of attendances is entirely due to an epidemic of measles to which reference has been made in Chapter IV of this report.

The total expenditure incurred by Government on primary education for the year was £11,662.

Welfare Institutions.

There is a home in St. George's for destitute children which was opened in 1934. The number of children being cared for has increased from 8 to 14 which is the maximum capacity of the home.

The home is administered with considerable success by the St. George's District Board, the Government paying an annual subsidy of £50 towards its expenses which for 1935 amounted to a total of £91, including the fee of £24 per annum paid to a matron.

The following welfare organizations do useful work :—

(1) The Fellowship of Service, which is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions, distributes money, clothes and food once a week.

(2) The Salvation Army provides a night shelter with food for the poor in St. George's.

(3) The Baby Welfare League distributes free milk to infants and provides free medical examination at a clinic. Government subscribes £75 per annum to this organization.

(4) The Foresters Social Workers' League supplies free food to school children in St. George's.

(5) The Hamilton Almshouse maintains six old distressed women. It is granted £30 per annum by Government.

The House of Refuge for the destitute and sick is maintained by Government. It can accommodate 86 persons (see section referring to Hospitals and Dispensaries, under Chapter IV).

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

(i) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and

equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John's, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south. These steamers call also at Boston, Massachusetts, during the summer.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from New York and from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Steamers of the American Caribbean Line bound for New York call fortnightly.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados and other neighbouring islands.

(ii) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of Cable and Wireless Limited connects Grenada with the outside world. The company also maintains a wireless station at St. George's, but this is not in operation at the present time. A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station at Carriacou communicates with Grenada direct or via Barbados.

(iii) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, recently reconstructed, has been established by Government for many years. Inclusive of Carriacou there are seven exchanges and over 2,200 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1935 was 752.

The island is well supplied with roads. All the first-class roads and practically all the second-class and third-class roads are suitable for motor traffic. The total mileage is 450.

There are regular services of motor omnibuses between all the towns.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five dollar notes issued by the two banks are in circulation.

A co-operative bank was established in 1932, but there is no agricultural bank in the Colony.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

Trinidad Government currency notes were made legal tender in this Colony as from 1st November, 1935.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for practically all Government engineering work including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, Crown lands and surveys, land drainage, machinery, harbour, sanitation, electric lighting, cold storage, telephones, etc.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two senior assistants, one electrician and one mechanic at Headquarters, and three District Road Surveyors. The office staff comprises one chief clerk and accountant, one storekeeper, one second clerk and two typists.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1935, was £53,400 inclusive of a sum of over £20,000 expended under Colonial Development and other Loan funds.

Roads.—Inclusive of Carriacou the total length of roads maintained during the year was 450 miles, of which 100 miles were surface treated with oil or emulsion and about 250 miles metalled.

Special work during the year consisted of the resurfacing of six miles of colas-surfaced road in the Western District, the cleaning and painting of nine steel bridges, the surface metalling of 2½ miles of road connecting the cane industry to a central factory which has been recently erected, the construction and surface treatment with colas and oil of 12 miles in connection with the banana industry (4½ miles of which were constructed at considerably reduced expenditure in the form of two wheel strips each 2½ ft. wide instead of the entire surface) and the construction and surface treatment with colas and oil of a further 6 miles. In connection with the banana industry, two reinforced concrete causeways or low-level bridges were also constructed.

Buildings.—The principal works during the year were the extension of the Revenue offices and provision of a shed and yard for Public Works use at Grenville; verandah additions to the Observatory and Mt. Wheldale houses; alterations and additions to Villa "B" Bungalow; the erection of a large steel shed in connection with the shipping of bananas; and the erection of a hospital for consumptives. The two latter were not quite completed.

Water Works.—The only matter of interest was a geological investigation by an expert with a view to an artesian water supply at Carriacou. His report indicated that no hope could be entertained in this direction.

Land Drainage and Reclamation.—A swampy area adjacent to the private ward at the Colony Hospital was drained by the provision of a main concrete aqueduct with sea outlet and a system of subsidiary subsoil concrete pipe drains. Other work consisted of filling and draining swampy areas in St. George's, St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's in continuation of the previous year's programme.

Harbour.—On the advice of an expert from Trinidad certain preliminary investigations were made relative to a proposed scheme to improve the main harbour facilities in St. George's.

Sanitation.—The principal works consisted of the installation of water-closets at the public buildings and the construction of a public latrine with automatic flushing installations at Grenville. Surveys and plans were also prepared for a proposed sewerage scheme for the town of St. George's.

Electric Light and Power.—Special work consisted of structural alterations of the existing substations for better protection of equipment.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two magisterial districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that district.

The appointment of an additional Magistrate for Carriacou will be made in 1936.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the proceedings therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance, and prosecutions for criminal offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases, when counsel is employed.

In the year under review 3,050 persons were convicted. These figures show an increase over the average for the three preceding years, and are due in the main to an increase of cases of " offences against the person " which has occurred in the Western magisterial district.

The cases of praedial larceny are on the increase. There were 232 convictions as against 216 in 1934 and 167 in 1933. There were 23 convictions in the Supreme Court as compared with 28 for 1934.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate building and at a different time from ordinary cases.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Magistrates' Courts.

One case of murder was reported at the close of the year but there is a very satisfactory absence of serious crime in Grenada.

Police.

The strength of the Police Force on 31st December, 1935, was one Officer in Command and 88 non-commissioned officers and men. For employment on special occasions, 225 rural constables were also on the roll. An increase in the strength of the Force will be made in 1936.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the police department assists in the protection of revenue and inspection of shops and weights and measures. A fire brigade and Government band are also under its management and control.

A detachment under command of the senior sergeant was despatched at an hour's notice in H.M.S. *Challenger* to assist the police in St. Vincent during and after the disturbances which occurred in October, 1935; this detachment was of material assistance to the Government of St. Vincent.

Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's. In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 201 persons were committed to the male prison and 40 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 29·75 and 3·48 respectively.

No deaths occurred, and the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

There is no reformatory or other institution in the Colony for the detention of young offenders; and steps are being taken to arrange for the transfer of juvenile delinquents to institutions in Trinidad.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important Ordinances which were passed during the year :—

No. 3. *The Loan (Agricultural) Ordinance*, 1935, was passed with a view to raising a loan of twenty-five thousand pounds to enable assistance to be granted to small agriculturists.

No. 7. *Sale of Produce (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1935.—The principal object of this Ordinance is to extend the provisions of the Sale of Produce Ordinance so as to prevent the possession, sale, or purchase of improperly prepared nutmegs.

No. 13. *Criminal Code (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1935, makes provisions similar to those in force in England under the Infanticide Act.

No. 14. *Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1935, seeks to prevent the passing of the death sentence on expectant mothers.

No. 16. *The Nutmeg (Regulation of Export) Ordinance*, 1935, regulates the curing, packing and exporting of nutmegs.

No. 22. *The Currency Notes (Trinidad) Ordinance*, 1935, aims at making Trinidad currency notes legal tender in Grenada.

No. 25. *The Town Planning Ordinance*, 1935, is based on the English Town Planning Acts and seeks to control the growth of such towns as should be brought within its provisions.

No. 28. *The Banana Cess Ordinance*, 1935, imposes a cess on bananas exported from the Colony to help to pay for the upkeep of the roads.

No. 30. *Prison Officers Pensions Ordinance*, 1935, was passed with a view to the provision of pensions and other allowances for prison officers.

No. 31. *Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1935, consolidated the Pensions Ordinances 1924 to 1933.

No. 32. *Customs Duties (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1935, provides for a new Customs tariff.

No. 40. *Savings Bank Ordinance*, 1935, replaces previous legislation and is based on a model draft provided by the Secretary of State.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £139,604, exclusive of the following amounts :—

	£
Receipts from the Colonial Development Fund	11,340
Appreciation in market value of securities	246
	11,586

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1935 :—

Head.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	59,494	58,206	62,548	66,956	71,815
Harbour and Cargo Dues	2,837	2,680	2,654	2,883	3,153
Licences, Excise, &c.	27,814	28,793	26,567	26,718	27,600
Estate Duties	1,147	4,896	1,448	899	988
Income-Tax	6,913	4,243	4,473	4,163	4,353
Fees of Office, &c.	6,005	6,095	8,069	5,684	6,385
Post Office	2,587	2,929	2,364	4,675	5,715
Telephones and Electric Light ...	6,599	7,980	8,027	8,659	8,573
Water supplies	2,829	2,837	2,875	3,933	4,273
Revenue from Government Property	4,536	25,489	6,076	4,357	1,274
Interest and Sinking Funds, &c. ...	1,343	1,390	1,231	4,994	5,309
Miscellaneous Receipts	246	197	918	241	197
Land Sales	134	168	177	172	215
Colonial Development Works	18,505	19,221	13,481	9,164	11,340
Repatriation Payment	—	6,084	—	—	—
Reimbursement from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road.	—	29,247	356	—	—
Grant from Imperial Government under Trade Facilities Act	750	500	—	—	—
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation ...	—	525	—	—	—
Total Revenue ...	£141,739	£201,480	£141,264	£143,498	£151,190

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £146,662, being less than the revenue by £4,528.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years :—

	£
1931	195,183
1932	155,343
1933	141,741
1934	153,778
1935	146,662

The expenditure for the year 1935 includes £6,033 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by Sinking Funds and repayments at the end of 1935, was £205,953 19s. 1d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	59,590	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water-supply Extension Loan	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	45,243	11	6
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System	3,261	12	0
Road Loan	29,307	17	6
Sundry Public Works Loan	24,885	9	11
Total Loans	213,505	2	3
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	7,551	3	2
Net Indebtedness	205,953	19	1

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,640 were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1935, was £85,310, which includes £1,313 excess expenditure to 31st December, 1935, on Colonial Development Works to be collected from the Colonial Development Fund in 1936. The total liquid

surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at 31st December, 1935, was £56,320, and the balance is made up as follows :—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards	2,808		
Loans to Central Water Authority ...	11,843	14,651	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		7,799	6,852
Public Works and Electricity Stores ...			5,297
Colony Drug Store			957
Grenada Land Settlement			225
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account...			718
Overdraft by St. George's District Board ...			264
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board			704
Overdraft by St. Patrick's District Board			287
Other Advances			4,367
Advances for Road Improvement			8,006
			27,677

Taxation.

The first schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected.

Generally the rates of *ad valorem* duties are 15 per cent., British preferential tariff, and 22½ per cent. general tariff. The important exceptions at 31st December were as follows :—

Apparel.	*British Preferential.*	*General.*
Shirts	12½ per cent.	3s. per dozen.*
Men's underwear ...	12½ ,, ,,	1s. ,, ,, *
Neckties	12½ ,, ,,	7d. ,, ,, *
Other kinds	12½ ,, ,,	25 per cent.
		* or 25 per cent., whichever is higher.
Boots and shoes :—		
Wholly or partly of rubber.	15 ,, ,,	22½ per cent. and 1s. per pair.
Other kinds	15 ,, ,,	25 per cent.
Motor cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 ,, ,,	35 ,, ,,
Hardware and metal manufactures.	12½ ,, ,,	22½ ,, ,,

ublishing company, inc.

The following specific rates of duty on spirits and tobacco were in force at 31st December, 1935 :—

		British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy	Overproof	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	15s. 0d. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Gin	Overproof	17s. 6d. per proof gallon.	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. 0d. per gallon.
Rum	Overproof	13s. 6d. per proof gallon.	15s. 0d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. 0d. per gallon.
Whisky	Overproof	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	15s. 0d. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Cordials and liqueurs		17s. 6d. per gallon.	20s. 0d. per gallon.
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...		1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured :—			
Cigars, cigarettes		10s. 0d. per lb.	14s. 0d. per lb.
Other manufactured tobacco		7s. 0d. per lb.	9s. 0d. per lb.

Export duty is levied on the following local products :—

Cocoa	6d. per cwt.
Cotton	1s. per cwt.
Cotton seed	3d. per cwt.
Nutmegs	6d. per cwt.
Mace	1s. per cwt.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1s. per 100 gallons.
Lime juice (raw)	3d. per 100 gallons.
Lime oil	6d. per lb.
Copra	3d. per cwt.

Excise duty on rum made in the Colony was increased from 4s. 2d. to 5s. per proof gallon as from 12th December, 1935.

Total collections of Excise duty in 1935 amounted to £7,282 18s. 9d., the total proof gallonage delivered for consumption being 34,232·6. This amount is £399 1s. 11d. less than in 1934 when the duty was reduced from 6s. to 4s. 2d. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. per proof gallon is collected on all imported spirits, and 2s. 1d. per proof gallon on local rum, delivered for consumption; the total amount collected being £4,099 8s. 9d.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 5s. to 42s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £30 per annum pay 8 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by trading companies at 3s. on every £, and by life insurance companies at 1s. 0½d. on every £.

XVI.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of afforested mountain ridges for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature in Grenada is the number of smallholdings. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various land settlement schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

In March, 1933, approval was given for a loan from the Colonial Development Fund of £15,000 with which to acquire land for peasant settlement. The loan is free of interest and sinking fund for five years and thereafter bears interest at 4 per cent., to be repayable in 20 years. A Land Settlement Committee has been appointed, and during the period since the loan was granted up to the end of the year under review seven new areas, totalling 941 acres, have been purchased by Government for land settlement at a total cost of £10,765.

Continued efforts are being made to find land for peasant settlement but each year it becomes increasingly difficult to obtain suitable land at a reasonable price.

The land holdings, according to the tax rolls, are as follows :—

Total acreage.	*2½ acres and under.*	*Over 2½ to 5 acres.*	*Over 5 to 7 acres.*	*Over 7 to 10 acres.*	*Over 10 and under 100 acres.*
17,303	14,595	1,755	337	211	405

A survey of St. George's Harbour was made by H.M.S. *Challenger* free of cost to the Government.

A geological survey was undertaken by Dr. E. Lehner of Trinidad Leaseholds Limited, with the object of examining the prospects for the establishment of an artesian water supply in the Dependency of Carriacou. The report indicated that conditions seemed to preclude the existence of water under artesian pressure.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1935.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

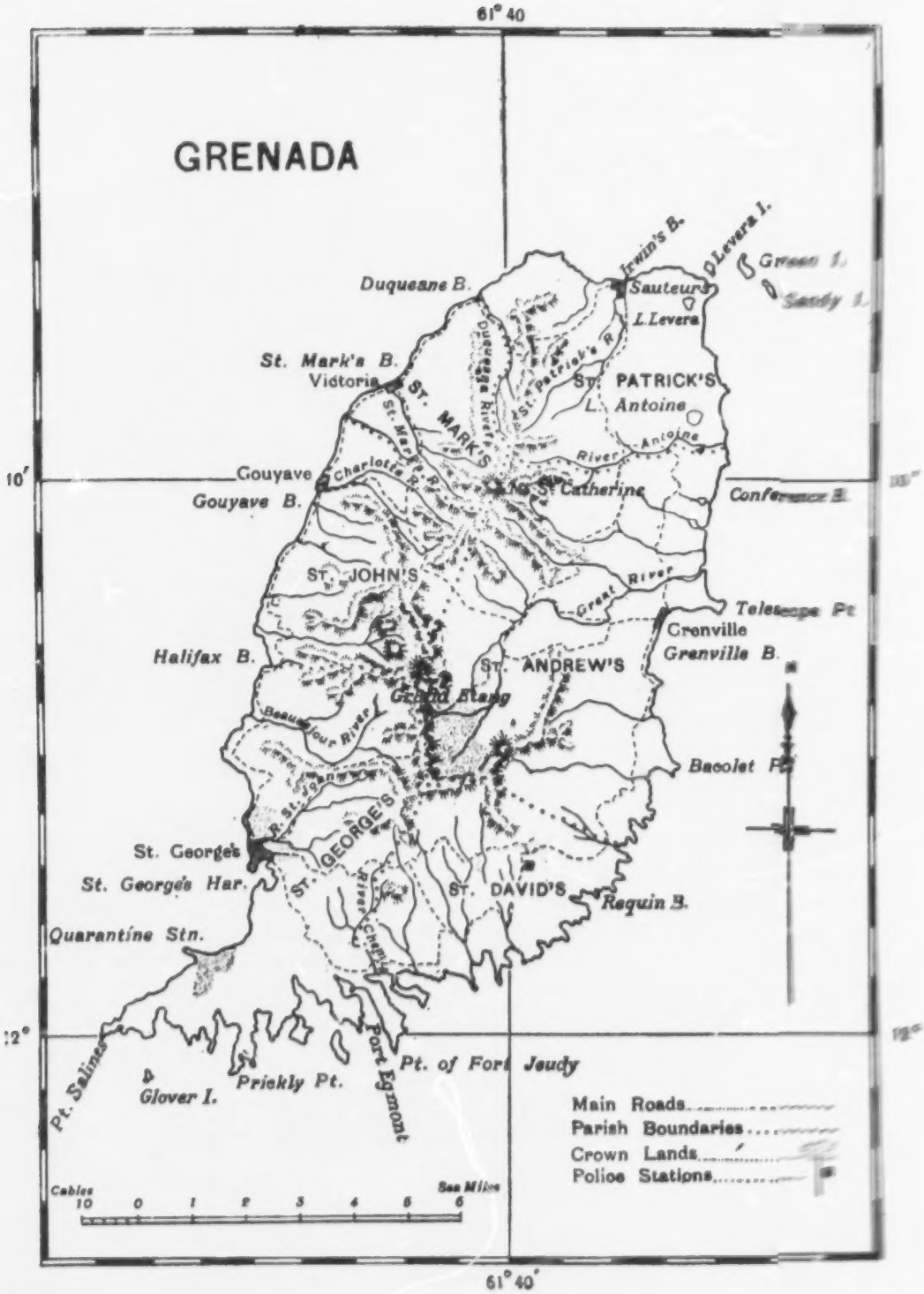
Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

Report on Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

Report on Forestry in Grenada by Captain R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

Report on Geological Survey of Carriacou by Dr. E. H. Lehner, 1935.



(39372—48) Wt. 2900—3732 625 12/36 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION
Report of Imperial Committee, 1933 [Cmd. 4335] 2s. (2s. 2d.)

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA, 1932
Summary of Proceedings and copies of Trade Agreements [Cmd. 4174] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 4175] 3s. (3s. 3d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT
Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1935 to 31st March, 1936 [Cmd. 5202] 4d. (5d.)

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN EAST AFRICA
Report of the East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani, for the period 1st April, 1935 to 31st March, 1936 [Colonial No. 119] 1s. (In the press)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES
Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

KENYA: FINANCIAL POSITION AND SYSTEM OF TAXATION
Report of Commission (including five Maps) [Colonial No. 116] 5s. (5s. 6d.)

KENYA: NATIVE AFFAIRS
Report of the Kenya Native Affairs Department for the year 1934 [Non-Parliamentary Publication] 3s. (3s. 4d.)

NOTE.—*These Reports are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office as they become available.*

KENYA LAND COMMISSION
Report, September, 1933 [Cmd. 4556] 11s. (11s. 9d.)
Evidence and Memoranda. [Colonial No. 91]. Issued in three Volumes, £2 each volume, by post £2 0s. 9d.
Summary of Conclusions reached by His Majesty's Government [Cmd. 4580] 2d. (2½d.)

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN EAST AFRICA
Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Administration of Justice in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika Territory in Criminal Matters [Cmd. 4623] 3s. (3s. 3d.)
Evidence and Memoranda [Colonial No. 96] £1 (£1 0s. 6d.)

PALESTINE: IMMIGRATION, LAND SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
Report by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930 [Cmd. 3686] 3s. (3s. 3d.)
Maps [Cmd. 3687] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

PALESTINE: DISTURBANCES OF AUGUST, 1929
Report of Commission [Cmd. 3530] 4s. (4s. 4d.)
Evidence and Memoranda. Issued in two Volumes, with a third volume containing an Index
Vols. I and II ... £1 5s. each, by post £1 5s. 9d.
Vol. III (Index) ... 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS
Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) (In the press)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street — MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent — BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SEIRRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable, from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1789

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1816

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1743 and 1761 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

Price 1s. 3d. net

PRINTED & PUBLISHED
IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter.		Page.
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	5
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	5
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Production	6
VII.	Commerce	10
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	12
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	13
X.	Communications and Transport	14
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	16
XII.	Public Works	16
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	20
XVI.	Miscellaneous	23
	Appendix	24
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 20,302.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain an estimated population of 7,237. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situated at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1936 was 81·7° F. in the shade. The maximum was 91° F. and the minimum 61° F., a range of 30° F. The hot season extended from May to October, and the cool season from December to March. The hurricane season was bare of incident, and as usual over a long period of years, the periodical revolving storms had no serious local effect other than high winds and rain.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1936, was 90·49 inches. This was 8·70 inches above that of the previous year and approximates to the average rainfall for 47 years (1890-1936), the average now being 90·73 inches per annum.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on 2nd November, when a heavy fall of 5·55 inches was recorded, being the highest maximum for many years. The highest maximum precipitation for the Colony in general was 12·5 inches recorded on 22nd May. The distribution of rain was abnormal and irregular.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs and continued in their possession until 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession until the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, D'Orleans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrees, and in 1722 the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island and it was declared neutral.

In 1744 the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748 when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French until 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782 Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay in St. Lucia with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 27th October, 1936, which came into operation on 18th December, 1936, the Legislative Council was reconstituted. The Council consists of the Governor, three ex-officio members (the Administrator, Attorney-General and Treasurer), and three nominated members and five elected members (one for each of three electoral districts and two members for a fourth district).

The Governor possesses reserve powers for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public faith or of good government, or in order to secure detailed control of the finances of the Island in certain circumstances.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census, taken in 1921, showed the population to be 51,505.

On 31st December, 1935, the resident population of the Colony was computed at 64,959—males 31,132, females 33,827. By 31st December, 1936, the figure had increased to 66,230—males 31,838; females 34,392. The natural increase during 1936 was 1,137. The number of persons arriving in the Colony exceeded the number of departures by 134. The net increase in population was therefore 1,271.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 284.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 128) totalled 2,253—males 1,153, females 1,101. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 32·7 per thousand of the population—an increase of ·9 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,116—males 522, females 594. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 15·2 per thousand of the population—a decrease of ·6 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were:—Heart disease, 177; nutritional diseases, 94; malaria, 85; syphilis, 77; senility, 64; tuberculosis, 56; diarrhoea and enteritis, 55; bronchitis, 44.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout 1936.

There were 42 cases of enteric fever notified. Malaria fever was the chief public health problem as in previous years. There was an improvement in the incidence of this disease due to the constant activities of the Sanitation Department.

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer, who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Sanitary Departments; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, five District Medical Officers and one Supernumerary Medical Officer. The Medical Officer of District I is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The Medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere; and a papuer asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

Several additions have been made to the number of new stores and general shops which have been erected since 1933, mainly in concrete, or concrete and wood. These have much improved the appearance of the business section of the town of Castries. The installation of electric light by the Castries Town Board has ameliorated living conditions considerably. Thirty-seven model cottages have been erected on the reclamation land in Castries and this has led to a marked improvement in the locality. This is increasingly reflected in the better type of private cottage now replacing the earlier wooden hut usually erected in the town area.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The staple crops of St. Lucia are sugar, coconuts and copra, limes, and cocoa, but increased attention is being given to the production of fruit, i.e., bananas, oranges, grapefruit, mangoes, avocado pears, and pineapples, for the Bermuda, American, Canadian and English markets.

Sugar.—In addition to the production of sugar by the large estates there are systems of sugar production by small proprietors known as the metayer and contributor systems.

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory

claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 500 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The total crop production for 1936 was 8,117·6 tons of first and second sugars, of which 7,707 tons were exported. This compares very favourably with production for the previous year as given below, and constitutes a record. The production of molasses (not syrup) was also increased considerably, 280,951 gallons being made as against 256,900 gallons in 1935. There was again some difficulty in disposing of these products. A proportion of the molasses was utilized for the manufacture of rum for local use, and a considerable quantity still remained unsold at the end of the year. There was a revived export trade in rum.

The weather generally was unsettled to severe throughout the year and serious floods occurred. The crop for 1937 is however in a promising condition.

The total cane area is now approximately 4,000 acres, due to some reduction in the Vieux-Fort canefields and in syrup canes.

The average price for sugar showed a reduction of 2s. per ton on last year's prices and ranged from 8s. 6d. in February to 9s. 1½d. per cwt. c.i.f. raw preferential 96° in December.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years:—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1932	4,990	46,466
1933	4,940	46,493
1934	4,730	39,396
1935	6,080	48,377
1936	7,707	60,358

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gal.	*Value.* £
1932	32,988	1,453
1933	43,260	1,417
1934	23,080	1,431
1935	169,003	2,401
1936	107,128	1,132

Limes.—The exported lime crop of the Colony from January to December, 1936, estimated in barrels of limes, amounted to 22,569 barrels valued at £15,680 as compared with 38,189 barrels valued at £21,124 in 1935. To this estimate of crop has to be added a quantity of lime oils which has not yet been shipped, bringing the total estimated crop to some 42,000 barrels.

The export of concentrated juice decreased owing to low prices for this product. A larger volume of trade was done in raw lime juice, 34,171 gallons valued at £1,405 being exported. The production of distilled lime oil was again the feature of the crop, the quantity exported being 5,463 lb. valued at £6,091, as against 10,261 lb. for the previous year valued at £9,673. The market prices were stable, due largely to the co-operative shipments of oils, and remained at 22s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. Hand-pressed oil was not in demand, 809 lb. being exported, valued at £1,047, as compared with 1,501 lb in 1935 valued at £2,517. Quotations remained at 35s. per lb. c.i.f.

The exported crops for the last five years in barrels of limes are:—

Year.	*Quantity.* Barrels.
1932	44,762
1933	44,019
1934	45,000
1935	38,189
1936	22,569

Coconuts.—This crop has now assumed the position of third staple industry, largely through the increased value of nuts shipped, the total quantity exported being 3,409,621 nuts valued at £9,608 as against 2,814,965 nuts valued at £7,632 in 1935.

The copra trade was progressively active, quotations being firm from September onwards when there was a marked improvement from £15 per ton to £21 17s. 6d. per ton c.i.f. The copra exported amounted to 306 tons valued at £3,561.

The following figures show the quantity and value of coconut and coconut products exported during the last five years:—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.* Number.	*Value.* £
1932	650,240	2,430
1933	1,199,808	3,527
1934	2,616,175	7,298
1935	2,814,965	7,632
1936	3,409,621	9,608

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.* Tons.	*Value.* £
1932	432	5,389
1933	542	5,167
1934	302	2,592
1935	215	1,871
1936	306	3,561

Cocoa.—The cocoa market remained depressed until the middle of the year, when a steady improvement took place. Exports were increased to 6,538 cwt. valued at £9,627, consigned to Canada, the United Kingdom and Trinidad. More interest was shown by the Canadian market. Quotations ranged from 34s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt. c.i.f. London.

The quantity and value of cocoa exported during the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1932	8,188	9,091
1933	6,056	6,778
1934	6,349	6,032
1935	5,603	6,042
1936	6,538	9,627

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of choice vegetables and salads such as cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce and carrots has continued mainly for local supply, and there has been no export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has, however, maintained its position and in several respects has markedly improved, the principal exports being crated mangoes, crated avocado pears and bananas.

The exports of bananas increased from 60,439 bunches valued at £5,209 to 108,633 bunches valued at £8,910. The Banana Association continued to function satisfactorily, and paid 50c. per count bunch at the wharf. Transport conditions were difficult owing to heavy rains.

There was also some improvement in the mango export trade, and experimental shipments in cold storage were made to London. These gave a satisfactory return.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £13,043 as compared with £9,391 in 1935 and is shown in detail below:—

Article.	*Quantity exported to.*					*Total.*	*Value.*	
	Canada.	*Bermuda.*	*U.K.*	*U.S.A.*	*Other places.*		*1935.* £	*1936.* £
Grapefruit... Cts.	223	57	1	—	4	285	35	84
Oranges ... ,,	9	28	—	—	89	126	91	30
Mangoes ... ,,	455	2,952	633	—	4,006	8,046	1,567	1,619
Avocado Pears ,,	14	3,320	—	—	2	3,336	709	504
Pineapples ,,	—	13	—	—	4	17	3	2
Bananas ... Bchs.	108,046	—	—	—	587	108,633	5,209	8,910
Miscellaneous ...	2	7	—	—	6,749	6,758	1,777	1,894
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	9,391	13,043

A total of 14,939 packages of fruit, excluding bunches of bananas, was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 15,248 in 1935.

Under the Colonial Development Fund Act, 1929, a grant of £2,000 was made in 1932 for the supply of planting material to citrus growers. This work has been completed.

The Murray Road and Land Settlement Schemes for which a grant of £9,219 and a loan of £9,219 at 3½ per cent. per annum for 15 years commencing from the sixth year was approved in August, 1935, were being revised at the end of the year.

Farm Stock.—Extensive use has been made of the Government breeding bulls and boars for services, and interest in better breeds of cattle and small animals is being stimulated. A breeding jack donkey for mares and asses and a pure-bred Sussex bull were imported for the Government Stock Farm during the year.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1936, and as compared with 1935, was as follows:—

Imports.

	1936.	1935.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	61,398	58,319
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured	37,513	41,881
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured	93,382	95,873
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles ...	17	55
Totals	£192,310	£196,128

The above table shows a decrease of £3,818 in the total value of imports for 1936 as compared with the previous year, made up as follows:—Class II, £4,368; Class III, £2,491 and Class IV, £38.

Class I, however, shows a substantial increase (£3,079) due in some instances to higher prices as in the case of wheaten flour £600 and edible oil £500, but principally due to the increased importation of following items:—tobaccos £500, wines £400, medicines £300, sugar (unrefined) £300, confectionery £200 and onions and garlic £200.

The decreases under Classes II and III are accounted for by smaller importation of bunker coal and sugar machinery.

The values of imports for 1936 and 1935, classified according to country of origin, were as follows:—

	1936.	1935.
	£	£
United Kingdom	109,262	120,337
Other British Countries	50,383	46,980
Foreign Countries	32,665	28,811
Totals	£192,310	£196,128

The value of imports from the United Kingdom decreased by £11,075, whereas that from other parts of the British Empire increased by £3,403.

Imports from foreign countries increased this year by £3,854.

The value of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1936 and 1935 was as follows:—

Article.	1936. £	1935. £
Coal, bituminous	34,311	38,934
Cotton piece-goods	17,393	16,070
Fish, salted and pickled	6,576	6,695
Flour, wheaten	17,348	16,795
Oil, edible	6,187	5,611
Totals	£81,815	£84,105

Exports.

The values of exports in 1936, classified under five main divisions, were as follows:—

	1936. £	1935. £
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	104,764	83,905
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	9,571	8,104
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	12,049	17,157
IV. Miscellaneous	183	250
V. Bullion and Specie	10,134	2,330
Totals	£136,701	£111,746

There was a substantial increase of £24,955 in the total value of exports for 1936 as compared with the previous year. This increase is accounted for as follows:—

(1) Better prices for cocoa, coconuts and copra which yielded £3,600, £2,000 and £1,700 respectively, more than last year, and

(2) Larger exportations of sugar and bananas which brought in £12,000 and £3,700 respectively, more than last year.

The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports:—

Article.	1936. £	1935. £
Cocoa	9,627	6,042
Limes and lime products	15,680	21,124
Fancy syrup and molasses	1,132	1,380
Sugar	60,358	48,377
Copra	3,561	1,871
Charcoal	3,265	3,367
Coconuts	9,608	7,632
Bananas	8,910	5,209
Other fresh fruits	4,132	4,104

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows:—

Exports (Merchandise).

Destination.	£	*Total. 1936.* £	*Total. 1935.* £
United Kingdom—			
Domestic exports	51,700		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie)...	318		
		52,018	21,645
Other British Countries—			
Domestic exports	54,551		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie)...	4,936		
		59,487	69,582
Foreign Countries—			
Domestic exports	14,107		
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie)...	955		
		15,062	18,189
Totals		£126,567	£109,416

The values of supplies to ships during the last two years were as follows:—

	1936. £	1935. £
Bunker coal	48,005	41,590
Ships' stores	1,068	1,457
	£49,073	£43,047

Coaling.—The coaling trade, for which exceptional facilities exist for quick despatch to steamers calling for bunkers, showed an increase over that of 1935; 145 steamers took 38,227 tons of coal, as compared with 35,142 tons taken by 149 steamers in 1935.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual and artisan—now regulated by a Minimum Wage Ordinance, No. 5 of 1935, have been maintained during 1936, though estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are:—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 5s.	2s. to 3s.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows:—

	s.	d.	
Beef, fresh ...	0	7	per lb.
Mutton, fresh	0	8	per lb.
Pork, fresh ...	0	8	per lb.
Chicken	0	6	per lb.
Fish, fresh ...	0	5	per lb.
Eggs ...	1	0	per dozen.
Milk ...	0	2	per bottle.
Potatoes	0	2	per lb.
Rice ...	0	2	per lb.
Butter	1	10	per lb.
Sugar ...	0	2	per lb.
Bread	0	2	per lb.
Flour ...	0	2½	per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

There are 47 recognized Primary Schools in the Colony. None of these are Government schools, the organization of education being on a denominational basis. The Government fixes the salary of Head Teachers, based on the personal qualifications and the average attendance of the school. Assistant teachers are paid by the school manager, to whom the Government makes a grant-in-aid, though in most cases the managers are unable to supplement such grant. During 1936 the Government paid a total of £5,068 8s. 4d. to the school managers towards salaries of teachers. £29 4s. 6d. was added to this sum by the managers. School buildings are the property of the local Church Vestries who estimated the rental values for 1936 at £1,519 5s.; and who spent a total of £471 3s. 3d. on repairs and furniture during the year.

Elementary agriculture is taught, and gardens are attached to most schools. The Agricultural Department supervises this work, and the standard is reasonably high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee to which the Government nominates three of the six members; and St. Joseph's Convent for Girls, managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to 12 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools, and five for the girls at St. Joseph's Convent.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1936, St. Mary's College received £450, and St. Joseph's Convent £175. In addition the Government makes maintenance and book grants to scholarship holders, amounting in 1936 to £33 11s. 4d.

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination (First Division).

Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available, but owing to the lack of facilities for the study of science in the secondary schools, these scholarships are seldom sought.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association carried on its useful work with Mrs. Baynes as President, and Mrs. F. Floissac, M.B.E., as Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association now has the services of a fully trained nurse who acts as a Health Visitor.

The Government supplies medicines and accommodation free of charge and Government Medical Officers supervise the clinics.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football, cricket and netball are the favourite games.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,452, of a total tonnage of 2,037,180. Of this number 835 were steamships and 617 sailing vessels.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means:—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness West Indian Line.

(4) Communication with Canada, the United States of America and most of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line and the American Caribbean Line, respectively.

(5) A four-weekly service direct to London by steamers of the Harrison Line and by the Booker Line, respectively.

(6) The former seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports en route, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated was discontinued in November, 1935.

Post Office.—In addition to the General Post Office there are ten sub post offices in the country districts, four of which are also money order offices. Inland mails are regularly despatched by land and sea routes. Mails are sent by all steamers of the lines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Roads.

The internal communications of this island are maintained by a system of roads and tracks, which are divided into three classes as follows:—

Main roads	62·50 miles.
Second class roads	88·00 ,,
Unclassified roads	230·00 ,,

Main roads and second class roads are those which can be used by motor vehicles.

Unclassified roads for the most part cannot be used by motor vehicles.

Motor-boat Service.

There are four coastal motor-boat services along the western, or leeward, coast of the Island. These services are operated by private concerns.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained entirely by the Government and consists of nine exchanges situated in towns and villages. One hundred and sixteen miles of trunk lines connect these exchanges and 434 miles of branch lines serve subscribers.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the Island. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government. Currency Notes of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago of one and two dollar denominations became legal tender under Ordinance No. 4 of 1936 from 1st May, 1936.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia, but land quantities are frequently expressed in a local unit of measurement know as a carré, equal to about three acres, 32 perches.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the harbour, the telephone system and the control of the Crown Lands. The Department also runs its own workshop, and maintains its road rollers, lorries and other machinery.

The expenditure for the year was:—

	£
Personal emoluments and other charges	4,040
Annually recurrent	10,756
Extraordinary	1,397

No new construction work of any magnitude was carried out.

A few minor works were, the Grognette Bridge, £905; extension of the Resident Surgeon's quarters, Victoria Hospital, £186; reconstruction of a portion of the Western Wharf in reinforced concrete, £199; and reconditioning of a building for a new Post Office, £183.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

In criminal cases tried in the Royal Court facts are decided upon by a jury of nine except in the case of a trial for a capital offence when the jury consists of twelve.

For magisterial cases the Island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for Appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the Island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law (Ordinances and Revised Rules and Orders) of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, with the assistance of Mr. J. Louis Devaux of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Mr. Devaux assisted in compiling the Ordinances and edited the Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. Mr. Coller also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

The total number of cases heard and of persons convicted of various crimes in the Colony over a period of five years is as follows:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Magistrate's Courts (cases heard) ...	1,657	1,826	1,755	1,551	1,861
Magistrate's Courts (convictions) ...	1,132	1,326	1,239	1,154	1,322
Royal Court (convictions) ...	22	14	13	6	6

The following table shows the number of offences dealt with by the Magistrates in 1936 as compared with 1935:—

	1935.	1936.
Offences against the person, including homicide...	362	335
Praedial larceny	147	170
Offences against property other than praedial	215	186
Other offences	827	1,170
Total number of offences reported...	1,551	1,861

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council passed 23 Ordinances including one Appropriation Ordinance. The more important Ordinances were as follows:—

The Currency Notes (Trinidad) Ordinance, 1936, making Trinidad Government Currency Notes legal tender in St. Lucia;

The Loan Ordinance, 1936, authorizing the Governor to borrow from the Crown Agents £1,400 to pay for the former Bank Building (Barclays Bank, Dominion Colonial and Overseas) and £100 for incidental expenses to adapt the building for use as a Post Office;

The Customs Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, providing, *inter alia*, for the Legislative Council to alter Customs Tariffs from time to time without the necessity for the subsequent confirmation of its action by the passing of an Ordinance;

The Board of Education Ordinance, 1936, establishing a Board of Education for the Colony;

The Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance, 1936, modifying the procedure with respect to the jury, and to cases of Aggravated Assault and revising the qualifications of jurors;

The Petroleum Amendment Ordinance, 1936, fixing the flash point limit of petroleum at 73° Fahrenheit;

The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, conferring upon the Governor in Council the power to remit in appropriate cases the whole or part of the income tax due by any person;

The Civil Code (Resealing of Probates) Amendment Ordinance, 1936, providing for the resealing of Probates;

The Customs Amendment Ordinance, 1936, vesting in the Treasurer a discretionary power to dispense with the giving of a bond by the owner of goods taken out of a bonded warehouse for exportation from the Colony;

The Liquor Licence Amendment Ordinance, 1936, providing for the exemption from Trade Duty of spirits taken out of bond for exportation from the Colony;

The Public Buildings (Insurance) Fund Abolition Ordinance, 1936, providing *inter alia* for the abolition of the Public Buildings (Insurance) Fund;

The Destruction of Court Records Ordinance, 1936, providing statutory authority for the destruction of Court Records;

The Guarantee Fund Amendment Ordinance, 1936, providing for the keeping by the Treasurer of a Register of persons who are required to give security in place of the schedule of such persons provided for in the principal Ordinance;

The Medical Registration Amendment Ordinance, 1936, making the Registrar of the Royal Court *ex officio* Medical Registrar, and providing, *inter alia,* for the erasure of names of deceased persons from the Medical Register;

The Whale Fishery (Repeal) Ordinance, 1936, repealing local legislation on the subject of whaling;

The Wireless Telegraphy Amendment Ordinance, 1936, enlarging the definition of "Wireless Telegraphy" in Ordinance No. 128, 1916 Revision, so as to include "Wireless Telephony";

The Royal Court (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936, abolishing the payment of personal fees to Bailiffs of the Royal Court.

There were a number of Statutory Rules and Orders issued dealing chiefly with administrative routine and the carrying out of the details of the provisions of various statutes. Royal Orders in Council were issued including, *inter alia,* Royal Orders relating to debts under the Treaty of Peace Act, 1919; the extension of the duration of the Legislative Council of the Colony; the load lines of Swedish ships; prohibiting the landing or flying of aircraft in or over prohibited areas; revoking certain Treaty of Peace Orders; applying to the British Colonies etc., certain Supplementary Conventions with Austria, Switzerland and Denmark making further provision for the reciprocal extradition of fugitive criminals; extending to certain Colonies etc., the provisions of the Whaling Industry (Regulaton) Act, 1934; making new provision in regard to the constitution of the Legislative Council. There were also issued, a Royal Proclamation declaring His Majesty's Pleasure touching His Royal Coronation and the Solemnity thereof; Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Realm constituting the Office of Governor and Commander in Chief of the Windward Islands; Additional Royal Instructions making new provision in regard to the constitution of the Executive Council.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Local Revenue.*	*Total Revenue including Imperial Grants.*	*Local Expenditure.*	*Total Expenditure including Development Schemes.*
	£	£	£	£
1932 ...	79,713	130,207	79,626	96,278
1933 ...	72,569	92,816	81,002	94,732
1934 ...	75,229	85,079	84,532	90,953
1935 ...	79,872	96,146	86,090	87,959
1936 ...	100,018	101,018	87,433	91,150

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £117,606 5s. 3d. at the close of the year while the accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption amounted to £15,708 17s. 6d.

The Imperial grants received have been as follows:—

Year.	*In aid of Administration.*	*For Colonial Development.*	*Reparation Receipt.*
	£	£	£
1932 ...	35,300	15,194	3,956
1933 ...	2,500	17,747	—
1934 ...	8,000	1,850	—
1935 ...	14,000	2,274	—
1936 ...	1,000	3,717	—

The assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1936, amounting to £52,651 1s. 7d., were made up as follows:—

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash—						
In hands of Treasurer	188	5	5			
" " Sub-Accountants	374	13	3			
" " Crown Agents (Current Account)	155	11	2			
At Barclays Bank (Current Account) ...	3,249	9	8			
				3,967	19	6
Investments—						
On account of Savings Bank	20,006	11	2			
" Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,494	3	4			
" Baron Trust Fund	109	12	9			
" Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	105	15	8			
" Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	150	10	10			
" Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	909	17	6			
" Castries Town Board Building Fund	589	11	5			
" Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund ...	89	0	11			
				23,455	3	7

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loans—						
Castries Town Board for Streets (from Public Buildings Insurance Fund) ...	–	–	–			
Castries Town Board for Cemetery ...	49	14	5			
Castries Water Authority for Waterworks	100	0	0			
Village of Dennery for Waterworks ...	128	0	0			
Village of Choiseul for Market, etc. ...	7	10	0			
Village of Canaries for River-Wall ...	42	0	0			
Town of Vieux-Fort for Sea-Wall ...	154	0	0			
				481	4	5
Advances—						
Micoud Village Fund	274	5	1			
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	174	5	1			
Choiseul Village Fund	93	4	3			
Packing and Crate Suspense Account ...	235	6	10			
Post Office Account	955	11	10			
Other Advances	3,077	3	0			
				4,800	16	1
Stores—						
Public Works Materials and Stores ...	2,654	17	5			
Colony Drug Store	569	5	8			
				3,224	3	1
Joint Colonial Fund				14,000	0	0
Drafts and Remittances Account ...				2,712	14	11
Total Assets...				£52,651	1	7

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1936, amounting to £36,622 6s. 7d. were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits—						
Savings Bank Depositors	23,378	2	1			
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account ...	142	2	0			
Sundry Deposits Account	3,243	1	9			
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	1,333	7	11			
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	105	15	8			
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	150	10	10			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,538	13	1			
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	160	18	6			
Model Cottages Fund	344	2	8			
Castries Town Board Building Fund ...	589	11	5			
Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund	89	0	11			
Castries Electric Lights Fund	732	19	5			
				31,808	6	3
Special Funds—						
Towns and Villages	678	4	7			
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account ...	676	18	10			
Castries Waterworks Reconstruction Loan Account	744	7	7			
Castries Town Fund	2,422	0	5			
				3,921	11	5
St. Vincent Intercolonial Account				99	12	7
Grenada Intercolonial Account				792	16	4
Total Liabilities				£36,622	6	7

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income-tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following schedule:—

	s.	d.
For every pound of the first £100		4
For every pound of the next £200		6
For every pound of the next £300	1	0
For every pound of the next £400	1	6
For every pound of the next £500	2	3
For every pound of the next £500	3	0
For every pound of the next £500	3	9
For every pound of the next £500	4	6
For every pound of the next £500	5	6
For every pound of the rest of the chargeable income ...	5	6

A temporary surcharge of 12½ per cent. imposed is still in force.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows:—

Of an annual rental of:

	s.	d.
Over £5 and not over £7 10s.	7	6
,, £7 10s. and not over £10	10	0
,, £10 and not over £12 10s.	15	0
,, £12 10s. and not over £15	20	0
,, £15 and not over £20	28	0
,, £20-£7 per cent. of the assessed rental value.		

In the case of towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed 8 per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is import duty. There is a preferential tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an excise duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, &c.

There is an export duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1935 and 1936 was as follows:—

	1935.	1936.
	£	£
Import duties	42,281	44,064
Export duties	1,880	1,620
Port, harbour, etc., dues	2,665	2,292
Spirit licences	805	841
Distillery licences	163	164
Animals, vehicles and guns	770	912
Petroleum, cocoa, boats, etc.	791	721
Excise duty on rum	6,899	7,014
Trade duty on spirits	3,314	3,298
Stamp duty	1,713	1,008
Income tax	2,732	3,304
Succession duty	88	1,671
Rural house tax	1,015	740

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Selwyn McGregor Grier, K.C.M.G., late Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, left Grenada on vacation leave on the 7th June, 1936, and resumed the administration of the Windward Islands Government on his return to Grenada on the 14th October, 1936.

During the late Governor's absence on leave, His Honour Edward W. Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator, acted as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, and the Honourable G. H. Frith, Treasurer, acted as Administrator of St. Lucia. The Acting Governor left this Island on the 14th June, 1936, for Grenada, from which Island he administered the Government of the Windward Islands. He returned on the 17th September, 1936, to St. Lucia, where he continued to administer the Windward Islands Government until the return of the substantive Governor to duty.

The Administrator left this Island on short leave on the 14th December, 1936, and returned to duty on the 25th December, 1936.

The late Governor paid two visits to this Island in the course of the year, the 18th to the 23rd February, 1936, and the 6th to the 22nd March, 1936.

The following British ships of war visited this Island during the year:—

H.M.S. *Dundee* and *Frobisher* in February.
H.M.S. *York* in July.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

(a) *Official or Semi-Official Publications.*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia Gazette ...	—	St. Lucia Government Printing Office.	Weekly	12s. per annum, 6d. per copy.
St. Lucia Blue Book ...	—	Do.	Annually	10s.
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia. (Cmd. 3996.)	—	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1932	2s.
West India Sugar Commission Report, 1929. (Cmd. 3517.)	—	Do.	1930	2s.
Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands. Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Primary Education. (Colonial No. 79.)	—	Do.	1933	2s.
Year Book of the West Indies.	—	Thomas Skinner & Co., London.	Annually	7s. 6d.
The West India Committee Circular.	—	The West India Committee, London.	Fortnightly.	2 guineas per annum.
Government of the West Indies.	Hume Wrong	Clarendon Press ...	1923	—
Historical Geography of the British Colonies, Vol. II, West Indies.	Sir C. P. Lucas.	Clarendon Press ...	1905	7s. 6d.
History, Resources, and Progress of British West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Pitman	1912	7s. 6d.
Pocket Guide to the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Sifton Praed & Co. Ltd.	1931	10s. 6d.
Handbook of the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1929	5s. 6d.

(*b*) *Descriptive Publications.*

English in the West Indies.	J. A. Froude	Longman, Green & Co.	1888	18s. 6d.
Cradle of the Deep ...	Sir Frederick Treves.	Smith, Elder & Co.	1908	12s.
A Wayfarer in the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1928	8s.

(c) *Historical Publications.*

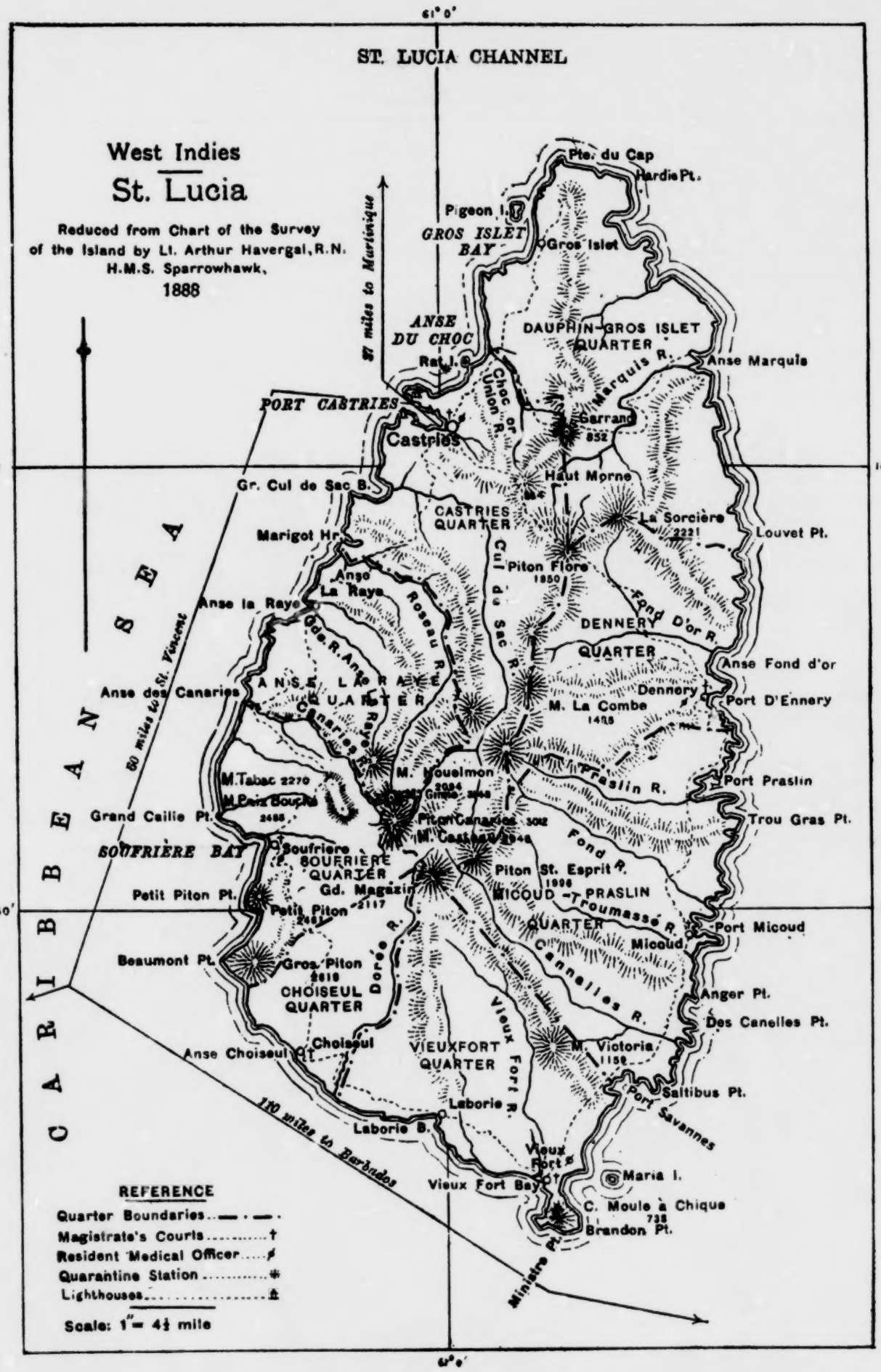
Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia: Historical Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen.	Longman Green, London.	—	—
Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794.	Willyams ...	T. Bensley, London	1796	—
Chronological History of the West Indies.	Captain Thomas Southey.	Longman Rees; Orme Brown & Green.	1827	—
History of British Colonies in the West Indies.	Bryan Edwards.	John Stockdale ...	1793	—
History of Caribee Islands.	De Rochefort (translated by J. Davis).	—	1666	—
Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique.	J. B. Labat	Husson and others, La Haye.	1742	—
Pére Labat (1693–1705), Memoirs of.	(Translated by John Eaden.)	Constable & Co. ...	1931	7s. 6d.
The West Indies in 1837	Sturges and Harvey.	Hamilton	1838	8s. 6d
West Indian Tales of Old.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Duckworth ...	1912	8s.

(d) *Scientific Publication.*

Obeah	H. J. Bell ...	Sampson Low ...	1889	2s. 6d.

(e) *Fiction.*

A West Indian Pepper-Pot.	Sir Reginald St. Johnston, K.C.M.G.	Philip Alan Co. ...	1928	10s. 6d.



(44716—48) Wt. 2173—3893 625 10/37 P. St. G. 377/ 7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SEIRRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1816

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1821

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1714 and 1759 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1937
Price 1s. 3d. net

PRINTED & PUBLISHED
IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937
Summary of Proceedings [Cmd. 5482] 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE
Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST
(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE
A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937. [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, History and Language	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	4
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	6
VI.—Production	7
VII.—Commerce	11
VIII.—Wages and Cost of Living	12
IX.—Education and Welfare Institutions	13
X.—Communications and Transport	15
XI.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	17
XII.—Public Works	18
XIII.—Justice, Police and Prisons	18
XIV.—Legislation	22
XV.—Public Finance and Taxation	23
XVI.—Miscellaneous	26
Appendix.—List of Publications	28
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, HISTORY AND LANGUAGE.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when this Island was included in a patent which was granted to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I. In 1660 the English and French Sovereigns agreed to an act of neutrality regarding the possession of the Island, and in 1672 a commission was granted to Lord Willoughby constituting him Governor of St. Vincent together with some other West Indian Colonies.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities between the English and the French broke out and the Island was eventually taken in 1762 by the English under General Monckton. By the Treaty of Paris in the following year St. Vincent was ceded to Great Britain, and General Robert Melville was appointed Governor of the Island.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the Island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of England as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the French landed on the Island and took possession of it, but by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The temperature varies from 67° F. to 89° F. The coolest months are from December to April. The highest temperature during 1936 was recorded in September and the lowest in February.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experiment Station, 80 ft. above sea level, was 86·18 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 3·25 inches on 17th July.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867, the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created, composed of 12 members, three *ex-officio*, three nominated by the Crown and six elected by the people.

This Constitution in turn was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial member and three elected members. The Island was divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. It was provided that an election should take place every three years, and elections under this Constitution took place in 1925, 1928 and 1931.

The Council elected in 1931 was retained in office by Imperial Orders in Council for three further periods of one year beyond the normal term, and was finally dissolved on the 17th of December, 1936. By the St. Vincent (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1936, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members, three nominated members and five elected members. The Island was consequently divided into five electoral districts, each returning one elected member.

There is an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex-officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. The officer at present holding the post of Senior Medical Officer and three unofficial members have been appointed to the Executive Council. Every member who is not an *ex-officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

The municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board, which consists of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race then recorded was as follows:—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans)	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1935 and 1936:—

	1935.	1936.
Estimated population	55,219	56,511
Births, excluding still births	2,211	2,212
Birth rate per 1,000	40·04	39·14
Still births	119	110
*Percentage of still births	5·11 (should read 5·38)	4·97
Death rate per 1,000	15·39	16·35
Deaths of children under one year (excluding still births)	246	264
Marriages per 1,000	6·98	6·16
Emigration	2,501	2,564
Immigration	2,737	2,568

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1936 was again comparatively healthy. The death-rate was a little higher (from 15·3 per mille in 1935 to 16·3) and the birth-rate slightly lower (from 40·0 per mille to 39·1). Approximately half of the total deaths occurred in the age group under five years of age. There was no special outbreak of major disease but admissions to the hospitals and attendance at dispensaries continued to increase.

	1935.	1936.
Attendances at dispensaries	47,379	49,429
Colonial Hospital—		
Inpatients treated	1,456	1,518
Outpatient casualties	509	432
Other outpatient attendances	7,535	8,415
Casualty Hospitals (2)—		
Inpatients	193	187
Pauper, Lunatic and Leper Asylums ...	177	197
Tuberculosis Home	18	15
	57,267	60,193

* For 1935 percentage was calculated on the "total" births (Births including stillborn); for 1936 percentage has been calculated on live births only. On this basis percentage for 1935 should read 5·38 and not 5·11.

The following table indicates the principal causes of death during the years 1935 and 1936 and the percentage of those to the total deaths. It will be seen that these percentages in the case of certain diseases are considerably lower than in previous years.

Causes of death	*No. of deaths from each cause*		*Percentages of total deaths*	
	1935	1936	1935	1936
Diarrhoea and enteritis ...	69	37	8·11	4·00
Senility	94	96	11·06	10·38
Bronchitis	37	25	4·35	2·70
Ascariasis	87	81	10·24	8·77
Tuberculosis	45	27	5·29	2·92
Broncho-pneumonia ...	28	29	3·29	3·14
Congenital debility	81	51	9·53	5·52

V.—HOUSING.

The housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired.

At present in country villages the houses are mostly of primitive form, being built of mud and wattle or of odd pieces of board with cane trash or shingle roofs, and the same is true of the housing of the labourers on many estates. In many cases estates rent house sites to their labourers, leaving the latter to erect their own dwellings. In 1930 the Sanitary Authority passed regulations governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses.

Under these regulations, which are enforced by the Sanitary Department and apply to all parts of the Colony outside Kingstown, the minimum requirements for dwelling houses are:—a plot of land 75 feet by 50 feet, two rooms of 64 square feet each, a height of 8 feet from floor to plate, pillars 2 feet off the ground, ventilation openings equivalent to one-tenth of the floor space, and a latrine. Since the introduction of the Dwelling House regulations in 1930, 1,100 applications for permission to erect houses have been approved, and most of these houses have been completed. These figures are exclusive of the 100 peasants' cottages erected by Government with funds made available from the Colonial Development Fund.

Some improvement is taking place in the construction of the better class of house, especially in the case of dwellings recently

erected in and around Kingstown. Unfortunately, however, there has been little attempt at zoning or town planning in the past and the results of this deficiency must become increasingly apparent as time goes on.

The Kingstown Board at the end of 1936 was engaged in framing new Bye-laws applying to all buildings in Kingstown.

The majority of the houses or huts occupied by labourers and peasants are very poorly built, and they are in most cases allowed to fall into disrepair. The people have no skill in house-building. Few can afford to employ carpenters, and most of the carpenters available are of a very " rough " type.

Timber and boarding are difficult to obtain. The majority of peasants and labourers cannot afford to buy these materials. A certain amount of rough timber is obtained illegally from Government-owned mountain lands. Most plantation owners demand payment for timber taken from their lands and even for grass and cane trash required for roofing. Wooden packing cases are extensively used in house-building, and every store demands payment for these.

In few cases is any attempt made to repair the huts until in the wet season they become uninhabitable. The Unemployment and Relief Board distributed free during 1936, 576 feet of pitch pine scantling and 540 feet of galvanized iron to certain poor persons to assist them in the repair of their houses.

A number of the cottages erected by Government are not occupied as, owing to the poverty of the great majority of the people, they find great difficulty in paying the very small instalments required to purchase or, in the case of rented dwellings, the very small monthly rentals charged.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Minerals.

No minerals are found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The following table shows the kind of crops grown, the estimated production, the estimated percentage grown respectively by the peasants and on plantations, the estimated percentages used locally and exported, and the estimated value of the products:—

Crop.	Estimated production.	Estimated percentage produced by		Estimated percentage.		Estimated value.
		Plantations.	Peasants.	Used Locally.	Exported.	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	396,960	67	33	—	100	29,000
2. Cotton — Marie Galante. ,,	68,285	20	80	—	100	1,707
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	40,000	50	50	25	75	300
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	7,870,000	70	30	2	98	90,000
5. Cassava ... ,,	500,000	40	60	25	75	2,200
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,500	100	—	67	33	11,000
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	355,000	95	5	5	95	9,000
8. Copra ... ... lb.	787,765	98	2	—	100	4,830
9. Maize ... ... ,,	60,000	25	75	67	33	200
10. Groundnuts ... ,,	5,000	10	90	88	12	25
11. Peas and beans ,,	150,000	65	35	75	25	900
12. Sweet potatoes ,,	3,000,000	20	80	75	25	6,000
13. Plantains ... stems	60,000	10	90	84	16	4,000
14. Tannias ... lb.	500,000	10	90	70	30	2,000
15. Yams ... ... ,,	132,800	10	90	60	40	415
16. Miscellaneous vegetables. ,,	110.000	10	90	75	25	496
17. Bananas ... stems	40,000	75	25	12	88	3,000
18. Tomatoes ... lb.	25,000	1	99	75	25	100
19. Oranges ... No.	60,000	45	55	50	50	65
20. Grapefruit ... ,,	8,000	40	60	80	20	12
21. Coconuts ... ,,	3,100,000	90	10	10	90	10,000
22. Limes ... ... ,,	1,000,000	20	80	50	50	300
23. Mace ... ... lb.	4,850	40	60	1	99	260
24. Nutmegs ... ,,	26,500	40	60	1	99	380
25. Ginger ... ... ,,	4,000	5	95	50	50	22

Notes.

1. Advances are made to peasant growers for their cotton by the Government Cotton Ginnery, which gins, bales and ships it for them. When sold 5 per cent. is deducted, the balance being distributed *pro rata* among them. Planters usually ship their own cotton.

4. All arrowroot for export is graded, packed and shipped by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association who make cash advances to growers.

6. There is only one factory in the island where sugar is manufactured, but this plant, though relatively small, is among the most modern in the West Indies.

7. There are syrup factories of various capacities in the island. These factories are usually owned by planters, who also grind the sugar-cane of peasants on a share basis.

9. Owing to the present market conditions no corn was purchased by the Government Cotton Ginnery during 1936.

17. The area under bananas at the end of the year was approximately 1,000 acres. All Gros Michel bananas exported are handled by a Co-operative Association, and sold to the Canadian Banana Company under contract.

18. The Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau was closed down in July, 1935. The export of green limes is being continued by the Government Cotton Ginnery.

21. Not converted into copra.

Live-stock.

The following table shows the number of animals in the island as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Included in the table are the estimated values of the various classes of live-stock, the number of beasts owned by plantations and peasants respectively, the numbers exported during 1936 and the value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1936.*	*Value of exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,127	3,843
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	34	137
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	2,110	808
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	81	110
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	814	429
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	11	215
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	8	66

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. A small whaling station is situated in Bequia. In 1936, 278 gallons of whale oil valued at £25 and 776 lb. of turtle shells valued at £158 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Labour.

There is no recruiting of labour in the Colony. As a rule, labourers are employed by plantations on certain days, while on others they are employed or work on their own holdings if they possess or can rent these. They are usually paid by the task, but payment by the day is of fairly frequent occurrence.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is similar to that performed on plantations. Most peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently they use the ordinary plantation methods, and follow the lead of the plantations as to the crops they raise.

The number of peasants who cultivate land for themselves, either owning or renting land, is approximately 5,060. Of this number it is estimated that 4,818 cultivate areas from 1-10 acres, and 242 from 11-50 acres. Produce obtained from such areas is used for local consumption and export.

It is estimated that there are, including men and women, about 11,500 persons of the labourer and peasant class, in addition to some 400 receiving poor relief.

Of these, about 1,000 are in Kingstown, 3,200 on the Leeward coast, 6,600 on the Windward coast and 700 in the St. Vincent Grenadines.

About 300 persons are more or less regularly employed by the Government Departments, and about 1,000 on sugar manufacturing estates. Another 1,000 have regular employment in Kingstown and elsewhere in various capacities, agricultural and otherwise.

In all the agricultural industries other than sugar employment is only seasonal.

On the Windward coast some 3,000 persons are partially employed during the year. Approximately half of these have land, owned or rented, on which they grow food and other crops.

On the Leeward coast it is estimated that no more than 1,500 persons obtain partial employment during the year. Perhaps half of these own or rent portions of land on which they can grow food supplies and other crops; the rest make a living, when not working as labourers, by fishing and by obtaining casual employment in Kingstown and on the Windward coast.

In the Grenadines a considerable area is cultivated on the share system, mostly by females. There is a large amount of peasant cultivation and the chief occupation of the men is fishing or boat building. Although there may be some unemployment during part of the year, at other times labourers are difficult to obtain.

Apart from labourers who obtain employment on estates there are some 2,500 peasants who own holdings under 10 acres in size and some 500 who cultivate lands on the share system.

There is very little unemployment among skilled labourers.

It is estimated that there are 1,000 persons unemployable who exist by begging or by relying on their relations and friends. There are about 400 persons who receive grants from Poor Relief Funds of the Colony of whom only 10 are in the St. Vincent Grenadines.

Stock-raising.

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. A Government stud farm no longer exists, but several planters import pedigree and half-bred animals from the Government stock farm in Trinidad for breeding and for improving their ordinary stock.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is operated in conjunction with the sugar factory at the Mount Bentinck Estate. In 1936, 28,266 proof gallons of rum, valued at £3,298 were distilled; of this 7,702 proof gallons, valued at £898 were exported, the balance being consumed locally.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £330,907 as against a total of £306,314 in 1935, an increase of £24,593.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were:—

Year	Imports.	Exports. *Island Produce.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1932	149,289	95,693	1,606	97,299
1933	148,647	112,265	6,865	119,130
1934	163,035	129,833	5,396	135,229
1935	171,392	132,004	2,918	134,922
1936	174,861	152,980	3,066	156,046

Imports.

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	65,274	66,326	71,125	79,084	80,825
Canada	25,954	25,227	26,008	31,385	31,934
British West Indies ...	10,635	10,636	10,943	9,552	10,380
India	595	703	2,549	3,299	1,506
Newfoundland ...	3,738	3,944	9,084	4,767	4,631
Ceylon	299	308	286	266	350
Other British Colonies	6,714	7,058	6,481	6,583	9,983
United States of America	23,191	22,300	24,664	23,642	22,292
France	2,838	1,621	1,262	1,300	918
Denmark	79	227	570	379	345
Germany	1,472	1,334	1,239	1,204	2,719
Holland	968	917	690	1,116	707
Japan	1,890	3,662	3,417	3,602	3,492
Foreign West Indies	263	360	662	598	49
Other Countries ...	3,079	2,673	2,345	2,195	3,162
Unclassified	2,300	1,351	1,710	2,420	1,568
	149,289	148,647	163,035	171,392	174,861

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years:—

	1932. £	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco	49,835	49,269	55,118	54,114	57,583
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	15,300	6,929	17,660	14,923	15,321
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	81,608	90,778	88,090	99,725	99,095
Class IV.—Animals not for food	—	—	—	210	94
Class V.—Miscellaneous and unclassified ...	2,546	1,671	2,167	2,420	2,768
	149,289	148,647	163,035	171,392	174,861

The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained:—

	1932. *Per cent.*	1933. *Per cent.*	1934. *Per cent.*	1935. *Per cent.*	1936. *Per cent.*
United Kingdom	43·72	44·62	43·62	46·14	46·22
United States of America	15·53	15·00	15·13	13·79	12·75
Canada	17·39	16·97	15·96	18·31	18·26
All other Countries ...	23·36	23·41	25·29	21·76	22·77

Exports.

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports (excluding, in respect of the years 1934, 1935 and 1936, exports other than island produce) during the past five years:—

	1932. £	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £
Country of destination.					
United Kingdom ...	30,108	34,263	37,425	37,775	51,408
Canada	9,376	14,026	13,078	10,934	18,523
Bermuda	278	182	756	70	124
British West Indies ...	25,366	29,029	24,803	20,151	18,377
British Guiana ...	445	216	669	196	90
United States of America	27,489	35,598	47,717	57,565	55,976
Other Countries ...	4,237	5,816	5,385	5,313	8,482

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of labourers are:—females 6d.-10d., males 1s.-2s. per day of from eight to nine hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid by the task, the payment made being at the rate of 8d.-1s. per task of five to six hours. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers

with house-sites and with small portions of land for cultivation free or at small rentals; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms.

There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

The demand for labour at different seasons of the year is subject to wide variations. The reaping of arrowroot, cane and cotton requires the employment of a considerable amount of labour during the first three or four months of the year, and the recent revival in the cotton industry has considerably increased employment during August and September. Little labour is usually required, however, in two periods during the year, namely, from May to July and from October to November.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land and where land is available for their use. An estate owner sometimes allows his labourers to have the fruit of mango, breadfruit and avocado pear trees, and also other produce grown on the estate. In many cases a charge is made for the use of these fruits or produce. Fish are plentiful in the sea but on the Windward coast fishing is difficult because of the rough seas.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families. Meat is slightly less expensive than in England. Fish, though not always procurable, is cheaper. Local vegetables and fruit are cheap. Groceries and hardware and all dutiable imported goods are mostly dear. Rents of houses are higher than would be charged for houses providing similar accommodation in England. Servants' wages are from a half to a third lower than the wages of English servants, but local servants are far less efficient. On the whole the cost of living is somewhat lower than in England, but mainly because many of the amenities, the enjoyment of which involves higher expenditure in England, are not available.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from five to fifteen years, but provision has been made for the retention to the age of 16 years of pupils attending schools recognized as senior schools.

On the 31st of December, 1936, there were 38 primary schools. Of these 14 belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance, and the remaining 24 to the religious denominations. Of the denominational schools, nine are Anglican, thirteen Methodist and two Roman Catholic. The salaries of all teachers, most of the equipment of both

Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the denominational school-buildings are provided from the general revenue of the Colony.

The following comparative table gives the main figures of primary education in the Colony:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Number of schools	37	37	38
Enrolment on 31st December ...	9,413	10,432	10,411
Enrolment per 1,000 of population	176	189	184
Average attendance	5,346	5,998	5,720
Percentage in average attendance	56·7	57·5	54·9
Total Government expenditure...	£8,043	£8,548	£8,873
Cost per child in average attendance	£1 10s. 2d.	£1 8s. 5½d.	£1 11s. 0d.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £708 10s. 6½d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age but it is being steadily increased.

The Government maintains two secondary schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted when there are two or more pupils from the same family. On 31st December, 1936, the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 70 and at the Girls' High School 73.

In the 1936 Cambridge Local Examination there were 24 entries for the School Certificate and 34 for the Cambridge Junior Examination. Four boys and seven girls passed the School Certificate Examination, and six boys and seven girls passed the Cambridge Junior Examination.

The entry of primary school pupils into the secondary schools is assisted by the annual award, on the results of a competitive examination, of four free places, three of them provided by the Government and one by the municipality of Kingstown. Places, available at biennial or longer intervals, are also maintained by the Anglican Church, the Methodist Church, the Reeves Memorial Scholarship Committee and the Workingmen's Association.

On 31st December, 1936, 21 boys and 14 girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 30 in the Boys' School and 14 in the Girls' School.

There is a scholarship for University education of the annual value of £250. It is awarded biennially on the results of the London Matriculation examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the seat of learning is also provided.

There are no technical schools but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving attention in the primary schools.

The Glen Community School, situated five miles from Kingstown, is under the supervision of the Methodist Church; the estate comprises 38 acres. The aim of the school is to assist in developing all-round boys and girls and to fit them to make the most of the circumstances and environment in which they are placed. The boys are instructed in agricultural methods, carpentry, basket-work and mat-weaving, the girls in gardening, needlework, cooking and laundry-work.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides organizations are well established. There are 16 troops of the former and 14 companies of the latter.

A number of Friendly Societies, established under the Friendly Society Ordinance of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or ill health.

The St. Vincent Working-men's Co-operative Association provides sick and funeral benefits for their members.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, supplemented by a grant from Government, in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free; but for the use of the modern novels in the circulating library a monthly subscription of 6d. per book borrowed is charged.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads throughout the Colony are divided into three main groups, viz., Leeward, Windward and the Grenadines. The work of reconstructing and " oiling " the Windward Highway was recommenced and in 1936 a further 2¾ miles were " oiled ". The total " oiled " mileage in the Leeward District is 4 miles, and in the Windward District 16 miles. The roads in the Grenadines are all of earth.

A motor launch and privately owned canoes form the chief means of communication and transport between places on the Leeward coast and the capital, Kingstown, but motor vehicles run frequently as far as Barrouallie, a distance of 12 miles. On the Windward side of the Island motor vehicles supply this need. Between the Grenadines and the mainland, however, sailing boats, the Government Revenue Sloop *Carib*, and the subsidized Schooner *Enterprise*, both of which are fitted with auxiliary engines, are the only means of communication and transport.

Below is a table of the Highways and Byways throughout the Colony:—

Roads.	Mileage Total.	Oiled Mileage.	Macadamized Mileage.	Earth Mileage.	Means of Transport.
Main.					
Leeward Highway...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads, Kingstown District.	4	1½	2½	—	do.
Windward Highway	25	16	9	—	do.
Vigie Road... ...	11	—	9	2	do.
Byways					
Leeward	64⅜	—	3	61⅜	Carts and animals.
Windward	112¾	—	15	97¾	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Union Island ...	12	—	—	12	Foot.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	78	—	—	78	do.

Postal.

The General Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 22 district post offices, of which 10 transact all classes of postal business, including the issue and payment of money orders and postal orders, while the others perform the usual postal delivery with the sale of stamps.

Mails are conveyed to the offices in the Windward district by motor bus and to the Leeward district by motor launch under contract.

Mails are conveyed under contract weekly between St. Vincent, the Grenadines and Grenada by the auxiliary Schooner *Enterprise,* and to Bequia by sailing boat. Mails to Bequia and the Grenadines are also conveyed weekly by the Government auxiliary Sloop *Carib*.

Telegraph service is carried out by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service maintained by the Government links up Kingstown with two exchanges in the Windward district and one in the Leeward district.

Ample call facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. Sixteen of these call stations exist, linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships, the vessels proceeding north and south calling in alternate weeks.

There is a fortnightly call at St. Vincent by the vessel of this line proceeding south, i.e., from Halifax in the winter and Montreal in the summer and calling at the following places:—Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad to the southern terminal point Georgetown, British Guiana.

There is also a fortnightly call by vessels of the same line proceeding in the reverse direction from British Guiana to Canada. The vessels of the Canadian National Steamships calling at St. Vincent are of approximately 5,000 tons.

There are therefore regular and comfortable means of communication between St. Vincent and Canada and between St. Vincent and most of the other West Indian Islands and British Guiana.

Passenger steamers of the Harrison Line of approximately 4,000 tons frequently call at St. Vincent on their journey to and from London to Georgetown, British Guiana. These steamers call at the Northern Islands, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana.

It is therefore frequently possible for passengers to proceed between London and St. Vincent by the Harrison Line without transhipment.

In addition, the calls of the Canadian National and the Harrison Steamers at Barbados and Trinidad, from which two colonies there are frequent direct passenger liners to England, provide numerous further opportunities for passengers wishing to travel between this Colony and the United Kingdom.

Steamers of the Trinidad Line (Furness Withy & Co.) and of the " American Caribbean Line " also call from time to time at St. Vincent on their journeys between New York and Georgetown, British Guiana.

In addition to the above there are occasional calls at various periods by steamers of other lines.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) has a note circulation of £12,676. It is estimated that the value of coin in circulation during 1936 amounted to between £4,000 and £8,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 1½ per cent. per annum.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has

a Savings Department paying interest at 4 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1936, was £5,741.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1936, was £19,048. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coins of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is 4s. 2d. of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The more important works carried out during 1936 are:—

Provision of a District Casualty Hospital at Union Island, Southern Grenadines.

Installing of equipment at Syrup Investigation Laboratory.

Improvements to Sub-Prison at the Government Cotton Ginnery.

Installing of a Hydrant at Richmond Hill.

Improving cells at Layou Police Station.

Providing quarters for the boatmen at the Customs.

Constructing grillages and cells at the Police Headquarters.

Alterations at the Audit Office.

Repairing Troumaca Jetty.

Erecting building containing Hayward X-Ray Laboratory and Simmons Bequest Rooms at Colonial Hospital.

Constructing New Mental Home at the Villa.

Renovation of bridges at Arnos Vale and Calliaqua.

Oiling portions of the Windward Highway, 2¾ miles.

Installing Hot Water System at Government House.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Organization of Justice.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which is composed of the following:—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the Leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie and Georgetown (on the Windward coast).

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which is composed of the St. Vincent Grenadines—Bequia, Union Island, Mayreau and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

STATISTICS OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS.

(FIRST AND SECOND DISTRICTS.)

FIRST DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	21	94	224	339
Malicious injury of property.	—	3	2	5
Praedial larceny	1	13	16	30
Offences against property	—	1	3	4
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	18	23	216	257
Other offences	6	39	113	158
	46	173	574	793

FIRST DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	143	—	6	1	—	211	33	394
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	32	1	1	1	—	1	8	44
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	24	—	3	1	—	—	37	65
Whipping	3	—	3	—	—	3	14	23
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	22	1	3	—	—	1	21	48
	224	2	16	3	—	216	113	574

SECOND DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	18	30	200	248
Malicious injury to property	1	3	14	18
Praedial larceny	12	18	180	210
Offences against property	—	8	59	67
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	9	19	231	259
Other offences	29	38	401	468
	69	116	1,085	1,270

SECOND DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	88	2	97	16	—	222	145	570
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	32	4	18	20	—	9	117	200
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	14	—	9	8	—	—	47	78
Whipping	18	8	38	10	—	—	53	127
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	48	—	18	5	—	—	39	110
	200	14	180	59	—	231	401	1,085

Police.

ORGANIZATION OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Personnel.—During the greater part of the year the Police Force consisted of one Officer and 61 Non-Commissioned Officers and men. One Officer and 42 other ranks were at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed among the ten outstations.

The post of Sub-Inspector was abolished early in the year and the post of Sergeant-Major substituted.

The Sergeant-Major however did not take up his appointment until 30th October.

The Chief of Police is, *ex officio*, Commandant of the Local Forces, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade, Chief Relieving Officer and Inspector of Weights and Measures.

During the year there were 2,283 police prosecutions. Convictions were obtained in 2,004 cases.

All outstations are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under a semi-military organization the constables at headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period a constable is deemed to remain enrolled for successive three-year periods unless he signifies his intention to resign before the end of a period.

Besides ordinary police duties the members of the Force are called upon to perform the following functions:—Water Police, Crew of the Administrator's boat when required, Firemen, Process Servers outside the Kingstown District, District Relieving Officers and all duties in connection with emigration laws and control. All the clerical work within the department is carried out by the uniformed staff.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise:—

(1) The record office, warders' mess room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery and bathroom for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) a building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper storey being occupied by the prison chapel and the warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing 16 single cells.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room and a weighing room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison. When they are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. In nearly all cases those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks leave prison in better health than at their admission.

Instruction by Schoolmaster.

The instruction commenced in August, 1933, has been continued during the year under review. The result continues to be encouraging.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important Ordinances enacted during the year under review:—

No.	*Short Title.*
1.	Savings Bank.
2.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
8.	Probates (Resealing).
12.	Police (Amendment).
14.	Trinidad Currency Notes.
15.	Local Savings Bank.
16.	Official Emoluments Levy (Amendment).
21.	Registration of Clubs.
22.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
24.	Land and House Tax (Amendment).
28.	Whale Fishery Repeal.
30.	Income Tax (Amendment).
31.	Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment).
33.	Public Purposes Loan.

There has been no factory legislation, legislation regarding compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for payments in respect of sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1936	81,892	80,973
1935	77,758	77,559
1934	77,819	73,761
1933	72,873	68,150
1932	72,073	67,903

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £89,926 of which £1,400 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £29,768 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £8,434.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £26,536 of which £7,296 represents unallocated stores and loans to Boards.

The main heads of taxation are:—

	Yield for 1936.
	£
Import Duties	36,425
Export Duties	3,414
Licences	3,729
Excise Duties	5,076
Land and House Tax	7,169
Income Tax	3,134
Stamp Duties	1,051
Estate Duties	107
Trade Duties	2,423

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows:—

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Boots and shoes (canvas with rubber soles).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and elastic).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 3*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes (other kinds).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Flour, wheaten	5*s.* per 196 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	3*s.* 4*d.* per 100 lb.
Rice	1*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.	3*s.* per 100 lb.
Machinery — marine, water and sewerage and industrial.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Machinery — Agricultural, Electrical.	Free.	5 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Sugar, refined	6*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* 9*d.* per 100 lb.
,, unrefined ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Hardware—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7*d.* and under per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d.* per pair.
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7*d.* per pair value.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 7*d.* per pair.
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 9*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened.	1*s.* 8*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible, lucca, olive and similar oils.	1*s.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Oils, edible, cotton seed and soya bean.	10*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 3*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured—cigars and cigarettes.	8*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	12*s.* 6*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, snuffs and other manufactured tobacco.	5*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	8*s.* 3*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured.	1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	2*s.* per lb.
Wood, lumber	7*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	11*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem*
Motor cars (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor car parts... ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent *ad valorem.*
Motor car parts (wholly British).	7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	—
Motor car tyres and tubes	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*	35 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Kerosene oil	3*d.* per gallon.	5*d.* per gallon.
Meats—beef and pork ...	6*s.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	10½*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Metals—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	22½ per cent. *ad valorem.*
Soap, common	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter	10*s.* 5*d.* per 100 lb.	25*s.* per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1*s.* and under per yard).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1*s.* per yard).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent. preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1936 was £5,076.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon is imposed on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £1,051 in 1936; the summary of the rates is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreements under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or for otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for			6
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds—			
not exceeding £1			1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10			2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25			3
For each additional £25 or part thereof			3
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Shipping Bill			1½
Legacies:—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax is levied of 2s. per acre or part thereof on land in St. Vincent, and of 3d. to 1s. per acre or part thereof on land

in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A tax is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent and in Union Island at the following rates:—

Upon houses of which the assessed annual rental shall be—

Over £2 and not exceeding £3—1s. per house.
Over £3 and not exceeding £5—2s. per house.
Over £5 and not exceeding £6—2s. 6d. per house.
Over £6 and not exceeding £7 10s.—3s. 4d. per house.
Over £7 10s. and not exceeding £9—4s. per house.
Over £9 and not exceeding £10—5s. per house.
Over £10 and not exceeding £12 10s.—6s. 8d. per house.
Over £12 10s. and not exceeding £15—10s. per house.
Over £15 and not exceeding £20—15s. per house.
Over £20, at the rate of £4 per centum of the assessed annual rental.

No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £7,169.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of 1s. on amounts not exceeding £1 and of 5 per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

Water Tax in Country Districts.

Certain districts outside of the limits of the various towns have been provided with pipe-borne water supplies. The boundaries of these districts are prescribed by Order in Council and a graduated tax is levied on all houses situated within such a district.

A house of which the assessed annual rental does not exceed £2 10s. 0d. is taxed 6d., a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeds £2 10s. 0d. but does not exceed £5 is taxed 1s., and a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeds £5 is taxed 2s.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands.—The sum of £835 5s. 8d. was collected from the sales and leases of Crown Lands during the year, and the arrears amounted to £962 12s. 0d. as compared with £1,065 14s. 5d. in the preceding year.

Surveys.—Fourteen surveys were performed by the Crown Surveyor and none by surveyors in private practice.

Three Rivers Land Settlement Scheme.—Five rural lots at Three Rivers Estate were taken up during the year, and the revenue collected from deposits on these lots together with instalments on lots previously sold amounted to £1,029 7s. 3d. as compared with £821 12s. 8d. in 1935. At the end of 1936 only three plots of land equal in area to approximately 24 acres remained unsold.

An Agricultural Credit Society was formed in 1934 in connection with the settlement scheme. In 1936 a loan of £130 was granted by Government to the Society with interest at the rate of 3½ per cent.

The Three Rivers Estate Arrowroot and Syrup Works owned by Government are leased to the Society at a peppercorn rental for co-operative use by members. A satisfactory working profit was shown at the end of the year.

The Ordinance now in force requires members borrowing money from a Society to charge their crops or other property as securities.

Visits of His Majesty's Ships.—His Majesty's Ships *Dundee* and *York* visited this Colony in January and July, 1936, respectively.

Official.—His Excellency Sir Selwyn Grier, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, was in the Colony for the following periods during the year: 30th January to 11th February; 17th February to 18th February; 13th May to 19th May; 28th October to 17th November.

Sir Selwyn Grier was on vacation leave from the 7th of June to the 14th of October, during which period His Honour Edward William Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator of St. Lucia, administered the Government of the Windward Islands.

His Honour A. F. Grimble, C.M.G., Administrator of St. Vincent, was appointed to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Seychelles and left this Colony to take up his new appointment on the 5th of March, 1936.

The Honourable John Felix Hamilton Otway, O.B.E., Colonial Treasurer, administered the Government from the 5th of March to the 15th of June.

His Honour Arthur Alban Wright, C.M.G., Secretary for Native Affairs, Fiji, was appointed Administrator and Colonial Secretary of St. Vincent, and arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government on the 16th of June.

Sir John Maffey, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, passed through St. Vincent on the afternoon of the 17th of February, 1936.

Electricity.—Kingstown and environs are lighted by electricity generated by a modern Diesel plant of 130 kilowatts capacity generating at 230-400 volts A.C. three phase 50 cycles.

A refrigerating plant is also run as an adjunct to the Electricity Department.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Title of Publication.		*Price.*		*Agent for Sale.*
		s.	d.	
St. Vincent Blue Book		10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do.	Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do.	Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

(44726—48) Wt. 2172—3892 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127–1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127–2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127–3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935.

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

PALESTINE

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

MUI TSAI IN HONG KONG AND MALAYA

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1821

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
10 FIRST STREET SE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1838

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GRENADA, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1718 and 1789 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

RETURN TO
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
DIV. OF DOCS.

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1938
Price 9*d*. net

PRINTED & PUBLISHED
IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

REGULATIONS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE

Part I.—Public Officers [Colonial No. 88–1] 9d. (10d.)
Part II.—Public Business [Colonial No. 88–2] 1s. 3d. (1s. 4d.)

THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Administrative Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st June, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 137] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Medical Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to August, 1937)
Second Edition [Colonial No. 140] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL LEGAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Legal Service, and a Schedule of Offices as at 1st August, 1937)
Third Edition [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)

THE COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Agricultural Service, and a Schedule of Offices revised to 30th November, 1936)
First Edition [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Veterinary Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition. [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

THE COLONIAL FOREST SERVICE LIST

(Including the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the Colonial Forest Service, and a Schedule of Offices)
First Edition [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)

CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Handbook of Information supplied by Colonial Governments
Third Edition, 1937 [Colonial No. 136] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730] 9d. (10d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

JV33
G7A4

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA, 1936

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	8
VI.	Production	9
VII.	Commerce	10
VIII.	Wages and Cost of Living	11
IX.	Education and Welfare Institutions	12
X.	Communications and Transport	14
XI.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	15
XII.	Public Works	15
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.	Legislation	18
XV.	Public Finance and Taxation	20
XVI.	Land and Survey	23
	Appendix, Bibliography	24
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Carribean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ north latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
OCT 7 1940
DIVISION OF DOCUMENTS

two small lakes formed in extinct craters; one, called the Grand Etang, is situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast.

Climate.

The climate is good and during the months from December to the end of April, when the trade winds prevail, it is delightful.

From July to October there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. The climate may be regarded as hot during this period but it is not unhealthy at any time during the year.

There is an astonishing variation of rainfall. At Belvidere, in the mountainous centre, it reached a total of 191 inches in 1936, while at Point Saline, in the extreme south, the total was 87·25 inches, and at the Richmond Hill Meteorological Station in St. George's between Belvidere and Point Saline, a total of 69·51 inches was recorded. The rainfall for the year under review was regarded as heavy, although the average over 17 recording stations was 101 inches as against an average of 111 inches during the last five years. At Carriacou, however, the rainfall fell from 61·84 inches in 1935 to 48·03 inches in 1936. Generally speaking, the weather conditions were satisfactory from an agricultural point of view. The total rainfall at St. George's for 1936 amounted to 69·51 inches as compared with 67·42 in 1935.

The highest temperature recorded in 1936 was 90° and the lowest 70°. The mean maximum was 82°, and the mean minimum 75°.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Colombus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island and, after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-6, influenced by the French Revolution, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British

subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils.

The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, all *ex officio,* with such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of the appointment of members other than *ex officio* members is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an unofficial majority. It consists of four official members, four nominated members and seven elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has only a casting vote, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer.

In the absence of the Governor from Grenada, the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator of Grenada.

In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group devolves on the officer holding a dormant commission. The Administrator of St. Lucia at present holds such a commission. If no dormant commission has been issued, the administration of the group is assumed by the senior Administrator.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The numbers vary between eight and fourteen according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local Government are the Agricultural Board, the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Central Road Authority, the Electricity Authority, the Board of Education, the Forestry Board, and the Charity Advisory Committee with District Committees under the several District Boards.

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of:—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were female and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1936, was estimated at 87,105. The estimated totals at the end of the five preceding years were:—

1931	78,662
1932	81,000
1933	82,624
1934	83,888
1935	85,626

The following table indicates the birth-rate and death-rate per 1,000 during the past decade:—

Year.	*Birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1927	31·29	15·6
1928	33·33	16·5
1929	32·24	16·8
1930	32·63	15·8
1931	30·24	17·2
1932	32·60	13·8
1933	32·53	14·3
1934	32·16	13·6
1935	31·07	14·3
1936	31·98	15·4
Averages	32·07	15·33

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below:—

Percentage of Deaths

Year.	*Under 1 Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total percentages under 5 years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1932 ...	20·6	14·7	3·3	2·0	·5	41·1	1,104
1933 ...	21·5	12·1	3·8	2·3	1·2	40·9	1,179
1934 ...	23·8	13·6	2·2	2·2	1·0	42·8	1,143
1935 ...	18·5	16·2	3·9	1·2	·6	40·4	1,224
1936 ...	21·5	13·7	3·0	1·5	·8	40·5	1,348

In 1936 the death-rate per 100 births in the case of infants who died under one year of age was 10·4, as compared with 8·49 in 1935.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 341, as compared with 320 in 1935 and 409 in 1934.

The arrivals during the year were 4,102 and the departures 4,061, as against 3,549 and 3,248 respectively in 1935.

IV.—HEALTH.

The climate of the island is pleasant and healthy. Persons of European stock maintain their health and vigour after several generations. Many inhabitants whether of European, Asiatic, African or mixed origin live to an extreme old age. The general health of the population is good.

The more prevalent diseases are malaria, pulmonary tuberculosis, yaws, digestive diseases, and intestinal disorders, viz., enteric fevers, chiefly typhoid, dysentery, and diseases due to intestinal parasites.

Malaria occurs chiefly in low-lying swampy coastal areas situated between the sea and the mountainous country behind. It is usually of the more chronic and less acute type. Blackwater fever is rare and malignant types of fever are less commonly seen than formerly.

A considerable amount of anti-malaria drainage work has been carried out in some of the worst swamps and the beneficial results of these works are beginning to manifest themselves. It is hoped, as funds allow, to extend the scope of these operations.

Tuberculosis which is almost invariably of the pulmonary type shows a slight tendency to increase. Probably the increase in the number of cases notified is largely due to more thorough examination and more careful notification.

A tuberculosis hospital with accommodation for 30 patients is maintained by the Government. Up till this year this hospital was known as the Marie Louise Hospital situated at Richmond Hill. The high and exposed site was considered unsuitable for patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. A more sheltered site at a lower altitude and more protected from rain-bearing winds was therefore selected at Cherry Hill and a modern open-air hospital with the same accommodation was built and opened in the autumn.

Yaws is widely spread throughout the island. The number of cases treated has this year increased greatly. This increase is thought to be due to the fact that sufferers are more and more realizing the benefits resulting from the modern treatment of this disease, and are therefore coming forward in larger numbers for such treatment.

Intestinal disorders are usually common in the tropics. Every effort is made in this Colony to reduce their incidence by sanitary measures, including the control and protection of food, the reduction of soil pollution by the erection of latrines and the reduction of fly breeding in the more populous centres. Food supplies are regularly inspected by the sanitary staff and unwholesome food condemned. Scavenging is regularly carried out in the townships.

Hookworm shows a slight tendency to decrease and treatment is regularly given to those infected.

Enteric fever is notifiable. Whenever possible, cases are removed to hospital for treatment. Premises are disinfected and contacts inoculated.

Medical Services.—The Colony is divided into eight districts, seven in the island of Grenada, and the eighth is formed by the dependency of Carriacou. The Government maintains a Medical Officer in each district, who is also responsible for the public health of the district.

There are three hospitals provided by the Government:—The Colony Hospital situated at St. George's with accommodation for 150 in-patients. This hospital is in charge of a resident surgeon, and here all operative work is performed, and radiological work is done. Probationer nurses undergo a course of four years training for certification at this hospital. The St. Andrew's Hospital situated at Grenville on the north-east of the island with accommodation for 23 in-patients.

The Bel Air Hospital situated at Carriacou with accommodation for 30 in-patients.

Confinement cases receive attention at all these hospitals, the total number of confinements during the year being 534 with two deaths. Out-patients are also seen daily at each hospital. The total number of in-patients treated during the year was 2,349.

A chain of 17 medical visiting stations placed in the rural districts affords additional medical aid to those living in country areas. A trained nurse resides at each station and attends daily to all in need of treatment. She also attends all confinements in the district and advises the mothers as to the care of their children. The District Medical Officer attends each visiting station in his district once a week and undertakes any special work such as injections for yaws.

The Government also provides a Mental Hospital, with accommodation for 144 inmates, and a House of Refuge for destitute and aged persons suffering from chronic and incurable diseases, with accommodation for 98 inmates.

A Settlement is maintained by the Government for the care and treatment of persons suffering from leprosy. This disease is not endemic in the Colony, the lepers under treatment

having apparently contracted the disease during their residence elsewhere. The number of inmates at present is 14.

Sanitation.—The sanitation of the island is under the control of the Sanitary Authority. This is a Board consisting of members of the local District Boards, two Medical Officers, the Superintendent of Public Works and the Port Officer under the chairmanship of the Senior Medical Officer who is also executive officer. A Sanitary Inspector is stationed in each district and works under the supervision of the District Medical Officers. He is responsible for anti-malarial and anti-mosquito work, dealing with collections of larvae by oiling or filling, draining, etc., inspection of compounds and houses for mosquito and fly breeding, disinfection of houses, and general sanitation of his district.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—All the nurses training at the Colony Hospital receive instruction in midwifery and are required to pass an examination in this subject before receiving their certificate as trained nurses.

A Child Welfare League in the town of St. George's is controlled by lady volunteer workers and distributes free supplies of condensed milk to poor mothers for their infants, who are seen weekly at the clinic situated at the Colony Hospital, when the children are weighed, examined, and the mothers are given necessary advice.

The nurses stationed at the district visiting stations also advise the mothers in rural areas as to the care and management of young children.

Water Supply.—A great asset to the public health of the Colony is the excellent pipe-borne water supply, which is widely spread throughout the island and gives all through the year a practically unlimited supply of pure water both to the towns and the rural districts.

V.—HOUSING.

The type of house occupied by the peasantry is usually built of imported deal boards or shingles. Such houses are usually built on small supporting piles necessitated by the uneven nature of the ground. They contain not more than two rooms about ten feet by eight, and occasionally possess a small verandah or gallery. The roofs of these are either shingles or thatch, but roofs made from galvanized iron or flattened oil tins are becoming increasingly common. Mud and wattle huts with a thatched roof of cane grass are also used by the poorer peasantry; these are small, ill-ventilated and with only a mud floor. The first mentioned type of house when new or kept in a good state of repair appears quite satisfactory, apart from the almost universal overcrowding. Unfortunately a considerable

percentage are in poor condition and generally dilapidated, and leaking. It must here be said that the Grenada peasantry are as a whole a cleanly people both in their persons and houses, and considering the conditions under which they live the interior of their houses is remarkably clean.

Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure.

There is one Building Society in the Colony, established in 1925.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The wholesome upward tendency in the value of agricultural exports which began in 1933 has been maintained.

Year.	*Value of Exports.* £
1934	192,383
1935	220,391
1936	255,308

Crops and values in order of importance are given hereunder for the year 1936:—

	£
Cocoa	123,615
Nutmegs and mace	103,694
Bananas	12,592
Lime and by-products	6,456
Cotton and cotton-seed	5,866
Coconut products	2,047

More attention has been paid to working of fields in 1936 than for the previous five years. Cocoa regeneration work is progressing slowly, poor bearers being replaced by heavy ones of the higher type of Forastera.

Relative quantity and value of cocoa, nutmegs and mace exported during the last five years are:—

	Cocoa.		*Nutmegs.*		*Mace.*	
Year.	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £
1932	87,836	101,231	27,305	36,859	4,181	23,090
1933	91,339	106,535	28,287	37,024	4,416	22,476
1934	77,423	100,743	31,284	48,778	4,402	25,103
1935	80,499	97,404	29,416	56,754	5,120	40,848
1936	9,066	123,615	27,738	61,617	5,187	42,077

Cotton continues the staple crop of the Carriacou Dependency. Marie Galante is the variety grown but experimental work on the Antilles is still being prosecuted by Government.

Clove planting is being extended in the highlands. The year under review gives every indication of a good clove crop which it is proposed to export to British Guiana and Canada.

The first year of the newly erected sugar factory at Woodlands seemed fairly successful. 6,294 tons of canes were harvested and bought and 732 tons of sugar produced. Unrefined sugar is not exported.

This is the third year of contract with the United Fruit Company for the supply of bananas. Whilst interest continues to be evinced in this industry's progress, the returns to date are somewhat disappointing. Interest seems to have slackened and planters maintain that, if a little more were paid for stems, a stimulus might be given to the industry. Peasant production is unsatisfactory, being a little over 10 per cent. of the whole.

No appreciable extension of lime cultivation has taken place. "Wither tip" materially reduced certain areas under cultivation in districts of heavy rainfall, but this would seem to be counterbalanced by the coming into bearing of young cultivations in the lower belt. Only West Indian limes are grown.

Rum is manufactured at nine sugar estates, but none of this product is exported. The quantity made last year was 30,036·8 gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's and at a private factory in Beausejour, three miles from the capital.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported, and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good fresh fish are obtainable and there are several good fishing grounds near the Grenadines. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

VII.—COMMERCE.

There has been an increase in trade during 1936, the total value of the import and export trade amounting to £568,967 as compared with £527,484 in 1935.

Imports.

The principal articles imported during the last three years were as follows:—

Article.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*
	£	£	£
Flour	37,647	29,658	31,171
Cotton piece-goods	24,318	20,942	19,701
Fish, dried	9,797	9,836	8,583
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	9,969	8,407	10,137
Boots and shoes	7,162	7,008	8,321
Rice	10,978	9,861	8,646
Sugar, unrefined	354	6,513	7,731
Motor cars	8,927	7,934	5,401
Motor spirits	4,403	4,390	6,130
Kerosene oil	4,219	3,978	4,155
Motor parts and tyres	4,895	4,594	3,845
Hardware	5,414	4,481	4,329

Exports.

The principal exports during the last three years were as under:—

Article.	*1936.* £	*1935.* £	*1934.* £
Cocoa	123,615	97,404	100,743
Spices, nutmegs...	61,617	56,754	48,778
Spices, mace	42,077	40,848	25,103
Lime oil	6,385	9,847	6,862
Cotton, raw	4,703	5,886	4,101
Cotton seed	1,163	1,936	1,298
Bananas	12,592	4,257	1,414

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1936 may be seen from the following table:—

	Imports. £	*Percentage of total.*	*Exports.* £	*Percentage of total.*
United Kingdom	143,986	51	96,435	33·6
United States of America	25,484	9	74,782	26·1
Canada	39,742	14·1	59,124	20·6
Other British Possessions	50,478	17·9	37,733	13·2
Other Foreign Countries ...	22,690	8	18,513	6·5

The percentages of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom show a slight decrease compared with the figures for 1935, which were 52.9 per cent. and 41.4 per cent. respectively.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have not changed during 1936, though owing to the low prices still obtaining for staple products, estates have been compelled again to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days of employment per week. Those employed obtain on the average two to three days' work per week. There are indications that there will be improvements in this respect in 1937.

Ruling daily rates are:—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.
Skilled	3s. to 8s.	—

In May, 1935, a Minimum Wage Committee was appointed to inquire into the rates of wages paid to agricultural labourers, and to consider whether such rates were reasonable having regard to the general economic position of the Colony. The Committee held meetings in various townships of the island, and as a result of their recommendations a minimum rate of wages

for agricultural labourers was fixed by law in August, 1935, at 1s. a day for a man and 10d. a day for a woman.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies from 10s. to 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. a month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows:—

Beef ...	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh ...	8d. ,,
Chicken	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh	6d. ,,
Eggs ...	1s. to 1s. 6d. per doz.
Milk ...	3d. per bot.
Potatoes	2½d. per lb.
Rice ...	2½d. ,,
Butter	1s. 8d. ,,
Sugar	2½d. ,,
Bread	3d. ,,
Flour...	2d. ,,

Board and lodging can be had at £8 to £9 a month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35 to £40 a month or, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20 to £25 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The attendance figures in the primary schools for 1936 were 12,809 on the roll and 8,222 in average attendance. These were somewhat lower than those of the previous year which were 13,343 and 8,253, respectively.

On 20th May a new Education Bill was introduced into the Council, and, after various vicissitudes, received the Governor's assent on 30th November. Among its most important provisions were the establishment of a non-sectarian Board, and the combination of the Primary and Secondary Education Ordinances into one; and it gave to the Governor more direct control in educational matters.

A very satisfactory Health Week was held during the month of March. A series of addresses was given throughout the schools of the Colony, not only by the various medical officers but by the district sanitary inspectors and nurses. The annual observance of these Health Weeks is evidently doing some good. It is noteworthy how in each succeeding year the numbers of parents who attend the meetings increase, and how the general interest gradually grows.

In the month of July a Handwork Exhibition was held. It was a distinct improvement on that of the previous year, the quantity and quality of exhibits being extremely good. These exhibitions have now become annual events and are looked forward to by teachers and pupils alike. The shield which was last year presented by the Governor for the school making the best display was on this occasion won by the Beaulieu Roman Catholic School. Six other schools received special Diplomas of Merit.

Fourteen candidates entered for the London Matriculation Examination in June, and of these 12 entered for the Grenada Scholarship. This was won by Mr. Sydney Gun-Munro, a candidate from the Grenada Boys Secondary School.

The average attendance of the Grenada Boys Secondary School has improved from 118 in 1935 to 148, with eight boarders. Owing to increased numbers a new master has been added to the staff.

During the Easter vacation the boys of the school visited St. Lucia for the regular annual inter-colonial sporting events between the boys attending the secondary schools of the three islands of the Windward Group, and in the month of August the boys entertained as guests a party of boys from the Queen's Royal College in Trinidad, who evidently had a most enjoyable time. The Headmaster hopes to make this a regular annual event.

The manual training centres in St. George's and in the other Districts continue to do good work. The boys attending are very keen, and the instructors send in good reports.

Agricultural instruction in the schools has taken on a new lease of life.

Fifteen schools now have school gardens, and every year it is planned to add to the list. Some of the Head Teachers take a special interest in this important subject. The Grier Cup, given annually to the school having the best garden, was won this year by the St. John's Anglican School.

There is no Government girls school, but three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. Domestic science is being taught at the St. Joseph's Convent High School by a specially trained teacher.

The island was visited in December, 1936, by the newly appointed Education Commissioners, in the course of their first tour of the Windward and Leeward Islands. The object of this first visit was not to make specific recommendations, but to gather information both upon the schools themselves and, so far as they were able in the time at their disposal, upon the social and economic conditions in which the schools are working.

Welfare Institutions.

There is a home in St. George's for destitute children, opened in 1934. The number of children being cared for is fourteen, which is the maximum capacity of the home.

The home is administered by the St. George's District Board, and the Government pays an annual subsidy, which has been increased to £100 in 1936, towards its expenses.

The following Welfare Organizations do useful work:—

(i) The Fellowship of Service, which is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions, distributes money, clothes and food once a week.

(ii) The Salvation Army provides a night shelter with food for the poor in St. George's.

(iii) The Baby Welfare League distributes free milk to infants and provides free medical examination at the clinic. Government subscribes £75 per annum to this organization.

(iv) The Foresters Social Workers League supplies free food to school children and poor persons in St. George's.

(v) The Hamilton Almshouse maintains six distressed old women. It is granted £30 per annum by Government.

(vi) The House of Refuge for the destitute and sick is maintained by Government. It can accommodate 98 persons (see section referring to Medical Services under Chapter IV).

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John's, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south. These steamers call also at Boston, Massachusetts, during the summer.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from New York and from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Steamers of the American Caribbean Line bound for New York call fortnightly.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados and other neighbouring Colonies.

By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of Cable and Wireless Limited connects Grenada with the outside world. The company also maintains a wireless station in St. George's, but this is not in operation at the present time. A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station at Carriacou communicates with Grenada direct or via Barbados.

By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, recently reconstructed, has been maintained by Government for many years. Inclusive of Carriacou there are seven exchanges and over 6,500 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1936 was 761.

The island is well equipped with roads. All the first class roads and practically all the second class and third class roads are suitable for motor traffic. The total mileage is 450.

There are regular services of motor omnibuses between all the towns.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five dollar notes, issued by the two Banks, are in circulation.

A co-operative bank was established in 1932, but there is no agricultural bank in the Colony.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

Trinidad Government currency notes were made legal tender in this Colony as from 1st November, 1935.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for all Government engineering work, including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, land drainage, machinery, harbour, electric lighting, cold storage, telephone, etc., and conducts all surveys and controls all Crown Lands.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two assistants, one electrician and one mechanic at headquarters, and three District Road Surveyors.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1936, was £58,000 inclusive of a sum of over £24,000 expended under the Colonial Development and other loan funds.

Roads.—No new roads were opened during the year, but the Department continued to maintain a total of 450 miles of established roads, of which 100 miles are surface-treated with bitumen and about 250 miles metalled.

Special works included the provision of 33 culverts and the re-surfacing of nine miles of bitumen-surfaced roadway in the Western District, and the construction of a 50-ft. span steel truss bridge in reinforced concrete. Two sea-defence walls and one retaining wall were repaired and underpinned, and one retaining wall was built.

In connection with roads serving the banana industry 9½ miles were reconstructed and surface-treated with colas and oil, a concrete and steel bridge with a 36-ft span was constructed and two small steel bridges were reconstructed in reinforced concrete. A 16-ft. span culvert and a 20-ft. span bridge of reinforced concrete were also constructed.

In connection with roads serving the sugar-producing area, 3¾ miles were reconstructed and surface-treated with emulsion, of which 1¼ miles were in the form of two wheel strips each 2½ ft. wide.

Buildings.—Work on the construction of a large steel shed for handling bananas for shipment, and a new hospital for consumptives, commenced in 1935, was carried to completion. Two large primary school buildings, one in St. George's and the other in Carriacou were erected during the year.

Water Works.—New works were constructed at Bellevue, St. Andrew's.

Surveys.—The survey and subdivision of St. Cloud Estate, St. Andrew's, purchased for land settlement, was carried out under the supervision of the Department, and roads and a bridge were provided for the use of settlers.

Land Drainage.—Swampy areas in the parish of St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's were drained and filled during the year.

Sanitation.—Estimates were prepared for the proposed sewerage scheme for St. George's town.

Electric Light and Power.—An extension of the pole line to Woodlands, a distance of approximately 1½ miles, was commenced but not quite completed.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two magisterial districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that district.

The appointment of an additional Magistrate for Carriacou was made in 1936.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the practice and procedure therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance and codes of criminal and civil procedure, with a provision for recourse to the Practice, Orders and Rules of the High Court of Justice in England, where no express provision is contained in the local Civil Procedure Code. Criminal proceedings for offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are instituted in his discretion by the Attorney-General, and are conducted by him on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases, when the Legal Assistant prosecutes.

In the year under review 2,288 persons were convicted.

The cases of praedial larceny show a reduction on the two previous years. There were 214 convictions, as against 232 in 1935 and 216 in 1934. There were 35 convictions in the Supreme Court, as compared with 23 in 1935 and 28 in 1934. The increases were in respect of " other offences against the person " and " other offences against property ".

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate building and at a different time from ordinary cases.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Courts.

The man charged with the murder which was committed in the previous year was convicted and hanged, but cases of serious crime are rare in Grenada.

Police.

The strength of the Force on 31st December, 1936, was one officer in command, one inspector and 93 non-commissioned officers and men. The Force was increased by five men during 1936. Two hundred and thirteen rural constables were employed on special occasions.

There has been an appreciable addition to police duties due to the increase in recent years in the number of praedial larceny

cases. This is a direct result of the new Produce Ordinance which permits the sale of wet cocoa, coupled with an improvement in the price of produce.

In addition to its ordinary duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, inspection of shops and weights and measures, enquiries into poor relief and repatriation cases, and maintains a visual signalling station for communication with naval vessels while in port.

Relief operators are furnished for the wireless station at Carriacou which is operated by the Post Office Department, and in the event of a breakdown a heliographic service is supplied by the Police in its place. The Department also provides relief for magistrates' bailiffs.

Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's. In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 207 persons were committed to the male and 28 to the female section respectively, the total being made up as follows:—

	Males.	*Females.*
Grenada	167	25
St. Vincent	20	—
Other places	40	3

Prisoners of 25 years of age and under formed about 44 per cent. of the total.

There were two deaths, one by execution and one from natural causes. On the whole, the general health of the institution was satisfactory.

Two prisoners were transferred to the Mental Hospital.

During the periods 1st to 17th January, and 16th to 31st December, there were no prisoners in the female section.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

In the year 1936, 44 Ordinances were passed of which the more imporant were the following:—

No. 1. *The Motor Spirit Dealers Licensing Ordinance,* 1936, was passed to provide for the licensing of Dealers in Motor Spirit.

No. 2. *The Magistrates Protection Ordinance,* 1936, makes provision for the protection of Magistrates and Justices for acts done in the execution of their office.

No. 3. *The Road Cess Ordinance,* 1936, imposes a "cess" on manufactured articles and produce in Grenada.

No. 15. *The Deportation (British Subjects) Ordinance*, 1936, aims at regulating the deportation of undesirable British subjects and British-protected persons and for similar purposes.

No. 16. *The Immigration (Restriction) Ordinance*, 1936, seeks to impose restrictions on immigration.

No. 18. *The Law Reform (Married Women and Tort-Feasors) Ordinance*, 1936, amends the law relating to the capacity, property, and liabilities of married women and the liabilities of husbands; it also amends the law relating to the proceedings against, and contributions between joint tort-feasors and abolishes the husband's liability for his wife's torts and ante-nuptial contracts, debts and obligations.

No. 20. *The Intestates Estates Ordinance*, 1936, replaces the law relating to distribution of property on the death of the owner thereof, and provides for the abolition of descent to heir, curtesy dower and escheats. The Ordinance relates to undisposed property and provides new rules of succession on intestacy.

No. 21. *Magistrates Ordinance*, 1936, consolidates and amends the law relating to Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

No. 24. *The Loan Ordinance*, 1936, authorizes a loan for the execution of certain public works, viz., water-borne sewerage in St. George's, reconstruction of roads, bridges, etc., construction of a deep-water pier in the Carenage, St. George's, erection of a Secondary School building in St. George's, and for improvements to the St. George's water supply.

No. 25. *The St. George's Sewerage Ordinance*, 1936, was passed to provide for a sewerage system for the town of St. George's and for other matters in connection therewith.

No. 28. *The Magistrates Judgments (Appeals) Ordinance*, 1936, embodies the provisions of the Magistrates Ordinance referable to appeals, and also introduces certain principles which bring the legislation on the subject in line with modern enactments of a similar kind in other Colonies.

No. 30. *The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance*, 1936, makes provision for the extension of the Dangerous Drugs Act to drugs capable of being converted into dangerous drugs, and gives effect to a Convention signed at Geneva on behalf of His Majesty on the 13th July, 1931, now applied to this Colony. The Ordinance embodies and consolidates the latest legislation on this subject.

No. 34. *The Criminal Code (Amendment) (No. 2)*, enables a jury, upon indictment of a woman for the murder

of her newly-born child, to return a verdict of manslaughter, or a verdict of guilty but insane, or a verdict of concealment of the birth of such child. The Ordinance also provides for the acceptance by the Court of a majority verdict, where such verdict is that of concealment of the body of a child.

No. 37. *The Mercantile Law Ordinance*, 1936, seeks to enable bankers and other lenders to make temporary loans against warehouse receipts or bills of lading.

No. 42. *Education Ordinance* amends and consolidates the law relating to Primary and Secondary Education in the Colony, and provides for the appointment of an Education Board and includes provision for the training of teachers and the award of a Grenada and Agricultural Scholarship.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £141,604, exclusive of the receipts from the Colonial Development Fund of £8,631.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1936:—

Head.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	58,206	62,548	66,956	71,815	70,093
Harbour and Cargo Dues	2,680	2,654	2,883	3,153	3,298
Licences, Excise, etc. ...	28,793	26,567	26,718	27,600	31,080
Estate Duties	4,896	1,448	899	988	514
Income Tax	4,243	4,473	4,163	4,353	4,866
Fees of Office, etc. ...	6,095	8,069	5,684	6,385	5,923
Post Office	2,929	2,364	4,675	5,715	6,669
Telephones and Electric Light.	7,980	8,027	8,659	8,573	9,298
Water Supplies	2,837	2,875	3,933	4,273	4,815
Revenue from Government Property.	25,489	6,076	4,357	1,274	1,279
Interest and Sinking Funds, etc.	1,390	1,231	4,994	5,309	3,036
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	197	918	241	197	207
Land Sales	168	177	172	215	526
Colonial Development Works.	19,221	13,481	9,164	11,340	8,631
Repatriation Payment ...	6,084	—	—	—	—
Reimbursement from Loan Fund for expenditure on Western Main Road.	29,247	356	—	—	—
Grant from Imperial Government under Trade Facilities Act.	500	—	—	—	—
Grant from Rockefeller Foundation.	525	—	—	—	—
Total Revenue ...	£201,480	£141,264	£143,498	£151,190	£150,235

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £143,396 being less than the revenue by £6,839.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years:—

	£
1932	155,343
1933	141,741
1934	153,778
1935	146,662
1936	143,396

The expenditure for the year 1936 includes £7,316 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by Sinking Funds and repayments at the end of 1936 was £377,523 7s. 0d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917...	55,790	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan.	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St Andrew's Market	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water Supply Extension Loan	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	56,082	14	6
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System.	3,080	8	0
Road Loan	29,307	17	6
Sundry Public Works Loan	24,885	9	11
Public Works Loan, 1936	166,600	0	0
Total Loans	386,963	1	3
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above...	9,439	14	3
Net Indebtedness	£377,523	7	0

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,800 were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1936, was £90,866, which includes £31 excess expenditure to 31st December, 1936, on Colonial Development Works to be collected from the Colonial Development Fund in 1937. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at

31st December, 1936, was £72,392, and the balance is made up as follows:—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards	3,070		
Loans to Central Water Authority	12,120	15,190	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		8,244	6,946
Public Works and Electricity Stores ...			4,998
Colony Drug Store			1,038
Grenada Land Settlement			165
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account ...			621
Overdraft by St. George's District Board ...			63
Overdraft by St. Patrick's District Board...			106
Other Advances			4,537
			£18,474

Taxation.

The first schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected.

Generally the rates of *ad valorem* duties are 15 per cent. British preferential tariff, and 22½ per cent. general tariff. The important exceptions at 31st December were as follows:—

Apparel.	*British Preferential.*	*General.*
Shirts	12½ per cent.	3s. per dozen.
Men's underwear ...	12½ ,, ,,	1s. ,, ,,
Neckties	12½ ,, ,,	7d. ,, ,,
Other kinds	12½ ,, ,,	25 per cent. or 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is higher.
Boots and shoes :—		
Wholly or partly of rubber.	15 ,, ,,	22½ per cent. and 1s. per pair.
Other kinds	15 ,, ,,	25 per cent.
Motor cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 ,, ,,	35 ,, ,,
Hardware and metal manufactures.	12½ ,, ,,	22½ ,, ,,

The following specific rates of duty on spirits and tobacco were in force at 31st December, 1936:—

		British Preferential Tariff.	*General Tariff.*
Brandy ...	Overproof	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	15s. 0d. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Gin ...	Overproof	17s. 6d. per proof gallon.	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. 0d. per gallon.
Rum ...	Overproof	13s. 6d. per proof gallon.	15s. 0d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. 0d. per gallon.
Whisky ...	Overproof	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	15s. 0d. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Cordials and liqueurs ...		17s. 6d. per gallon.	20s. 0d. per gallon.
Tobacco, unmanufactured.		1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured :			
Cigars, cigarettes ...		10s. 0d. per lb.	14s. 0d. per lb.
Other manufactured tobacco.		7s. 0d. per lb.	9s. 0d. per lb.

Export duty is levied on the following local products.—

Cocoa	6d. per cwt.
Cotton	1s. per cwt.
Cotton seed	3d. per cwt.
Nutmegs	6d. per cwt.
Mace	1s. per cwt.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1s. per 100 gallons.
Lime juice (raw)	3d. per 100 gallons.
Lime oil	6d. per lb.
Copra	3d. per cwt.

Excise duty on rum made in the Colony was collected at 5s. per proof gallon during the year.

Total collections of Excise duty in 1936 amounted to £8,941 13s. 3d., the total proof gallonage delivered for consumption being 35,827·6. This amount is £1,658 14s. 6d. more than in 1935. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. per proof gallon is collected on all imported spirits, and 2s. 1d. per proof gallon on local rum, delivered for consumption; the total amount collected being £4,254 14s. 1d.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance, land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 5s. to 42s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £30 per annum pay 8 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by trading companies at 3s. on every £, and by life insurance companies at 1s. 0½d. on every £.

XVI.—LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of afforested mountain ridges for preservation of the rainfall and conservation of water in catchment areas of water supplies.

An outstanding feature in Grenada is the comparatively large number of smallholdings. Under a system of land settlement schemes, several fair-sized properties have been acquired by Government from time to time and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

Continued efforts are being made to find land for peasant settlement but each year it becomes increasingly difficult to obtain suitable land at a reasonable price.

A report on forestry problems in the Windward and Leeward Islands was prepared by Mr. A. Winbush, Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, as a result of a visit to the islands early in the year.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1936.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

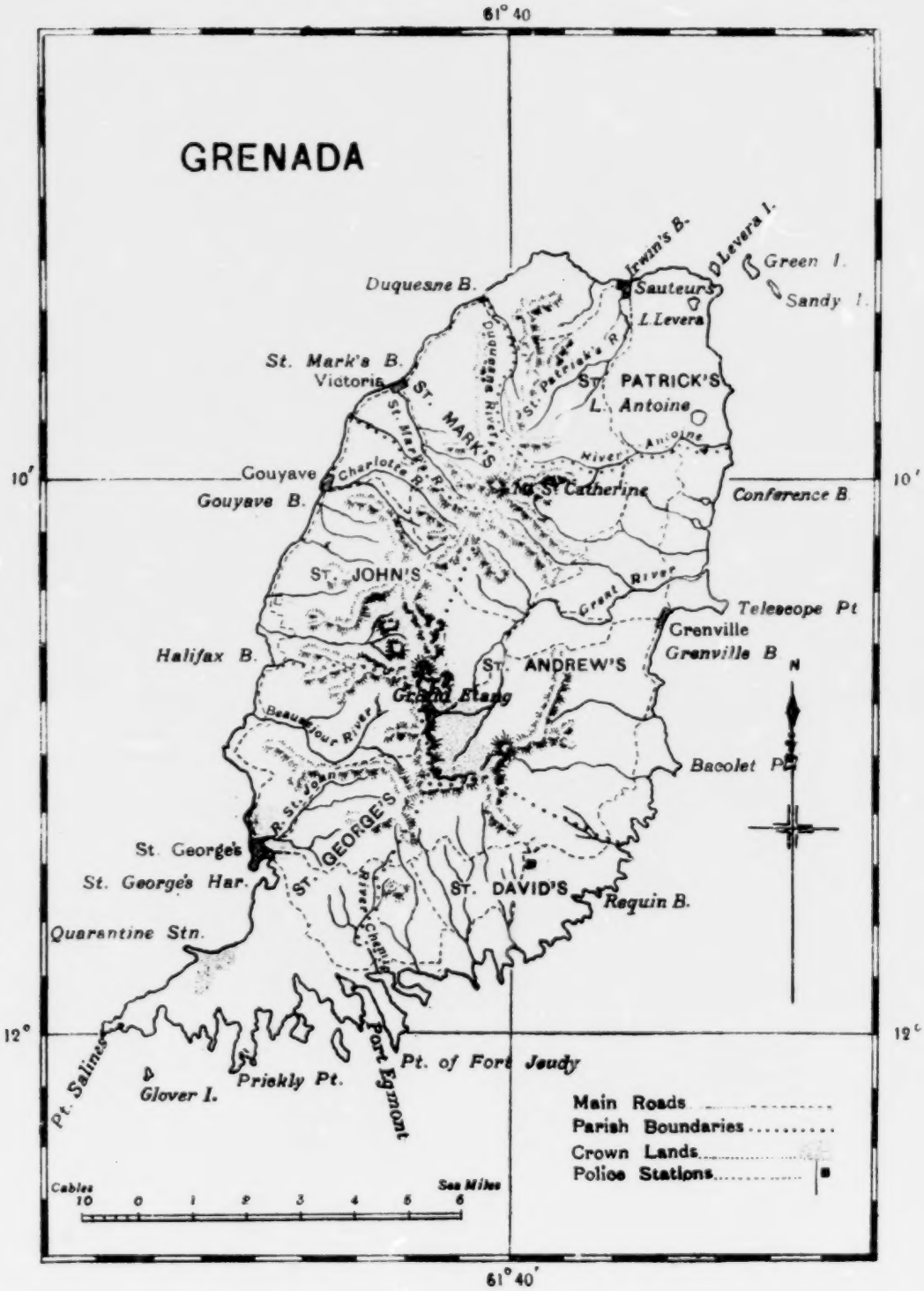
Report on Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

Report on Forestry in Grenada by Captain R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on the Forestry Problems of the Windward and Leeward Islands by Mr. A. Wimbush, 1936.

Report on Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

Report on Geological Survey of Carriacou by Dr. E. H. Lehner, 1935.



(46754—48) Wt. 3053—3951 625 1/38 P. St. G. 377/ 7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935 [Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa [Colonial No. 127-1] 3s. 0d. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific [Colonial No. 127-2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies [Colonial No. 127-3] 4s. 0d. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 0s. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937 [Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission [Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index) [Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine [Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom [Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map) 3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee [Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58–1838

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1859

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1937

(For Reports for 1935 and 1936 see Nos. 1759 and 1821 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller
1938
Price 9*d*. net

PRINTED & PUBLISHED
IN GREAT BRITAIN

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE IN 1937-38

Statement to accompany the Estimates for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services 1938 [Cmd. 5760] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1936 [Colonial No. 149] £1 7s. 6d. (£1 8s. 2d.)

MARKETING OF WEST AFRICAN COCOA

Report of Commission [Cmd. 5845] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1 (£1 0s. 6d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1937, to 31st March, 1938 [Cmd. 5789] 9d. (10d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

EAST AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, AMANI

Tenth Annual Report [Colonial No. 151] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

NUTRITION POLICY IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated 18th April, 1936 [Colonial No. 121] 2d. (2½d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: York House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1937

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, History and Language	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	4
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	6
VI.—Natural Resources	7
VII.—Commerce	10
VIII.—Labour	13
IX.—Wages and Cost of Living	16
X.—Education and Welfare Institutions	16
XI.—Communications and Transport	18
XII.—Public Works	21
XIII.—Justice, Police and Prisons	21
XIV.—Legislation	25
XV.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	25
XVI.—Public Finance and Taxation	26
XVII.—Miscellaneous	30
Appendix.—List of Publications	31
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, HISTORY AND LANGUAGE.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when this Island was included in a patent which was granted to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I. In 1660 the English and French Sovereigns agreed to an act of neutrality regarding the possession of the Island, and in 1672 a commission was granted to Lord Willoughby constituting him Governor of St. Vincent together with some other West Indian Colonies.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities between the English and the French broke out and the Island was eventually taken in 1762 by the English under General Monckton. By the Treaty of Paris in the following year St. Vincent was ceded to Great Britain, and General Robert Melville was appointed Governor of the Island.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the Island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of England as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the French landed on the Island and took possession of it, but by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The temperature varies from 67° F. to 89° F. The coolest months are from December to April. The highest temperature during 1937 was recorded in September and the lowest in February.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experiment Station, 80 ft. above sea level, was 68·25 ins. for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 2·2 ins. on 10th November.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867, the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created, composed of 12 members, three *ex-officio*, three nominated by the Crown and six elected by the people.

This Constitution in turn was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial member and three elected members. The Island was divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. It was provided that an election should take place every three years, and elections under this Constitution took place in 1925, 1928 and 1931.

The Council elected in 1931 was retained in office by Imperial Orders in Council for three further periods of one year beyond the normal term, and was finally dissolved on the 17th of December, 1936.

A new Legislative Council for the Colony of Saint Vincent was constituted by Order of His Majesty in Privy Council dated the 27th of October, 1936. The unofficial representation was increased from three elected and one nominated to five elected and three nominated members while the official membership was reduced to two in number. The Colony was divided into five electoral districts, the Grenadines for the first time comprising a district. The opening session of the new Legislative Council at which His Excellency the Governor, Sir Selwyn Grier presided, was held on the 6th of April, 1937.

There is an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator and Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex-officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. The officer at present holding the post of Senior Medical Officer and three unofficial members have been appointed to the Executive Council. Every member who is not an *ex-officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

The municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board, which consists of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961,

an increase of 3,514 on the census of 1921. The distribution of race then recorded was as follows:—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans)	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1936 and 1937:—

	1936.	1937.
Estimated population	56,511	57,526
Births, excluding still births ...	2,212	2,317
Birth rate per 1,000	39·14	40·27
Still births	110	89
Percentage of still births... ...	4·97	3·69
Death rate per 1,000	16·35	15·26
Deaths of children under one year (excluding still births) ...	264	273
Marriages per 1,000	6·16	6·46
Emigration	2,564	3,313
Immigration	2,568	2,889

IV.—HEALTH.

The state of public health during 1937 was well maintained throughout the Colony. The general death-rate, 15·26 per thousand of the population, was lower than that for the previous year, while the birth-rate for 1937 was 40·27 per mille compared with 39·14 in 1936. Just over half of the total deaths occurred in the age group under five years of age. The deaths of infants under one year numbered 273, which is equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 117·82.

Admissions to hospitals and attendances at dispensaries continued to increase.

	1936.	1937.
Colonial Hospital—		
Inpatients treated	1,518	1,566
Outpatient casualties ...	432	683
Other outpatient attendances...	8,415	6,867
Casualty Hospitals (3)—		
Inpatients treated	187	263
Attendances at Dispensaries ...	49,429	62,781
Pauper, Lunatic and Leper Asylums—		
Inpatients treated	197	193
Tuberculosis Home—		
Inpatients treated	15	13
	60,193	72,366

The following table indicates eight of the principal causes of death during the years 1935, 1936 and 1937 and the percentage of those to the total deaths:—

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*			*Percentages of total deaths.*		
	1935	1936	1937	1935	1936	1937
Pulmonary tuberculosis ...	45	27	26	5·29	2·92	2·96
Ascariasis	87	81	54	10·24	8·77	6·15
Acute bronchitis	37	25	22	4·35	2·70	2·50
Broncho-pneumonia ...	28	29	27	3·29	3·14	3·07
Diarrhoea and enteritis ...	69	37	74	8·11	4·00	8·42
Congenital debility... ...	81	51	97	9·53	5·52	11·04
Senility	94	96	99	11·06	10·38	11·27
Marasmus	*	31	33	—	3·35	3·75

* Not available.

V.—HOUSING.

The opening paragraph of the corresponding chapter in the 1936 report which reads "The housing of the wage-earning population leaves much to be desired" continues to be applicable to the situation.

From a health point of view the chief defect in the housing of the poor does not lie so much in the materials used as in the small size of the houses and the building lots. In consequence overcrowding is still fairly general.

The tendency to build houses as small and as closely together as possible persisted up to eight years ago when regulations governing the erection of new houses and the extension of existing houses were passed by the Sanitary Authority and made applicable to all parts of the Colony outside of Kingstown. One hundred and twenty-seven houses were erected last year in conformity with these regulations.

The majority of proprietors of estates have discontinued the erection of houses for their labourers.

The Orange Hill group of estates situated in what is known as the "Carib Country" continues to provide housing for its labourers. The settlement consists for the most part of two-roomed, wooden cottages covered with shingles. They are laid out in regular lines and are provided with running water and communal pit latrines. Shower baths were constructed during the year.

There is some evidence of a desire for increased domestic comfort and the open verandah and the flower garden are prominent features of the better class houses. The "box-type" house with parapet gutter built chiefly to stand up to hurricanes is fading out of the picture.

At Georgetown which is 22 miles from Kingstown, the capital, can be seen a settlement of clean and tidy cottages built by persons of the peasant proprietor class.

Land Settlement areas such as Troumaca, Rose Hall, Belair and Park Hill present an appearance of economic progress superior to that which obtains in areas where the people depend almost entirely on wages. The wooden type of house prevails in land settlement districts.

In order to place the rental of the Government-built cottages at Chateaubelair within the reach of the poorest workers, the Government has recently made a further reduction in the rent. These cottages were built from Colonial Development funds.

The Colony is well provided with furnished houses available for holiday parties. There are bungalows at Villa, 3½ miles from Kingstown and at Edinboro, a suburb of the capital. Additional bungalows built of stone are being constructed at Ratho Mill, a spur of land on the windward coast about 5½ miles from Kingstown.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Minerals.

There is no record of minerals in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The island of St. Vincent is roughly elliptical in shape with its long axis approximately North-South. A back-bone of thickly wooded mountains, extending along the main axis, divides the island into the Windward and Leeward districts. The topography of the island is very broken and numerous spurs run down in irregular ridges from the axial range to the sea. In the Leeward district or Western side the spurs are steep and sharp crested with deep narrow gorges while on the Windward they are more gently sloping with wider and flatter valleys occasionally merging into fairly extensive coastal plains. The rivers are short and straight.

The greater part of the central mountain range and of the main spurs constitute Crown Lands with an area of roughly 30,000 acres. Of this about 15,000 acres, consisting chiefly of very steep precipitous highland above 1,000 ft. are maintained as Forest Reserves. The remainder of the Crown Lands consist generally of cleared forested areas rented to peasants for the cultivation of food crops or " ground provisions " which require humid conditions. The chief trees in the forests are Gommier (*Dacryodes hexandra*), Locust (*Hymenac coubaril*), Fiddle Wood (*Citharexylon sp.*), Dobarubois (*Sterculia caribea*), and Trumpet Wood (*Cecropia peltata*), the last named being found chiefly in secondary bush in abandoned clearings. With the

exception of Gommier and Sterculia which occur in practically pure stands in the forests at the northern end of the island, the other trees occur as more or less isolated and scattered specimens.

The agricultural lands are located principally on a coastal fringe extending back to the ridges and lower levels of the higher mountains to a height of about 500 feet.

The crops chiefly grown are arrowroot, cotton, coconuts, sugar-cane (sugar, rum and syrup), bananas, sweet potatoes, cassava, peas and beans and miscellaneous vegetables. The estimated production and values of principal agricultural commodities for the year 1937 are given in the table below:—

Crop.	*Estimated production.*	*Estimated percentage produced by*		*Estimated percentage.*		*Estimated value.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*	*Used Locally.*	*Exported.*	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	417,818	40	60	—	100	34,059
2. Cotton — Marie Galante. ,,	52,633	25	75	—	100	1,483
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	75,000	75	25	30	70	1,000
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	7,421,400	70	30	2	98	86,000
5. Cassava ... ,,	500,000	40	60	25	75	2,300
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,278	100	—	60	40	13,000
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	194,800	95	5	5	95	8,350
8. Copra ... ... lb.	1,845,331	98	2	—	100	13,518
9. Sweet potatoes ,,	2,300,000	20	80	75	25	6,000
10. Plantains ... stems	50,000	10	90	84	16	2,000
11. Tannias ... lb.	300,000	10	90	70	30	1,000
12. Bananas ... stems	80,000	75	25	6	94	6,500
13. Coconuts ... No.	1,800,000	90	10	10	90	5,800

Arrowroot.—The estimated acreage in 1937 was 3,800 acres. Of the total production, 7,421,400 lb., estates produced 5,455,498 lb. and peasants 1,965,902 lb., estates in general producing a higher grade product. All arrowroot produced in the Colony is purchased, graded, packaged and marketed by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, cash advances being made to the growers.

Cotton.—Sea Island Cotton is grown in St. Vincent and Marie Galante Cotton in the Grenadines. In 1936-7 5,294 acres were under Sea Island Cotton of which 3,140 acres were grown and 55,269 lb. lint produced by peasants and the remainder by estates. Estates market their cotton independently under their own marks, but peasants' cotton is purchased on the co-operative system by the Government Cotton Ginnery which gins,

bales and markets the cotton. Cash advances are made at the time of purchase and when sold, 5 per cent. commission and all expenses are deducted, the remainder being distributed *pro rata*.

Sugar and Syrup.—There is one relatively small but quite modern sugar factory with a rum distillery attached. A total acreage of 1,380 acres were grown in sugar-cane in 1937 of which about 670 acres were for the production of sugar and the remainder for syrup.

A high grade edible fancy molasses is produced by open tayche and aspinall pan factories. A scheme is now under consideration for blending the island's output of syrup in order to market a more uniform product.

Estates are responsible for practically the whole of the production of sugar and syrup and whatever sugar-cane is grown by peasants is delivered to estates for grinding on a share basis.

Coconuts.—Estimated area approximately 5,300 acres, all of which are under estate cultivation. Produce is shipped either as whole nuts or copra according to market demand and prices. The tendency in recent years is to export the major part of the output in the form of whole nuts because of favourable prices. St. Vincent nuts are of very high quality and are much in demand.

Bananas.—These are chiefly the Gros Michel variety which is grown under contract for sale to the Canadian Banana Company. The acreage in 1937 was estimated at 1,100 acres. All Gros Michel bananas exported are handled by a Co-operative Association. At present production is chiefly confined to estates but peasants are taking an increasingly greater interest. The greatest production is in the sheltered, humid leeward valleys.

Land Tenure.—Large estates and small peasant holdings characterize the land tenure but the bulk of the land is held by estates of from 101 to 1,000 acres. The table below shows the distribution in 1937:—

Under 10 acres.	*11 to 50 acres.*	*51 to 100 acres.*	*101 to 1,000 acres.*	*Over 1,000 acres.*
11,382	4,924	1,826	30,021	5,709

Previous to 1897 practically all the cultivable land was owned by a small number of frequently absentee proprietors, but since then many estates, amounting to some 9,000 acres, have been acquired by Government and broken up for land settlement purposes. In addition distinct estates are now distributed among many resident proprietors who manage their own properties. Land ownership is not always equivalent to land utilization, for although probably all the peasant-owned lands are fully cultivated, a large proportion of estate land is under forest or bush, being too steep, especially on the leeward side, to be profitably worked. Many planters, however, provide their labourers with " provision grounds " or " gardens " on such land.

Live-stock.

The following table shows the number of animals in the island as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Included in the table are the estimated values of the various classes of live-stock, the number of beasts owned by plantations and peasants respectively, the numbers exported during 1937 and the value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1937.*	*Value of exports.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,676	4,871
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	61	280
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	3,222	1,408
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	225	338
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	1,160	680
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	10	205
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	8	65

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which possesses pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. A Government stud farm no longer exists, but several planters import pedigree and half-bred animals from the Government stock farm in Trinidad for breeding and improving their ordinary stock.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is practised and the fish caught is consumed locally. A small whaling station is situated in Bequia. In 1937, 694 gallons of whale oil valued at £73 and 498 lb. of turtle shells valued at £123 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

Rum.

There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is operated in conjunction with the sugar factory at the Mount Bentinck Estate. In 1937, 32,548 proof gallons of rum valued at approximately £3,870 were distilled; 9,414 proof gallons were exported and 19,567 proof gallons were consumed locally during the year.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £390,390 as against a total of £330,907 in 1936, an increase of £59,483.

The main articles of food were imported, including 3,304,931 lb. of wheaten flour valued at £22,270 mainly from Canada; 544,391 lb. of dried salted and pickled fish valued at £6,391 mainly from Newfoundland and Canada; 36,851 lb. of salted and pickled meat valued at £1,093 mainly from the Argentine Republic. Imports of cotton piece goods totalled 879,109 yd. valued at £16,749 mainly from the United Kingdom, and practically all the Colony's requirements of lumber amounting to 829,116 ft. valued at £10,479 were imported mainly from the United States of America and Canada. Arrowroot continued to be the staple crop of the Colony and exports during 1937 were valued at £90,311 or approximately 49 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports. The volume of exports of this commodity exceeded the volume of similar exports in all previous years, amounting to 8,073,117 lb. or 1,098,155 lb. in excess of exports in 1936. Exports of Sea Island cotton amounted to 418,607 lb. valued at £34,059 or approximately 18·5 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports for the year. Weather conditions were generally favourable, although some areas suffered from drought and there were no exceptional price fluctuations. There was no marked industrial unrest.

Tourist Traffic.

No tourist boats from the United Kingdom visited the Colony in 1937 but the usual cruises from Canada and the United States of America by the Canadian National Steamship Company and the Furness West Indies Lines of Steamers were maintained.

The total value of imports and exports for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Domestic Exports.*	*Re-exports.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1933	148,647	112,265	6,865	119,130
1934	163,035	129,833	5,396	135,229
1935	171,392	132,004	2,918	134,922
1936	174,861	152,980	3,066	156,046
1937	203,304	184,544	2,542	187,086

Imports.

The percentage of total imports provided by the principal countries during the past five years is shown hereunder:—

	1933. *Per cent.*	1934. *Per cent.*	1935. *Per cent.*	1936. *Per cent.*	1937. *Per cent.*
(*a*) British Empire ...	77·74	78·62	80·14	80·73	77·89
Foreign Countries	22·26	21·38	19·86	19·27	22·11
(*b*) United Kingdom...	44·62	43·62	46·14	46·22	42·54
Canada	16·97	15·95	18·31	18·27	17·99
British Guiana ...	3·79	3·07	2·82	4·04	5·95
British West Indies	7·14	6·70	5·53	5·93	5·09
United States of America	15·02	16·35	13·79	12·75	14·79

The following table shows the values and quantities of the principal imports other than Bullion and Specie for the years 1936 and 1937 and the principal sources of supply.

Articles.	1936. *Quantity.*	1936. *Values.*	1937. *Quantity.*	1937. *Values.*	*Principal sources of supply.*
		£		£	
Fish, all kinds lb.	653,321	5,720	553,564	6,733	Canada.
Flour wheaten lb.	3,396,641	18,615	3,304,931	22,270	United Kingdom.
Rice ... lb.	1,792,689	6,692	1,776,540	7,688	British Guiana.
Manures ... tons	532	3,979	809	6,161	United Kingdom.
Metals ...	—	6,651	—	8,931	,, ,,
Machinery	—	6,539	—	7,534	,, ,,
Cotton piece goods yds.	830,682	15,195	879,109	16,749	United Kingdom and U.S.A.
Apparel	—	4,453	—	5,937	United Kingdom and Japan.
Timber, lumber, ft.	539,526	5,454	829,116	10,479	Canada and U.S.A.
Boots and shoes, doz.	3,775	5,100	5,889	6,411	United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Czecho-Slovakia.

Exports.

The percentage of domestic exports sent to the principal countries is shown hereunder:—

	1933. *Per cent.*	1934. *Per cent.*	1935. *Per cent.*	1936. *Per cent.*	1937. *Per cent.*
(*a*) British Empire ...	63·19	59·13	52·36	57·90	58·43
Foreign Countries	36·81	40·87	47·64	42·10	41·57
(*b*) United Kingdom ...	29·96	28·82	28·62	33·60	34·29
Canada	12·48	10·08	8·28	12·11	9·95
British West Indies	20·73	18·92	15·47	12·15	14·14
United States of America	31·74	36·75	43·60	36·60	35·87

The quantities and values of the principal domestic exports and re-exports other than Bullion and Specie for 1936 and 1937 are set out hereunder:—

Principal Domestic Exports, etc.	1936. *Quantity.*	1936. *Value.*	1937. *Quantity.*	1937. *Value.*
		£		£
Arrowroot ... ... lb.	6,974,962	80,419	8,073,117	90,311
Cocoa ... ... ,,	27,782	235	50,156	843
Syrup and molasses ... gal.	163,720	7,900	242,690	10,523
Sugar ... ... tons	500½	3,961	500	5,250
Cotton, Marie Galante ... lb.	68,285	1,707	52,633	1,483
Cotton, Sea Island ... ,,	395,598	28,972	418,607	34,059
Coconuts ... ... No.	2,795,190	8,969	1,671,470	5,332
Copra ... ... lb.	787,765	4,831	1,845,331	13,518
Bananas ... No. of bunches	35,598	2,663	65,177	4,971
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie) ...	—	1,049	—	2,115

Imports and Exports of Coins and Notes.

The following table shows briefly the imports and exports of coin and notes for the last five years.

	1933.		1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	
	Notes.	Coin.	Coin.	Coin.	Coin.	Notes.	Coin.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Imports ...	5,208	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,200	15,620	50
Exports ...	Nil	5,204	4,000	1,128	2,017	Nil	427

VIII.—LABOUR.

The occupational analysis of the 1931 census gives the following classification:—

Agriculture	8,669
Commerce	812

It is estimated that some 300 persons are more or less regularly employed by Government Departments, chiefly the Public Works Department.

The demand for agricultural labour is seasonal. Two of the chief crops, arrowroot and cotton, are responsible for the employment of a large number of labourers during the period December to May, but very little labour is employed on estates growing these crops from June to July. The demand for labour, chiefly for cotton planting, increases in August and September and the supply may be actually short when the cotton industry is flourishing because many of the labourers cultivate cotton on their own lands. From the end of September to early December, when the digging of the arrowroot crop commences, there is again little demand for labour.

The employment of labour in the sugar and syrup industries is more regular, but in recent years these industries have been in a rather depressed condition because of low prices, and only about 1,000 persons are fairly regularly employed in these industries.

The greatest demand for labour is in the Windward district and it is estimated that there are some 6,600 adult persons of the labourer and peasant class in this area of whom about half are partially employed during the year. Many of those partially employed and the majority of those who do not work as labourers have land, owned or rented, on which they grow food and other crops. Comparatively few, however, can be classed as prosperous. Of a total of approximately 3,200 adult persons in the Leeward district no more than about 1,500 obtain partial employment during the year. Less than half of the adult labouring and peasant class on the Leeward coast own or rent portions of land on which food supplies and other crops are grown, and those who own no land or make only a partial

living from their land or by working as labourers support themselves by fishing and by obtaining casual employment in Kingstown or even on the Windward coast.

In the Grenadines, with a potential labour supply of about 700, there is a large amount of peasant cultivation, chiefly on the share system. The agricultural labour is performed chiefly by the women, the chief occupation of the men being fishing or boat building. There is sometimes a shortage of labour in the Grenadines during the planting season.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) is similar to that performed on plantations. Most peasants work or have worked on plantations and consequently follow in most respects the lead of the plantations. The total number of peasants owning or renting lands is approximately 5,060, of whom 4,840 cultivate areas from 1-10 acres and 220 from 11-50 acres. About 2,500 peasants actually own holdings under 10 acres in size and about 500 cultivate lands on the share system.

The labour position is unsatisfactory. As stated above, very few persons have regular employment. The great majority of the labouring class in the Colony probably have less than six months employment in the year, and on the Leeward coast the majority of those who are employed at all do not obtain more than three or four months employment in the year. The Government has fixed a minimum wage for day labour of 1s. 2d. for men and 10d. for women, and thus a man in full employment of six days a week earns only seven shillings a week, and a woman even less. The planters, however, are in most cases making little or no profit on the operation of their estates. The population is steadily growing and at a rate probably beyond the rate of expansion of the Colony's staple industries and of the labour market.

Although breadfruit and other fruit obtainable from the "bush", and bush vegetables such as wild yams, and also fish can be obtained by many in order to supplement their earnings and the food supplies obtained from their lands, existence for a very large proportion of the population is a struggle, and while there is no starvation there is undoubtedly under-nourishment. Housing is also poor, although the Government has built a number of houses which are leased at extremely low rentals, and it supplies in deserving cases a certain amount of building material free of charge.

The Government continues to pursue a policy of gradually acquiring and sub-dividing lands and selling or renting blocks to persons of the labouring and peasant class. Good land, however, in St. Vincent fetches artificially high prices, and it is

difficult for the Government with its very limited resources to find the funds to purchase land of first-class quality. The peasants also are generally poor cultivators, though the Government endeavours to teach them better methods, and a number of additional agricultural instructors are being appointed. The soil of St. Vincent is particularly friable and subject to erosion. Great difficulty is experience by the Government in obtaining from settlers regular payments of purchase instalments and rentals, although these are fixed at the lowest possible rates.

The Government also, by means of public works and by doing all in its power to promote existing and introduce additional industries, endeavours to increase employment. While, however, the population grows larger, almost all the cultivable land available in the Colony has already been taken up.

While the taking over of groups of estates by well-managed companies with a consequent reduction of overhead charges would improve the position, the most obvious solution of the problem appears to be the gradual purchase of estates and the establishment thereon of land settlements for the people under strict Government control and supervision.

The funds necessary to carry out this policy could not, however, be found from revenue or from the Colony's small reserves, and as the task of finding the amounts which the Colony must pay annually to meet interest and sinking fund charges on its existing loans is one of constant difficulty, the obstacles in the way of raising further loans for large-scale land settlement schemes appear formidable.

The lack, however, of regular employment, the low wages paid, the growth of the population, the poor housing, the difficulty of making a good living from the land, and the poverty of a large section of the people, combine to produce an atmosphere which is unhealthy and disturbing.

There is very little unemployment among skilled labourers.

There are about 1,000 unemployed persons who exist by begging or by relying on their relations and friends, and about 400 persons receive grants from the Poor Relief Funds of the Colony of whom only 10 are in the Grenadines.

It is hoped that the recent appointment of a Labour Commissioner will lead to considerable improvement in the labour situation and ensure the full ventilation of the grievances of labourers, and further that it will enable the Government to obtain complete and detailed information as to labour conditions and as to the remedies for the existing situation which are needed and practicable and possible of application.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Under the Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, 1934, the wages to be paid to agricultural labourers were fixed from 1st February, 1937, as follows:—

Male—Not less than 1s. 2d. per day of 8 to 9 hours.
Female—Not less than 10d. per day of 8 to 9 hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid chiefly by the task, a task being estimated as the equivalent of a normal day's work of 8-9 hours and paid for accordingly. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers with house-sites and with small portions of land for cultivation free or at small rentals; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms. There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land and where land is available for their use. An estate owner sometimes allows his labourers to have the fruit of mango, breadfruit and avocado pear trees, and also other produce grown on the estate. In many cases a charge is made for the use of these fruits or produce. Fish are plentiful in the sea, but on the Windward coast fishing is difficult because of the rough seas.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families. Meat is slightly less expensive than in England. Fish, though not always procurable, is cheaper. Local vegetables and fruit are cheap. Groceries and hardware and all dutiable imported goods are mostly dear. Rents of houses are higher than would be charged for houses providing similar accommodation in England. Servants' wages are from a half to a third lower than the wages of English servants, but local servants are far less efficient. On the whole the cost of living is somewhat lower than in England, but mainly because many of the amenities, the enjoyment of which involves higher expenditure in England, are not available.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from 5 to 15 years, but provision has been made for the retention to the age of 16 years of pupils attending schools recognized as senior schools.

On the 31st December, 1937, there were 37 primary schools. Of these 14 belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance, and the remaining 23 to the religious denominations. Of the denominational schools, nine are Anglican, twelve Methodist and two Roman Catholic. The salaries of all teachers, most of the equipment of both Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the denominational school-buildings are provided from the general revenue of the Colony.

The following comparative table gives the main figures of primary education in the Colony:—

	1935.	1936.	1937.
Number of schools	37	38	37
Enrolment on 31st December ...	10,432	10,411	10,457
Enrolment per 1,000 of population	189	184	182
Average attendance	5,998	5,720	5,972
Percentage in average attendance	57·5	54·9	57·1
Total Government expenditure ...	£8,548	£8,873	£9,424
Cost per child in average attendance	£1 8s. 5½d.	£1 11s. 0d.	£1 11s. 6d.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £927 11s. 10d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age but it is being steadily increased.

The Government maintains two secondary schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted when there are two or more pupils from the same family. On 31st December, 1937, the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 80 and at the Girls' High School 71.

In the 1937 Cambridge Local Examination there were 26 entries for the School Certificate and 46 for the Cambridge Junior Examination. Two boys and seven girls passed the School Certificate Examination, and 15 boys and nine girls passed the Cambridge Junior Examination.

The entry of primary school pupils into the secondary schools is assisted by the annual award, on the results of a competitive examination, of four free places, three of them provided by the Government and one by the municipality of Kingstown. Places, available at biennial or longer intervals, are also maintained by the Anglican Church, the Methodist Church, the Reeves Memorial Scholarship Committee and the Workingmen's Association.

On 31st December, 1937, 20 boys and 17 girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 25 in the Boys' School and 24 in the Girls' School.

There is a scholarship for University education of the annual value of £250. It is awarded triennially on the results of the London Matriculation examination and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the seat of learning is also provided.

There are no technical schools but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving attention in the primary schools.

The Glen Community School, situated five miles from Kingstown, is under the supervision of the Methodist Church; the estate comprises 38 acres. The aim of the school is to assist in developing all-round boys and girls and to fit them to make the most of the circumstances and environment in which they are placed. The boys are instructed in agricultural methods, carpentry, basket-work and mat-weaving, the girls in gardening, needlework, cooking and laundry work.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides organizations are well established. There are 18 troops of the former and 11 companies of the latter.

A number of Friendly Societies, established under the Friendly Society Ordinance of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or ill health.

The St. Vincent Workingmen's Co-operative Association and the Employers and Employee's Association provide sick and funeral benefits for their members.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, supplemented by a grant from Government, in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free, but for the use of the modern novels in the circulating library a monthly subscription of 6d. per book borrowed is charged.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The roads throughout the Colony are divided into three main groups, viz., Leeward, Windward and the Grenadines.

During the year, road mileage in the Windward District increased slightly over that of the previous year, due to the fact that certain roads, privately owned, became of sufficient public utility to warrant their being taken over and maintained by the Government.

Reconstruction and oiling of the Windward Highway continued during 1937 to November, at which time a further distance of 2½ miles was completed. The total oiled mileage in the Windward District is now 18½ and in the Leeward District four.

A motor launch and canoes privately owned ply daily between ports on the Leeward coast and the capital, Kingstown. These form the chief means of communication and transport, but motor vehicles now run frequently as far as Barrouallie, a distance of 12 miles. In the Windward District motor vehicles perform these services daily.

Between the Grenadines and the mainland the only means of communication and transport are by sailing boats, the Government Revenue Sloop *Carib*, and the subsidized Schooner *Enterprise*, both of which are fitted with auxiliary engines.

Below is a table of the Highways and Byways throughout the Colony:—

Roads.	*Mileage Total.*	*Oiled Mileage.*	*Macadamized Mileage.*	*Earth Mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Highway...	27½	4	6	17½	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads, Kingstown District.	4	1½	2½	—	do.
Windward Highway	25	18½	6½	—	do.
Vigie Road... ...	11	—	9	2	do.
Byways					
Leeward	64¾	—	3	61¾	Carts and animals.
Windward	113½	—	15½	98	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	7½	—	—	7½	Carts and animals.
Union Island ...	12	—	—	12	Foot.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	53½	—	—	53½	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	78	—	—	78	do.

Postal.

The General Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 22 district post offices of which ten transact all classes of postal business, including the issue and payment of money orders and postal orders, while the others perform the usual postal delivery and also the sale of stamps.

Mails are conveyed to the offices of the Windward district by motor bus and to the Leeward district by motor launch under contract. Mails are conveyed under contract between St. Vincent, the Grenadines and Grenada by the auxiliary Schooner

Enterprise and to Bequia by sailing boat. Mails to Bequia and the St. Vincent Grenadines are also conveyed by the Government auxiliary sloop *Carib*.

The telegraph service is operated by Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service maintained by the Government links up Kingstown with two exchanges in the Windward district and one in the Leeward district.

Ample call facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. Sixteen of these call stations exist, linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships, the vessels proceeding north and south calling in alternate weeks.

There is a fortnightly call at St. Vincent by the vessels of this line proceeding south, i.e., from Halifax in the winter and Montreal in the summer and calling at the following places:—Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad to the southern terminal point Georgetown, British Guiana.

There is also a fortnightly call by vessels of the same line proceeding in the reverse direction from British Guiana to Canada. The vessels of the Canadian National Steamships calling at St. Vincent are of approximately 5,000 tons.

There are therefore regular and comfortable means of communication between St. Vincent and Canada and between St. Vincent and most of the other West Indian Islands and British Guiana.

Passenger steamers of the Harrison Line of approximately 4,000 tons frequently call at St. Vincent on their journey to and from London to Georgetown, British Guiana. These steamers call at the Northern Islands, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana.

It is therefore frequently possible for passengers to proceed between London and St. Vincent by the Harrison Line without transhipment.

In addition, the calls of the Canadian National and the Harrison Steamers at Barbados and Trinidad, from which two colonies there are frequent direct passenger liners to England, provide numerous further opportunities for passengers wishing to travel between this Colony and the United Kingdom.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained with the United States of America by combined cargo and passenger boats of the Furness West Indies Line, which call on their northbound

voyages from Trinidad to New York via the West Indian Islands, and a regular cargo service from the United States of America is also maintained by the American Caribbean Line.

A fortnightly cargo service from Canada via Bermuda and the other West Indian islands is maintained by means of chartered tramp boats of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Corporation.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal works undertaken during the year 1937 are as follows:—

Continuation of the erection of the Mental Home at Villa.

Conversion of the old Mortuary at the Colonial Hospital into a Venereal Diseases Clinic, and the construction of a new Mortuary.

Converting the shed building at the Customs into a two-storeyed building.

Erection of an Office on the Kingstown Jetty to be used as a Tourist and Information Bureau.

Provision of additional accommodation at the Grammar School.

Construction of a Fireproof Cotton Seedhouse at the Government Cotton Ginnery.

Reconstructing and oiling 2½ miles of the Windward Highway.

Effecting improvements at the Telephone Exchange Building in Kingstown.

Installing lavatories and bath at the Grammar School.

Provision of rest huts at Sandy Bay Greggs ,and the Buccament Valley, for use by officers when making periodical visits.

Converting shed at the Experiment Station into a two-storeyed building to contain offices and laboratory for the Agricultural Department.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which is composed of the following:—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the Leeward coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie and Georgetown (on the Windward coast).

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which is composed of the St. Vincent Grenadines—Bequia, Union Island, Mayreau and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

Statistics of Criminal Prosecutions and Convictions. (First and Second Districts).

First District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	40	79	428	547
Malicious injury of property.	1	—	2	3
Praedial larceny	7	6	12	25
Offences against property	3	1	11	15
Offences against the Master and Servants Act.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	44	17	154	215
Other offences	19	24	145	188
	114	127	752	993

First District.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	239	1	4	7	—	143	48	442
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	63	1	1	1	—	6	22	94
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	53	—	2	2	—	1	28	86
Whipping	12	—	4	—	—	—	22	38
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	61	—	1	1	—	4	25	92
	428	2	12	11	—	154	145	752

SECOND DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	20	20	187	227
Malicious injury to property	4	1	13	18
Praedial larceny	11	32	183	226
Offences against property	29	44	138	211
Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	2	16	262	280
Other offences	60	68	482	610
	126	181	1,265	1,572

SECOND DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	124	100	7	65	—	206	348	850
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	44	38	4	35	—	56	72	249
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	7	14	—	27	—	—	20	68
Whipping	8	29	1	6	—	—	21	65
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	4	2	1	5	—	—	21	33
	187	183	13	138	—	262	482	1,265

Police.

ORGANIZATION OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Personnel.—During the early part of the year the Police Force consisted of one Officer, one Serjeant-Major and 61 Non-Commissioned Officers and men. One Officer, one Serjeant-Major and 42 other ranks were at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed among the ten outstations.

The post of Sub-Inspector was reinstituted in September, and the post of Serjeant-Major abolished.

The Chief of Police is *ex-officio* Commandant of the Local Forces, Officer Commanding the Volunteer Force, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade, Chief Relieving Officer, and Inspector of Weights and Measures.

During the year proceedings were instituted against 2,66. persons. Convictions were obtained in 2,273 cases.

All outstations are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under a semi-military organization, the constables at Headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, section-leading, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period a constable is deemed to remain enrolled for successive three-year periods unless he signifies his intention to resign before the end of a period.

Besides ordinary police duties the members of the Force are called upon to perform the following functions:—Water Police, Crew of the Administrator's boat when required, Firemen, Process Servers outside the Kingstown District, District Relieving Officers and all duties in connection with emigration laws and control. All the clerical work within the department is carried out by the uniformed staff.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise:—

(1) The record office, warders' mess room and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery and bathroom for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper storey being occupied by the prison chapel and the warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing 16 single cells.

(4) A single associated ward.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room and a weighing room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

There is a covered stone-breaking shed in the yard.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile offenders are very rarely sentenced to prison. When they are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival was fair. In nearly all cases their weight showed an loss of a month or six weeks were prison at better health than at their admission.

Instruction of Schoolchildren.

The following Commerce in Empire Day has been observed during the year under review. The task continues to be encouraged.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important Ordinances enacted during the year under review:—

No.	Short Title.
1.	Interpretation (Amendment).
3.	Kingstown Board (Amendment).
5.	Counterfeit Currency (Convention).
6.	Seditious Publications (Amendment).
10.	Customs Duties (Amendment).
11.	Emigrants Protection.
16.	Employers and Servants.
21.	Dangerous Drugs.
24.	Supreme Court (Summary Jurisdiction) Repeal.
25.	Electricity Supply and Refrigeration.
27.	Labour (Minimum Wage) (Amendment).
28.	Sugar Control.
29.	Education.
32.	Pensions.
36.	Registration of Documents.

There has been no factory legislation, legislation regarding compensation for accidents, and legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) had a note circulation in 1937 of £13,646. It is estimated that the value of coin in circulation during 1937 amounted to between £4,000 and £6,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 1½ per cent. per annum.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 4 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1937, was £5,575.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1937, was £19,897. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coins of the United Kingdom are taken at full value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for legal purposes is 4s. 2d. of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1937	94,389	97,977
1936	87,897	89,893
1935	77,758	77,589
1934	77,839	73,761
1933	72,873	68,139

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1937, amounted to £95,390 of which £7,400 comprises Municipal Loans to the town of Kingstown and £28,783 to the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for the repayment of which general revenue is only responsible in case of default. The accumulated funds towards its redemption amounted to £9,717.

The surplus assets, exclusive of Colonial Development Schemes, at 31st December, 1937, amounted to £42,361.

The main heads of taxation are:—

	Yield for 1937.
	£
Import Duties	38,169
Export Duties	3,909
Licences	3,668
Excise Duties	4,916
Land and House Tax	6,455
Income Tax	4,513
Stamp Duties	1,355
Estate Duties	37
Trade Duties	2,391

The Customs Tariff on the principal items of imports is as follows:—

Article.	Preferential tariff.	General tariff.
Boots and shoes (canvas with rubber soles)	17½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	17½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 1*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and cloth)	17½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	17½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 3*s.* per pair.
Boots and shoes (other kinds)	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	18½ per cent. *ad valorem*.
Flour, wheaten	4*s.* per 196 lb.	4*s.* 6*d.* per 196 lb.
Flour, other	4*s.* per 196 lb.	4*s.* 6*d.* per 196 lb.
Machinery — motors, water and gas engines and boilers	10 per cent. *ad valorem*.	15 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Milk, condensed, preserved, boiled, concentrated	Free.	6 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Milk, condensed	6*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Mosquito nets and bands	15 per cent. *ad valorem*.	25 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7*d.* and under per pair value	15 per cent. *ad valorem*.	15 per cent. *ad valorem* and 6*d.* per pair.
Hosiery — cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7*d.* per pair value	17½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	17½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 7*d.* per pair.
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	12½ per cent. *ad valorem* and 9*d.* per pair.
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened	1*s.* 8*d.* per 100 lb.	2*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.
Oils, edible, luca, olive and similar oils	1*s.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Oils, edible, cotton seed and soya bean	10*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 3*d.* per gal.
Tobacco, manufactured—cigars and cigarettes	8*s.* 4*d.* per lb.	12*s.* 6*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, cut, rolled and manufactured, other	6*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	8*s.* 6*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured	6*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	6*s.* per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured, stemmed	6*s.* 6*d.* per lb.	6*s.* per lb.
Wood, lumber, sawed, unmanufactured, other	5*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 ft.	11*s.* 3*d.* per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks	10 per cent. *ad valorem*.	15 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Motor cars (wholly British)	7½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	—
Motor car parts	10 per cent. *ad valorem*.	35 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Motor car parts (wholly British)	7½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	—
Motor car tyres and tubes	15 per cent. *ad valorem*.	35 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Kerosene oil	3*d.* per gallon.	5*d.* per gallon.
Meats—beef and pork ...	6*s.* per 100 lb.	9*s.* per 100 lb.
Motor spirits	10½*d.* per gal.	1*s.* 6*d.* per gal.
Metals—all kinds ...	12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.	22½ per cent. *ad valorem*.
Soap, common	5*s.* per 100 lb.	7*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb.

Article.	*Preferential Tariff.*	*General Tariff.*
Manures	Free.	Free.
Butter	10*s.* 5*d.* per 100 lb.	25*s.* per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes ...	4*s.* 2*d.* per 100 lb.	6*s.* 3*d.* per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1*s.* and under per yard).	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1*s.* per yard).	12½ per cent. *ad valorem.*	18¾ per cent. *ad valorem.*

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent. preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent. general tariff.

An excise duty of 5s. per proof gallon is levied on rum manufactured in the Colony and the amount collected in 1937 was £4,910.

A trade duty of 2s. per proof gallon is imposed on all spirits manufactured in the Colony and 2s. per liquid gallon or proof gallon (whichever quantity is mentioned in the Customs Tariff) on all imported spirits.

Stamp duties yielded £1,355 in 1937; the summary of the rates is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Agreement under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase or for otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for			6
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds—not exceeding £1			1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10			2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25			3
For each additional £25 or part thereof			3
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10		1	0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25		2	6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		7	6
For each additional £50 or part thereof		7	6
Customs ships' manifests		1	0

	£	s.	d.
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Shipping Bill			1½
Legacies:—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property for every £100 or fractional part		10	0
Release of mortgage		10	0
Protest of any bill of exchange		2	0
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards			1
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100		10	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		10	0

Land and House Tax.

A tax is levied of 2s. per acre or part thereof on land in St. Vincent, and of 3d. to 1s. per acre or part thereof on land in the islands comprising the Grenadines. A tax is levied on houses in the island of St. Vincent and in Union Island at the following rates:—

Upon houses of which the assessed annual rental shall be—

Over £2 and not exceeding £3—1s. per house.
Over £3 and not exceeding £5—2s. per house.
Over £5 and not exceeding £6—2s. 6d. per house.
Over £6 and not exceeding £7 10s.—3s. 4d. per house.
Over £7 10s. and not exceeding £9—4s. per house.
Over £9 and not exceeding £10—5s. per house.
Over £10 and not exceeding £12 10s.—6s. 8d. per house.
Over £12 10s. and not exceeding £15—10s. per house.
Over £15 and not exceeding £20—15s. per house.
Over £20, at the rate of £4 per centum of the assessed annual rental.

No tax is levied on houses in the other islands of the Grenadines. The revenue from this source amounted to £6,455.

These taxes are payable annually during the months of November and December. All unpaid taxes after 31st December are collected during the months of January to March with a fine of 1s. on amounts not exceeding £1 and of 5 per cent. on amounts exceeding £1. Any unpaid taxes after 31st March are handed over to the bailiff for collection.

Water Tax in Country Districts.

Certain districts outside of the limits of the various towns have been provided with pipe-borne water supplies. The boundaries of these districts are prescribed by Order in Council and a graduated tax was levied on all houses situated within such a district until 15th December, 1937, when the levying of this tax was discontinued for economic reasons.

A house of which the assessed annual rental did not exceed £2 10s. was taxed 6d., a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeded £2 10s. but did not exceed £5 was taxed 1s., and a house the assessed annual rental value of which exceeded £5 was taxed 2s.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Crown Lands.—The amount of revenue derived from the sales and leases of Crown Lands during the year was £793 2s. 2d. as compared with £835 5s. 8d. in the preceding year, and the arrears totalled £1,016 19s. 2d. as compared with £962 12s. in the preceding year.

Surveys.—Fourteen surveys in connection with building sites, encroachments and purchased lands were performed by the Crown Surveyor. No surveys were carried out by surveyors in private practice.

Three Rivers Land Settlement Scheme.—Two rural lots at Three Rivers Estate were taken up during the year and the revenue collected from deposits on these lots together with instalments on lots previously sold amounted to £814 16s. 8d. as compared with £1,029 7s. 3d. in 1936. At the end of 1937 only one plot of land equal in area to 12 acres 1 rood 13 poles remained unsold.

An Agricultural Credit Society was formed in 1934 in connection with the settlement scheme. Loans are usually granted by Government to the Society with interest at the rate of 3½ per cent.

The Three Rivers Estate Arrowroot and Syrup Works owned by Government are leased to the Society at a peppercorn rental for co-operative use by members. The profits from the working in 1937 were utilized for effecting repairs to the buildings.

The Ordinance now in force requires members borrowing money from the Society to charge their crops or other property as securities.

Visits of His Majesty's Ships.—His Majesty's Ships *Dragon* and the Royal Auxiliary (Oiler) *Celerol* visited this Colony in March and His Majesty's Ship *Apollo* visited this Colony in August.

Official.—His Excellency Sir Selwyn Grier passed through this Colony in April and on this occasion formally opened the new Legislative Council. Sir Selwyn Grier, who retired on medical grounds, was succeeded by Mr. Henry Bradshaw Popham, C.M.G., M.B.E. (now Sir Henry Bradshaw Popham, K.C.M.G., M.B.E.), formerly Administrator of Dominica. Sir Selwyn left Grenada on the evening of the 20th of April, 1937, on leave prior to retirement, and His Excellency Sir H. B. Popham assumed the administration of the Government of the Windward Islands on the 4th of May, 1937. During the period 21st

April to 3rd May, 1937, His Honour Edward William Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator of St. Lucia, administered the Government of the Windward Islands.

His Excellency Sir H. P. Popham paid a brief visit to the Colony in His Majesty's Ship *Apollo* in August and in September His Excellency visited the Colony for a period of three weeks.

On the evening of the 26th of October a brief visit was paid to the Colony by the Governor of Barbados, His Excellency Sir Mark Young, K.C.M.G., who passed through on his way to Barbados. Sir Mark was accompanied by Lady Young. On the 16th of November His Excellency Sir Wilfred Jackson, K.C.M.G., who was accompanied by Lady Jackson, passed through the Colony on his way to assume the Governorship of British Guiana.

Electricity.—Kingstown and environs are lighted by electricity generated by a modern Diesel plant of 130 kilowatts capacity generating at 230-400 volts A.C. three phase 50 cycles.

A refrigerating plant is also run as an adjunct to the Electricity Department.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Title of Publication.		*Price.*		*Agent for Sale.*
		s.	d.	
St. Vincent Blue Book		10	6	Government of Saint Vincent.
do.	Bound Volume of Annual Administration Reports (8).	5	0	do.
do.	Census Report, 1931	1	3	do.

(12435—48) Wt. 2309—4129 625 11/38 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL POSITION AND SYSTEM OF TAXATION OF KENYA
Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 116] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

PITCAIRN ISLAND
Reports by Mr. J. S. Neill and Duncan Cook, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
[Colonial No. 155] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES
Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List [Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List [Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List [Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List [Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List [Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Veterinary Service List [Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2 : York House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2 : 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1 : 26, York Street
CARDIFF : 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST : 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1859

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1864

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1937

(For Reports for 1935 and 1936 see Nos. 1761 and 1816 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

RETURN TO
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
DIV. OF DOCS.

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1938

Price 9*d*. net

PRINTED & PUBLISHED
IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE IN 1937-38

Statement to accompany the Estimates for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services 1938 [Cmd. 5760] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic ituation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1936 [Colonial No. 149] £1 7s. 6d. (£1 8s. 2d.)

MARKETING OF WEST AFRICAN COCOA

Report of Commission [Cmd. 5845] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps [Colonial No. 111] £1 (£1 0s. 6d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1937, to 31st March, 1938 [Cmd. 5789] 9d. (10d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

EAST AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, AMANI

Tenth Annual Report [Colonial No. 151] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

NUTRITION POLICY IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated 18th April, 1936 [Colonial No. 121] 2d. (2½d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: York House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street
CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1937

CONTENTS

Chapter.	Page.
I.—Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.—Government	4
III.—Population	5
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	6
VI.—Natural Resources	9
VII.—Commerce	10
VIII.—Labour	12
IX.—Wages and Cost of Living	12
X.—Education and Welfare Institutions	13
XI.—Communications and Transport	15
XII.—Public Works	16
XIII.—Justice, Police, and Prisons	17
XIV.—Legislation	18
XV.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	20
XVI.—Public Finance and Taxation	20
VII.—Miscellaneous	24
Appendix—Bibliography	25
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 20,798.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain an estimated population of 7,309. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons", rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situated at Ventine, two and a half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and the general health of the island compare favourably with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1937 was 81·8° F. in the shade. The maximum was 92° F. and the minimum 64° F., a range of 28° F. The hot season extended from May to October, and the cool season from December to March. The hurricane season was bare of incident, and as usual over a long period of years, the periodical revolving storms in the Caribbean area had no serious local effect other than high winds and rain.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1937, was 62·78 inches: this was 27·71 inches less than that of the previous year, and 27·37 inches below the average rainfall for 48 years (1890-1937), the average now being 90·15 inches: 1937 was the driest year so far recorded.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on 10th November when a fall of 2·65 inches was recorded. The highest maximum precipitation for the Colony in general was 4·25 inches recorded on 22nd January. The distribution of rain was abnormal and irregular.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs and continued in their possession until 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession until the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, D'Orleans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrees, and in 1722 the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island and it was declared neutral.

In 1744 the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748 when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French until 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782 Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay in St. Lucia with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared off St. Lucia and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since which period it has continued under British rule.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is conducted by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands), aided by an Executive Council. By an Order in Council dated 27th October, 1936, which came into operation on 18th December,

1936, the Legislative Council was reconstituted. The Council consists of the Governor, three *ex-officio* members (the Administrator, Attorney-General and Treasurer), and three nominated members and five elected members (one for each of three electoral districts and two members for a fourth district).

The Governor possesses reserve powers for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public faith or of good government, or in order to secure detailed control of the finances of the island in certain circumstances.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census, taken in 1921, showed the population to be 51,505.

On 31st December, 1936, the resident population of the Colony was computed at 66,230—males 31,841, females 34,389. By 31st December, 1937, the figure had increased to 67,405—males 32,288, females 35,117. The natural increase during 1937 was 1,247. The number of persons leaving the Colony exceeded the number of arrivals by 73. The net increase in population was therefore 1,174.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 289.

The births (excluding still-births, which numbered 114), totalled 2,216—males 1,101, females 1,115. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 32·9 per thousand of the population—an increase of ·8 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (excluding still-births) numbered 969—males 448, females 521. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 14·4 per thousand of the total population—a decrease of ·5 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death (other than still-births) were:—Heart diseases, 173; nutritional diseases, 57; malaria, 84; venereal diseases, 53; senility, 47; tuberculosis, 52; diarrhoea and enteritis, 65; bronchitis, 55.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout 1937.

There were 37 cases of enteric fever notified as compared with 42 in 1936. Malaria fever remained the chief public health problem outside the Castries area. In this area, in which the principal town is situated, the incidence of malaria showed a great reduction and it is safe to state that control has been established.

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer, who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Sanitary Departments; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria

Hospital, five District Medical Officers and one Supernumerary Medical Officer. The Medical Officer of District I is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The Medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere; and a pauper asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a quarantine station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

Further additions have been made to the number of new stores and general shops which have been erected since 1933, mainly in concrete, or concrete and wood. These have much improved the appearance of the business section of the town of Castries. The Castries Town Board expects to be able to give a 24-hour electricity supply service early in 1938, instead of the 14-hour service now in operation.

Apart from the general improvement in housing conditions noticeable in Castries, one of the largest Sugar Companies operating in the Colony has inaugurated a scheme for improving the betterment of housing conditions of its labourers, and the erection of concrete cottages has proceeded apace.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

The Colony, from the point of view of natural resources, is entirely an agricultural one, the staple crops being sugar, limes, coconuts, cacao, and bananas, together with miscellaneous minor products. The estimated area under the various crops during 1937 is shown in the following table:—

	Acres.
Sugar	4,600
Limes	1,500
Other citrus	400
Coconuts	5,000
Cacao	4,500
Bananas	950
Coffee	150
Miscellaneous...	7,000
Forest	12,000
Pasture	12,000
Estimated total ...	48,000

Sugar.—The cultivation of sugar cane for the manufacture of sugar is carried on in three of the large coastal valleys, and also in an area of more level land at the southern end of the island. Four factories are in operation, and these grow the bulk of the cane that is handled by them; a small proportion of the cane is supplied by peasants, either as " metayers " or as " contributors ".

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land, frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 600 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The crop production for 1937 was 8,092·2 tons of sugars, of which 7,225 tons were exported. Production did not reach the record level of the previous year, mainly owing to losses through unfavourable weather conditions towards the end of the growing season. The production of molasses (not syrup) was also somewhat lower, 237,484 gallons being made against 280,951 in 1936. A proportion of the molasses was utilized for the manufacture of rum for local use.

The weather, though dry, was not detrimental to the cane crop, and a record crop is expected in 1938. No serious flooding occurred.

The average price for sugar was approximately £9 5s. per ton as against £7 16s. received in 1936; this rise in price average has been of great benefit to the industry.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years:—

SUGAR (VACUUM PAN).

Year.	*Quantity.* *Tons.*	*Value.* £
1933	4,940	46,493
1934	4,730	39,396
1935	6,080	48,377
1936	7,707	60,358
1937	7,225	62,313

MOLASSES AND SYRUP.

Year.	*Quantity. Tons.*	*Value. £*
1933	43,260	1,417
1934	23,080	1,431
1935	169,003	2,401
1936	107,128	1,132
1937	144,016	3,201

Limes.—The lime industry is an estate one, a very small proportion being produced by peasants. The whole of the crop is exported in the form of green limes and other products (concentrated lime juice, raw lime juice, distilled and handpressed oils).

The exported lime crop of the Colony from January to December, 1937, estimated in barrels of limes, amounted to 40,519 barrels valued at £18,243 as compared with 22,569 barrels valued at £15,680 in 1936.

There were marked reductions in quantities of products exported under this head with the exception of lime oils. Adverse weather conditions in the early part of the year were mainly responsible for poor returns; apart from climatic conditions the crop was further adversely affected by root damage caused by by the Citrus Weevil, and root disease. Export figures for lime oils were larger than usual, due to the fact that a fair part of the 1936 crop was retained in store and not shipped until 1937.

The exported crops for the last five years, calculated as barrels of limes, are:—

Years.	*Quantity. Barrels.*
1933	44,019
1934	45,000
1935	38,189
1936	22,569
1937	40,519

Coconuts.—Again almost entirely an estate industry, the whole of the crop is exported either as nuts or copra. Exports for 1937 are as follows:—

COCONUTS.

Years.	*Quantity. No.*	*Value. £*
1933	1,199,808	3,527
1934	2,616,175	7,298
1935	2,814,965	7,632
1936	3,409,621	9,608
1937	2,993,621	10,476

COPRA.

Years.	*Quantity.* *Tons.*	*Value.* £
1933	542	5,167
1934	302	2,592
1935	215	1,871
1936	306	3,561
1937	404	5,335

Cacao.—The cacao industry enjoyed a higher price level until May, when a steady decline in the market commenced, and at the end of the year little business was being done.

While a fair proportion of the crop is produced on an estate scale, small growers contribute largely to the total production.

The exported crop of the year amounted to 5,585 cwt. valued at £13,357, as compared with 6,538 cwt. valued at £9,627 in 1936.

Exports for the last five years are shown as follows:—

Year.	*Quantity.* *Cwt.*	*Value.* £
1933	6,056	6,778
1934	6,349	6,032
1935	5,603	6,042
1936	6,538	9,627
1937	5,585	13,357

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of choice vegetables and salads such as cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce, and carrots has continued mainly for local supply, and there has been no export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has, however, maintained its position, the principal exports being crated mangoes, crated avocado pears and bananas.

The production of bananas for export increased from 108,633 bunches valued at £8,910 to 126,940 bunches valued at £11,814.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £16,314 as compared with £13,043 in 1936 and is shown in detail below:—

Article.	*Quantity exported to*					*Total.*	*Value.*	
	Canada.	*Bermuda.*	*U.K.*	*U.S.A.*	*Other places.*		*1936.* £	*1937.* £
Grapefruit... Cts.	150	71	63	—	22	306	84	121
Oranges ... ,,	—	2	—	—	105	107	30	24
Mangoes ... ,,	272	3,554	—	—	5,765	9,591	1,619	2,032
Avocado Pears ,,	4	3,950	—	—	6	3,960	504	623
Pineapples ,,	4	26	—	—	6	36	2	7
Bananas ... Bchs.	109,399	—	—	—	1,587	110,986	8,910	11,814
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,894	1,693
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,043	16,314

A total of 15,037 packages of fruit, excluding bunches of bananas, was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 14,939 in 1936.

The Murray Road and Land Settlement Scheme, for which a grant of £9,219 and a loan of £9,219 at 3½ per cent. per annum for 15 years commencing from the sixth year was approved in August, 1935, and received final approval during the year, and work on road construction commenced.

Farm Stock.—Extensive use has been made of the Government breeding bulls and boars for services, and interest in better breeds of cattle and small animals is being stimulated. The breeding jack donkeys for mares and asses and the pure-bred Sussex bull imported for the Government Stock Farm during 1936 have also proved popular in the Colony.

VII.—COMMERCE.

An important feature of the Dependency's trade is the supplying of coal to ships and exceptional facilities exist for quick despatch to steamers calling for bunkers. In 1937, the value of coal imported was £66,046 and 177 steamers took 40,591 tons as compared with 38,227 tons taken by 145 steamers in 1936. The principal export is sugar and in 1937 it amounted to over 42 per cent. of the total domestic export trade.

The following tables reflect the state of the trade of the Dependency for the years 1933-7:—

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	167,010	169,439	196,128	192,310	244,851
Exports	92,607	91,679	103,232	120,358	137,286
Re-exports	36,745	42,307	51,561	65,416	76,794

Direction of Trade.

IMPORTS.

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
British Empire ...	83·73	83·76	85·31	83·01	65·07
Foreign Countries ...	16·27	16·24	14·69	16·99	34·93

PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES.

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom ...	58·19	54·92	61·36	56·82	40·22
Canada	14·26	17·14	14·03	13·58	15·09
Rest of Empire ...	11·28	11·70	9·92	12·62	9·76
United States of America	5·25	6·91	12·68	7·71	25·06
Other Foreign Countries	8·23	9·33	2·01	9·21	9·87
Parcel Post	2·79	—	—	—	—
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Domestic Exports.

	1933. Per cent.	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.
British Empire ...	82·04	76·12	82·79	88·28	86·70
Foreign Countries ...	17·96	23·88	17·21	11·72	13·30

PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.

	1933. Per cent.	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	60·85	32·71	20·48	42·96	52·68
Canada	9·83	32·60	52·77	33·34	21·45
Rest of Empire ...	11·36	10·81	9·54	11·98	12·57
United States of America	14·30	20·23	14·60	9·72	11·67
Other Foreign Countries	3·66	3·65	2·61	2·00	1·63
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Article.	1936. Quantity.	1936. Value. £	1937. Quantity.	1937. Value. £	Principal countries of origin with values in £'000.
Class I.					
Flour, wheat	1,386 tons.	17,348	1,358 tons.	33,192	Canada (22).
Class II.					
Coal ...	30,132 tons.	34,311	47,228 tons.	66,046	United States of America (46), United Kingdom (20).
Class III.					
Cotton piece goods ...	897,428 yds.	17,393	820,965 yds.	16,975	United Kingdom (14), United States of America (2).
Apparel ...	—	14,740	—	18,686	United Kingdom (7), Japan (4), Czechoslovakia (2), India (1).

PRINCIPAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

Article.	1936. Quantity.	1936. Value. £	1937. Quantity.	1937. Value. £	Principal countries of origin with values in £'000.
Class I.					
Sugar, Vacuum Pan	7,707 tons.	60,358	7,227 tons.	62,333	United Kingdom (all).
Bananas ...	108,633 bunches.	8,910	110,966 bunches.	11,814	Canada (11).
Cocoa, raw	327 tons.	9,627	275 tons.	13,357	Canada (7), Trinidad (3), United Kingdom (3).
Coconuts	3,409,621	9,608	2,993,442	10,476	Canada (6), United States of America (3), United Kingdom (1).
Class III.					
Lime Oil, distilled.	643 gal.	6,091	1,330 gal.	10,187	U.S.A. (7), Canada (2), United Kingdom (1).

PRINCIPAL RE-EXPORTS.

Class II.				
Coal, including Ships' Bunkers.	39,577 tons.	£49,779	41,678 tons.	£67,446

EXPORTS OF COIN AND NOTES.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bullion—Gold ...	—	155	180	1,894	337
Coins—					
Silver	2,335	5,965	2,150	8,195	2,820
Bronze	118	204	—	45	95
Total ...	2,453	6,324	2,330	10,134	3,252

VIII.—LABOUR.

Principal industries.—Sugar, Limes, Coconuts, Cacao, Bananas, Coaling.

Sugar.—This is the most important industry, and employs about 4,000 labourers during the crop season; about 1,700 are employed in the out of crop season.

Limes.—The Lime industry employs about 500 labourers. The figure is constant throughout the year.

Coconuts.—This industry employs about 700 throughout the year.

Cacao.—This industry employs about 550 persons throughout the year.

Bananas.—About 400 persons are employed on this industry.

SUMMARY.

Sugar	2,800	throughout	the	year.
Limes	500	,,	,,	,,
Coconuts	700	,,	,,	,,
Cacao	550	,,	,,	,,
Bananas	400	,,	,,	,,
Coaling	500	,,	,,	,,

Labour supply is about 30 to 40 per cent. more than the demand.

Labourers are drawn from surrounding villages; a limited number live in barracks on the estates.

There is no contract labour.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes—agricultural, manual, and artisan—regulated by a Minimum Wage Ordinance, No. 5 of 1935, were further amended, as far as agricultural labourers on sugar estates were concerned, by the Sugar Industry Minimum Wage Order No. 40 of 1937, and

have been maintained during 1937, though estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are:—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 5s.	2s. to 3s.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows:—

Beef, fresh	7d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh...	8d. ,,
Chicken	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh	5d. ,,
Eggs	1s. per doz.
Milk	2d. per bottle.
Potatoes	2d. per lb.
Rice	2d. ,,
Butter	2s. ,,
Sugar	2d. ,,
Bread	2d. ,,
Flour	2½d. ,,

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

The Primary Education of St. Lucia is on a denominational basis, and the Government assists 47 denominational schools. The Government's contribution is made up of payment of salaries to teachers, and of pensions to retired Head Teachers, together with occasional small contributions towards buildings and equipment. During 1937 Government paid £5,085 towards salaries, to which sum Managers added a total of £25. School buildings are the property of the local Church Vestries, who estimated the rental values for 1937 at a total of £1,528; and who spent approximately £250 on repairs and furniture during the year.

Elementary agriculture is taught, and gardens are attached to most schools. The Agricultural Department supervises this work, and the standard is reasonably high.

Secondary Education.

There are two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Curé of Castries, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee to which the Government nominates three of the six members; and St. Joseph's Convent for girls, managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

Up to 12 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools, and five for the girls at St. Joseph's Convent.

Both these schools are in receipt of an annual grant from the Government. In 1937, St. Mary's College received £450, and St. Joseph's Convent £175. In addition, up to 30s. per annum is allowed as a book grant to each scholar.

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination (First Division).

Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available, but owing to the lack of facilities for the study of science in the secondary schools, these scholarships are seldom sought.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association carried on its useful work with Mrs. Baynes as President, and Mrs. F. Floissac, M.B.E., as Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association has the services of a fully trained nurse who acts as a Health Visitor.

The Government supplies medicines and accommodation free of charge and Government Medical Officers supervise the clinics.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football, cricket and netball are the favourite games.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for public dances and amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,357, of a total tonnage of 2,243,448. Of this number 881 were steamships and 476 sailing vessels.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means:—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia, and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Furness West Indian Line.

(4) Communication with Canada, the United States of America and most of the West Indian Islands by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line and the American Caribbean Line, respectively.

(5) The above Lines of Steamers are also extensively used to connect with opportunities to New York, England, and Europe via Barbados and Trinidad by the frequent sailings from those Ports of the Furness Prince Line, Hamburg-American Line, Horn Line, Munson Line, and the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company.

(6) A four-weekly service direct to London by steamers of the Harrison Line and by the Booker Line, respectively.

(7) The former seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports en route, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated was discontinued in November, 1935, but by making use of the various opportunities to and from Antigua, and Trinidad, letter Air Mails are accepted and forwarded to destination via those Ports with little inconvenience or delay.

Post Office.

In addition to the General Post Office there are 13 sub post offices in the country districts, four of which are also money order offices. Inland mails are regularly despatched by land and sea routes. Mails are sent by all steamers of the lines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Roads.

This island has a system of roads and tracks classified as follows:—

Main Roads	62·50 miles.
Second Class Roads	88·00 ,,
Unclassified Roads	230·00 ,,

The main and second class roads are suitable for motor transport.

The unclassified roads for the most part cannot be used by motor vehicles.

Motor-boat Service.

There are four coastal motor-boat services along the western, or leeward, coast of the Island. These services are operated by private concerns.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained entirely by the Government and consists of nine exchanges situated in towns and villages. One hundred and sixteen miles of trunk lines connect these exchanges and 434 miles of branch lines serve subscribers.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for all engineering works including the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the harbour, the telephone system and the control of Crown Lands. The Department runs its own workshop, and maintains its road rollers, lorries, dredging plant and other machinery.

The expenditure for the year was:—

	£
Personal emoluments and other charges	4,593
Annually recurrent	10,769
Extraordinary	2,257

Construction of the Murray road was commenced, financed by a loan from Colonial Development Funds. This will open up fresh lands for banana cultivation in the Quilesse area which commences seven miles inland from the main Dennery-Micoud Coast road. The estimated cost was £14,785. When completed this road should be the best in the island.

The annual extension of the Western Wharf in Ferrocrete continued.

The standard of the roads generally was improved and the cutting down of banks and cliffs at sharp corners, to improve visibility, was continued. This latter work has proved a boon to motorists and has greatly reduced the risk of serious accidents.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

In criminal cases tried in the Royal Court facts are decided upon by a jury of nine except in the case of a trial for a capital offence when the jury consists of twelve.

For magisterial cases the island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over Courts at Castries and Dennery.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Registrar of the Royal Court is also Assistant Magistrate and Additional Coroner for the whole Island.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for Appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law (Ordinances and Revised Rules and Orders) of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, with the assistance of Mr. J. Louis Devaux of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Mr. Devaux assisted in compiling the Ordinances and edited the Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. Mr. Coller also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

The total number of cases heard and of persons convicted of various crimes in the Colony over a period of five years is as follows:—

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
Magistrates' Courts—					
Cases heard	1,826	1,755	1,551	1,861	1,844
Convictions	1,326	1,239	1,154	1,322	1,325
Royal Court—Convictions ...	14	13	6	6	6

The following table shows the number of offences dealt with by the Magistrates in 1937 as compared with 1936:—

	1936.	*1937.*
Offences against the person, including homicide ...	335	443
Praedial larceny	170	145
Offences against property other than praedial	186	237
Other offences	1,170	1,019
Total number of offences reported... ...	1,861	1,844

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council passed 12 Ordinances including one Appropriation Ordinance. The more important Ordinances were as follows:—

The Income Tax Amendment Ordinance, 1937, imposing a ten per centum surcharge on Income Tax for the year of assessment 1937;

The Labour (Minimum Wage) Amendment Ordinance, 1937, providing for the appointment of Inspectors and giving to them the power to enter upon the lands and premises of any employer, check any work performed and inspect the records of work done and of wages paid;

The Dangerous Drugs Amendment Ordinance, 1937, providing for the exclusion from Part III of Ordinance No. 16 of 1926 of any of the drugs to which the said Part III applies upon the receipt from the League of Nations of a finding with respect to any of the drugs referred to;

The Lime Products Cess Ordinance, 1937, imposing a cess on Lime Products exported from the Colony;

The Loans (Repayment) Ordinance, 1937, authorizing the Governor to borrow from the Crown Agents £16,605 for the repayment of certain outstanding loans and for purchasing for £2,304 14s. 8d. the building formerly known as the "Baron Asylum" and now used as Police Barracks;

The Police Amendment Ordinance, 1937, providing for a daily deduction of 6d. from the pay of every Police Constable while in hospital;

The Savings Bank Ordinance, 1937, amending and consolidating the law relating to the Government Savings Bank along the lines of a Model Savings Bank Ordinance supplied to the Colonies by the Secretary of State.

There were a number of Statutory Rules and Orders issued dealing chiefly with administrative routine and the carrying out of the details of the provisions of various statutes including, *inter alia*, the Coaling Industry (Minimum Wage) Order, 1937, fixing a minimum wage for persons engaged in the Coaling Industry, and the Sugar Industry Minimum Wage Order, 1937, fixing a minmum wage for labourers on sugar estates. Royal Orders in Council were issued including, *inter alia*, Royal Orders applying certain of the provisions of the Air Navigation (Amendment) Order, 1936, to certain British Colonies and to registered British aircraft; the parties to the Convention for the unification of certain rules relating to international carriage by air signed at Warsaw on 12th October, 1929; amending Section 21 of the St. Lucia (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1936, relating to polling at elections; load line certificates issued in respect of Norwegian ships; extending to certain British Colonies certain of the provisions of the Air Navigation Act, 1920, and the Air Navigation Act, 1936; prohibiting as from 15th June, 1937, the exportation from the United Kingdom of various articles capable of being converted into military or naval stores; extending to the British Colonies, etc., as from 13th October, 1937, a treaty with Hungary for the mutual extradition of fugitive criminals; applying conditionally to the Pudukkottai State the provisions of the Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881. There was also issued a Royal Proclamation giving currency to a new threepenny piece of mixed metal and determining new designs for gold, silver and bronze coins.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the island. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government. Currency notes of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago of one and two dollar denominations became legal tender under Ordinance No. 4 of 1936 from 1st May, 1936.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia, but land quantities are frequently expressed in a local unit of measurement known as a carre, equal to about three acres, 32 perches.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.		*Local Revenue.*	*Total Revenue including Imperial Grants.*	*Local Expenditure.*	*Total Expenditure including Development Schemes.*
		£	£	£	£
1932	...	79,713	130,207	79,626	96,278
1933	...	72,569	92,816	81,002	94,732
1934	...	75,229	85,079	84,532	90,953
1935	...	79,872	96,146	86,000	87,959
1936	...	100,018	101,018	87,433	91,150
1937	...	99,045	99,045	95,796	100,009

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £116,531 4s. 1d. at the close of the year while the accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption amounted to £18,997 19s. 10d.

The Imperial grants received have been as follows:—

Year.		*In aid of Administration.*	*For Colonial Development.*	*Reparation Receipt.*
		£	£	£
1932	...	35,300	15,194	3,956
1933	...	2,500	17,747	—
1934	...	8,000	1,850	—
1935	...	14,000	2,274	—
1936	...	1,000	3,717	—
1937	...	—	4,131	—

The assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1937, amounting to £57,397 15s. 8d. were made up as follows:—

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash—						
In hands of Treasurer	12	8	4			
,, ,, Sub-Accountants	194	11	0			
,, ,, Crown Agents (Current Account)	816	10	9			
At Barclays Bank (Current Account) ...	1,192	9	6			
,, ,, ,, (Savings Account) ...	2,500	0	0			
				4,715	19	7
Investments—						
On account of Savings Bank	21,140	7	11			
,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,444	7	3			
,, Baron Trust Fund	111	5	8			
,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	107	7	6			
,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	152	16	2			
,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	923	11	6			
,, Castries Town Board Building Fund	879	6	5			
,, Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund ...	202	0	7			
				24,961	3	0
Loans—						
Castries Town Board for Cemetery ...	31	14	5			
Village of Dennery for Waterworks ...	96	0	0			
Village of Canaries for River-Wall	36	0	0			
Town of Vieux-Fort for Sea-Wall	132	0	0			
				295	14	5
Advances—						
Micoud Village Fund	199	16	1			
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	151	0	0			
Choiseul Village Fund	66	3	5			
Packing and Crate Suspense Account ...	207	16	0			
Post Office Account	951	2	8			
Other Advances	1,815	19	0			
Castries Electric Light Fund	992	15	10			
Castries Town Board Street Construction	1,950	0	0			
				6,334	13	0
Stores—						
Public Works Materials and Stores ...	2,459	8	0			
Colony Drug Store	451	3	4			
				2,910	11	4
Joint Colonial Fund				18,000	0	0
Drafts and Remittances Account				179	14	4
Total Assets...				£57,397	15	8

The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1937, amounting to £38,202 12s. 9d. were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits—						
Savings Bank Depositors	23,384	3	3			
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account ...	143	14	11			
Sundry Deposits Account	331	7	6			
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	1,538	0	8			
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	107	7	6			
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	152	16	2			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,567	11	2			
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	151	3	6			
Model Cottages Fund	499	16	5			
Castries Town Board Building Fund ...	879	6	5			
Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund	202	0	7			
Castries Town Board Street Construction	1,950	0	0			
Colonial Development Fund:						
Scheme No. 50, Water Supplies for Villages (£ 36 1 10)						
Scheme No. 282, Entomologist ... ... (£ 16 6 6)						
Scheme No. 395, Road Construction ... ... (£ 2,356 11 2)						
Scheme No. 396, Land Settlement ... ... (£ 54 10 10)						
Scheme No. 459, Castries Water Supply ... (£ 400 0 0)						
	2,863	10	4	33,770	18	5
Special Funds—						
Towns and Villages	1,049	6	11			
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account ...	649	19	10			
Castries Town Fund	1,820	0	11			
				3,519	7	8
St. Vincent Intercolonial Account				128	18	0
Grenada Intercolonial Account				783	8	8
Total Liabilities				£38,202	12	9

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is Income Tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following schedule:—

	s.	d.
For every pound of the first £100		4
,, ,, ,, next £200		6
,, ,, ,, ,, £300	1	0
,, ,, ,, ,, £400	1	6
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	2	3
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3	0
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3	9
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	4	6
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	5	6
,, ,, ,, rest of the chargeable income	5	6

The surcharge for this year was reduced from 12½ per cent. in the previous year to 10 per cent.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows:—

Of an annual rental of:—

	s.	d.
Over £5 and not over £7 10s.	7	6
,, £7 10s. and not over £10	10	0
,, £10 and not over £12 10s.	15	0
,, £12 10s. and not over £15	20	0
,, £15 and not over £20	28	0
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed rental value.		

In the case of towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed 8 per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is import duty. There is a preferential tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an excise duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an export duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1936 and 1937 was as follows:—

	1936. £	*1937.* £
Import duties	44,064	47,621
Export duties	1,620	1,506
Port, harbour, etc., dues	2,292	3,235
Spirit licences	841	890
Distillery licences	164	163
Animals, vehicles and guns	912	971
Petroleum, cocoa, boats, etc.	721	728
Excise duty on rum	7,014	7,506
Trade duty on spirits	3,298	3,549
Stamp duty	1,008	882
Income tax	3,304	4,434
Succession duty...	1,671	360
Rural house tax...	740	717

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Henry Bradshaw Popham, Esquire, C.M.G., M.B.E., succeeded Sir Selwyn MacGregor Grier, K.C.M.G., as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands. The latter retired on medical grounds and left the Windward Islands on the 20th April, 1937.

The Governor arrived at Grenada and assumed the administration of the Government of the Windward Islands on the 4th May, 1937.

His Honour Edward W. Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator, acted as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands from the 21st April to the 3rd May, 1937, during which period the Honourable G. H. Frith, Treasurer, acted as Administrator of St. Lucia.

The Administrator left this island on leave on the 31st October, 1937. During his absence the Honourable G. H. Frith, Treasurer, acted as Administrator of St. Lucia.

The Governor paid two visits to this island in the course of the year, the 27th to the 30th May, 1937, and the 10th to the 25th July, 1937.

The late Governor paid two visits to this island in the course of the year, the 5th to the 24th January, 1937, and the 20th March to the 4th April, 1937.

The following British ships of war visited this island during the year:—

H.M.S. *Apollo* in February and March.

H.M.C.S. *Skeena* and *Saguenay* in March.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

(a) *Official or Semi-Official Publications.*

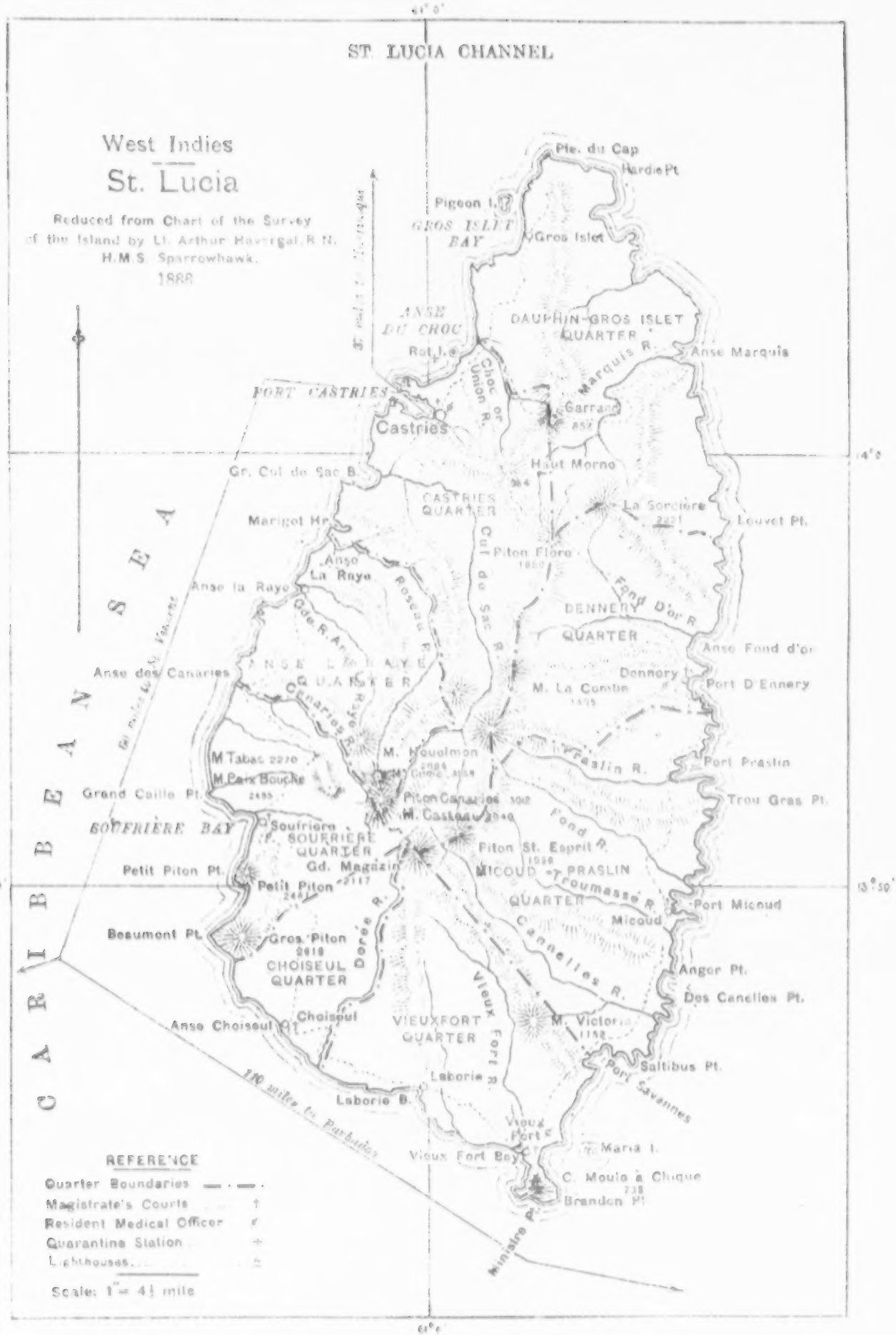
Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia Gazette ...	—	St. Lucia Government Printing Office.	Weekly	12s. per annum, 6d. per copy.
St. Lucia Blue Book ...	—	Do.	Annually	10s.
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia. (Cmd. 3996.)	—	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1932	2s.
West India Sugar Commission Report, 1929. (Cmd. 3517.)	—	Do.	1930	2s.
Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands. Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Primary Education. (Colonial No. 79.)	—	Do.	1933	2s.
Year Book of the West Indies.	—	Thomas Skinner & Co., London.	Annually	7s. 6d.
The West India Committee Circular.	—	The West India Committee, London.	Fortnightly.	2 guineas per annum.
Government of the West Indies.	Hume Wrong	Clarendon Press ...	1923	—
Historical Geography of the British Colonies, Vol. II, West Indies.	Sir C. P. Lucas.	Clarendon Press ...	1905	7s. 6d.
History, Resources, and Progress of British West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Pitman	1912	7s. 6d.
Pocket Guide to the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Sifton Praed & Co. Ltd.	1931	10s. 6d.
Handbook of the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1929	5s. 6d.

(b) *Descriptive Publications.*

English in the West Indies.	J. A. Froude	Longman, Green & Co.	1888	18s. 6d.
Cradle of the Deep ...	Sir Frederick Treves.	Smith, Elder & Co.	1908	12s.
A Wayfarer in the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1928	8s.

(c) *Historical Publications.*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia: Historical Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen.	Longman Green, London.	—	—
Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794.	Willyams ...	T. Bensley, London	1796	—
Chronological History of the West Indies.	Captain Thomas Southey.	Longman Rees; Orme Brown & Green.	1827	—
History of British Colonies in the West Indies.	Bryan Edwards.	John Stockdale ...	1793	—
History of Caribee Islands.	De Rochefort (translated by J. Davis).	—	1666	—
Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique.	J. B. Labat	Husson and others, La Haye.	1742	—
Pére Labat (1693–1705), Memoirs of.	(Translated by John Eaden.)	Constable & Co. ...	1931	7s. 6d.
The West Indies in 1837	Sturges and Harvey.	Hamilton	1838	8s. 6d.
West Indian Tales of Old.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Duckworth ...	1912	8s.
(d) *Scientific Publication.*				
Obeah	H. J. Bell ...	Sampson Low ...	1889	2s. 6d.
(e) *Fiction.*				
A West Indian Pepper-Pot.	Sir Reginald St. Johnston, K.C.M.G.	Philip Alan Co. ...	1928	10s. 6d.



(1958—48) Wt. 2592—4138 625 11/58 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL POSITION AND SYSTEM OF TAXATION OF KENYA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 116] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

PITCAIRN ISLAND

Reports by Mr. J. S. Neill and Duncan Cook, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. [Colonial No. 155] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES

Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List	[Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Veterinary Service List	[Colonial No. 132] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2 : York House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2 : 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1 : 26, York Street

CARDIFF : 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST : 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1864

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1923

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

GRENADA, 1937 and 1938

(For Report for 1935 see No. 1789 (Price 1s. 0d.) and for Report for 1936 see No. 1838 (Price 9d.).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1939
Price 9*d*. net

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1938-39

Statement to accompany the Estimates for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services, 1939 [Cmd. 6023] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

NUTRITION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Economic Advisory Council. Report of Committee.

1st Report—Part I. [Cmd. 6050] 3s. (3s. 4d.)

1st Report—Part II. Summary of Information regarding Nutrition in the Colonial Empire [Cmd. 6051] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1936 [Colonial No. 149] £1 7s. 6d. (£1 8s. 2d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1938, to 31st March, 1939 [Cmd. 6062] 9d. (10d.)

LOCAL LEGISLATURES IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Return showing the composition, etc. [H. of C. 169, 1937/38] 6d. (7d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN MALAYA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, June, 1939 [Colonial No. 173] 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

EAST AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, AMANI

Eleventh Annual Report [Colonial No. 167] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: York House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA FOR THE YEARS 1937 AND 1938

CONTENTS.

Chapter.		Page
I.	Geography, Climate and History	2
II.	Government	4
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	8
VI.	Natural Resources	9
VII.	Commerce	10
VIII.	Labour	13
IX.	Wages and Cost of Living	15
X.	Education and Welfare Institutions	16
XI.	Communications and Transport	19
XII.	Public Works	20
XIII.	Justice, Police and Prisons	22
XIV.	Legislation	24
XV.	Banking, Currency and Weights and Measures	25
XVI.	Public Finance and Taxation	25
XVII.	Miscellaneous	29
	Appendix, Bibliography	31
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Grenada lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30′ and 11° 58′ north latitude and 61° 20′ and 61° 35′ west longitude. Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, it is, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago, the nearest British island to the mainland of South America. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but including the island of Carriacou, a dependency lying 20 miles to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

The island is mountainous and well-watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. The landlocked harbour of St. George's, the capital, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies, and a deep-water pier, to accommodate two ships, is in course of construction.

Mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, divide the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes formed in extinct craters; one, called " The Grand Etang ", is situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, " Lake Antoine ", is near the sea on the north-eastern coast.

Climate.

The climate is good and during the months from December to April, when the trade winds prevail, it is delightful. From July to October there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. The climate may be regarded as hot during this period but it is not unhealthy at any time of the year.

There is an appreciable variation in the rainfall in different parts of the island. At Belmont Estate in the north the rainfall in 1937 was 58·63 inches, at the Grand Etang (1,740 feet) in the mountainous centre it was 186·42 inches, while at Grand Anse Estate in the extreme south-west it was only 38·47 inches. Rains were abnormally heavy during 1938 and the fall recorded at the three foregoing points was 87·59, 246·43 and 74·76 inches respectively. Falls of rain were recorded at the Grand Etang on 324 days during the year, and the average total for the year over 28 stations was 140·28 inches, with a minimum of 74·76 inches and a maximum of 249·23 inches.

At the Meteorological Station (507 feet) on the outskirts of St. George's, the fall in 1937 was 75·53 inches and in 1938, 116·38 inches, the latter being the highest on record during the past 30 years when the average fall has been 74·09 inches.

A severe rainstorm visited the southern section of the island on the night of 27th-28th October, 1938, when 9·20 inches were recorded at Annandale Estate. At that point the rain-gauge overflowed and no accurate record is available. Considerable damage was caused to roads and bridges and to private property.

The highest temperature recorded at the Meteorological Station in 1937 was 89° and the lowest 70°. The mean maximum was 86°, and the mean minimum 73°. The corresponding figures in respect of the year 1938 were 90°, 70°, 86° and 77° respectively.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Colombus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than one hundred years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island and, after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the

Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next fc - years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-6, influenced by the French Revolution, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders were executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a comparatively high state of development.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Grenada, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, form the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who ordinarily resides in Grenada. He is assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils in each island.

The Executive Council of Grenada consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, *ex officio*, and such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of appointment of members (other than *ex officio* members) is six years.

The Legislative Council is partly elected, and its constitution provides for an unofficial majority. It consists of four official members, f r nominated members and seven elected members. The official members are the Governor, who is President and has only a casting vote, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer.

In the absence of the Governor of the Colony, the Colonial Secretary becomes Administrator of Grenada. In the absence of the Governor from the Windward Islands, the administration of the group devolves on the officer holding a dormant commission. The Administrator of St. Lucia holds such a commission at present. If no dormant commission has been issued, the administration of the group is assumed by the senior Administrator.

Municipal affairs are largely in the hands of District Boards, one in each parish, composed of an equal number of nominated and elected members. The membership varies between eight and fourteen according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting the local Government are the Board of Agriculture, the Sanitary Authority, the Central Road Authority, the Central Water Authority, the Electricity Authority, the Board of Education, the Forestry Board, and the Charity Advisory Committee (with District Committees under the several District Boards).

III.—POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct and the native population is composed of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921, was composed of:—

Black	51,032
Mixed	11,673
Oriental	2,692
White	905
Total	66,302

of whom 37,455 were females and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's, the capital, at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1938, was estimated at 89,415. The estimated totals at the end of the five preceding years were:—

1933	82,624
1934	83,888
1935	85,626
1936	87,105
1937	88,201

The following table indicates the birth-rate and death-rate per 1,000 during the past five years:—

	Birth-rate.	*Death-rate.*
1934	32·16	13·6
1935	31·07	14·3
1936	31·98	15·4
1937	31·33	14·3
1938	29·80	15·2
Averages	31·27	14·5

A comparison of the percentage of deaths among children up to five years of age during the past five years is given below:—

Percentage of Deaths.

Year.	*Under 1 Year.*	*1–2 Years.*	*2–3 Years.*	*3–4 Years.*	*4–5 Years.*	*Total under 5 Years.*	*Total Deaths.*
1934 ...	23·8	13·6	2·2	2·2	1·0	42·8	1,143
1935 ...	18·5	16·2	3·9	1·2	·6	40·4	1,224
1936 ...	21·5	13·7	3·0	1·5	·8	40·5	1,348
1937 ...	25·2	12·5	3·7	1·4	·7	43·5	1,265
1938 ...	24·0	15·4	3·1	1·1	·5	44·1	1,348

In 1937 the death-rate per 100 births in the case of infants dying under one year of age was 11·5, as compared with 10·4 in 1936. In 1938 the rate was 12·1.

Marriages registered during 1937 numbered 414 and in 1938 298, as compared with 341 in 1936.

The arrivals during 1937 were 4,542 and in 1938, 5,060, the departures being 4,945 and 5,163 respectively.

IV.—HEALTH.

Although situated in the tropical zone, the Colony enjoys a pleasant and genial climate tempered by an abundant and steady rainfall. Longevity is common here among all races whether of European, African, Asiatic or of mixed origin. The death rate is comparatively low and the general health of the population must be considered on the whole good. This statement must, however, be qualified by adding that the labouring population, almost entirely agricultural, is widely infected by diseases common in tropical countries, such as malaria, yaws, helminthiasis, dysentery, and, to a much less extent, enteric fevers.

Malaria occurs chiefly in low-lying swampy coastal areas situated between the sea and the mountainous country behind. It is usually of the more chronic type. Blackwater fever is rare and malignant types of fever are less commonly seen than formerly. Drainage of swamps is undertaken so far as funds permit. The reclamation of the swamps near St. George's progresses slowly but steadily each year.

Tuberculosis is almost invariably of the pulmonary type. The number of notifications shows little change. A Tuberculosis Hospital, maintained by Government in St. George's, has accommodation for 30 patients.

Yaws is widely spread throughout the island. The spread of this disease and the difficulties of eradication are much furthered by the general overcrowding of the houses and huts of the poorer classes. Considerable difficulty is experienced in persuading patients to attend regularly for treatment.

Intestinal disorders are, as is usual in the tropics, common throughout the Colony. Every effort is made to reduce their incidence by sanitary measures, including the control and protection of food, the reduction of soil pollution by the erection of latrines and the reduction of fly breeding in the more populous centres. Food supplies are regularly inspected by the sanitary staff and unwholesome food condemned. Scavenging is regularly carried out in the townships.

Hookworm is a common infection and causes much disability. Efforts that are now being made in improvement of rural sanitation should do much to diminish this preventable complaint.

Enteric fever is notifiable. A slight increase in the number of cases was noted in 1938, 25 cases being notified as compared with 19 in 1937. Whenever possible, cases are removed to hospital for treatment. Premises are disinfected and contacts inoculated.

Medical Services.—The Colony is divided into eight districts, seven in the island of Grenada and the eighth formed by the island of Carriacou. The Government maintains a Medical Officer in each district who is also responsible for the public health of that district.

There are three hospitals provided and maintained by Government. The Colony Hospital, situated in St. George's, has accommodation for 150 in-patients. This hospital is in charge of a Resident Surgeon and here all operative work is done. Probationer nurses undergo a course of four years' training for certification at this hospital. The St. Andrew's Hospital, situated in the north-east of the island, has accommodation for 23 in-patients and the Belair Hospital in Carriacou is capable of caring for 30 in-patients.

Confinement cases receive attention at all these hospitals, the total number of confinements during the year 1938 being 590, with five deaths, as compared with 515 with seven deaths in 1937. Out-patients are also seen daily at each hospital. The total number of in-patients treated during the year 1937 was 2,769, and during 1938, 2,918.

A chain of 18 visiting stations placed in the rural districts affords additional medical aid to those living in country areas. A trained nurse resides at each station and attends daily to all in need of treatment. She also attends all confinements in the district and advises the mothers as to the care of their children. The District Medical Officer attends each visiting station once a week and undertakes any special work such as injections for yaws.

Government also provides a Mental Hospital with accommodation for 144 inmates and a House of Refuge for destitute and aged persons suffering from chronic and incurable diseases, with accommodation for 120 inmates.

A Settlement is maintained by Government for the care and treatment of persons suffering from leprosy. This disease is not endemic in the Colony, the lepers under treatment having apparently contracted the disease during their residence elsewhere. The number of inmates at present is 12.

Sanitation.—The sanitation of the Colony is under the control of the Sanitary Authority. This is a body consisting of representatives of the several District Boards and of two Medical Officers, the Superintendent of Public Works and the Port Officer, under the chairmanship of the Senior Medical Officer who is also executive officer. A Sanitary Inspector is stationed

in each district and works under the supervision of the District Medical Officer. He is responsible for anti-mosquito work, dealing with collections of larvae by oiling or filling, draining, &c., inspection of compounds and houses for mosquito and fly breeding, disinfection of houses and general sanitation of his district.

In February, 1937, the work of installation of a water-borne sewerage system in St. George's was commenced. The work has progressed very satisfactorily and should be completed by the end of 1940.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—All the nurses trained at the Colony Hospital receive instruction in midwifery and are required to pass an examination in this subject before receiving their certificates as trained nurses.

A Child Welfare League in the town of St. George is controlled by lady volunteer workers and distributes free supplies of condensed milk to poor mothers for their infants, who are seen weekly at the clinic situated in the grounds of the Colony Hospital. The children are weighed and examined, and the mothers are given necessary advice.

The nurses stationed at the district visiting stations also advise the mothers in rural areas as to the care and management of young children.

Water Supply.—A great asset to the public health of the Colony is the excellent pipe-borne water supply which is established throughout the island and gives a practically unlimited supply of pure water both to the towns and rural districts all through the year. Further extensions of this service are under consideration.

V.—HOUSING.

The houses occupied by the working classes and agricultural labourers as a rule leave much to be desired. Small wooden structures usually built on wooden pillars are in many cases leaking, dilapidated and overcrowded. Mud-and-wattle huts with cane straw roofs and mud floors are also used by the poorest classes. Of domestic sanitation there is none, and the prevention of intestinal diseases and helminthic infections is thereby rendered more difficult. Owing to the universal and chronic overcrowding of these houses contagious infections naturally spread very rapidly and are most difficult to check; particularly is this the case with regard to yaws.

Government is carefully investigating the housing problem. A committee was appointed in 1938 to go into the whole question and as a result of its recommendations, model houses are being erected. Legislation is being prepared to empower a Housing Board to make loans to agricultural workers and to peasants to assist them to erect new houses of a suitable type

or to improve their existing houses, and in all cases to provide suitable domestic sanitation. One estate, which is owned by absentee proprietors, has set a fine example by utilizing local timber to build new houses for the workers living on the estate.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

The total area of Grenada, including Carriacou, is 85,015 acres, of which there are about 16,000 acres of forest land situated mainly in the mountains which form a central ridge. There are about 1,920 acres of marsh and swampy and precipitous areas unusable, but there is very little cultivable land which is not used. The swampy areas, if drained and reclaimed, would make useful areas for land settlement.

Land tenure consists of private ownership, freehold, leasehold, and the metayer system. When agricultural labourers rent land the security of tenure enjoyed is generally that of a yearly tenant. An account of land settlements in Grenada will be found in Chapter XVII.

(a) Products.

The Colony's natural resources, other than fishing, are entirely agricultural. It produces cocoa, nutmegs, mace and various spices, sugar, bananas, cotton, lime and coconut products, and fruits. There is a plentiful supply of livestock including poultry which is reared mainly by the peasantry. There is no organized fishing industry and the fishermen, who number among the poorest in the community, operate with seine nets, fish pots and small boats which do not go far from land. In Carriacou and in the Grenadines the fishing grounds are better and the fishermen are skilful and daring boatmen.

(b) Organization of production.

All the agricultural products are produced both on estates and on small holdings, but the volume of exports is derived mainly from the products of estates, except that a large quantity of cotton, which is grown almost exclusively in Carriacou, is produced by the peasantry, as also are sundry fruits which are taken for sale by hucksters to the neighbouring islands.

Cocoa, nutmegs and mace, lime products, and copra are marketed abroad through commercial houses on a commission basis or are sold locally through produce buying houses. Small holders dispose of their cocoa and spices through small licence dealers in districts. These licence dealers purchase small quantities of both cured and uncured produce and in turn sell the cured produce to commercial houses.

Bananas are purchased on the quayside by the Canadian Banana Company which has renewed its four-year contracts with growers. A very small percentage of bananas is produced

by the peasantry to date but encouragement is being given by Government in assisting to transport their bananas to the capital, selection being carried out at given places in the banana producing areas. The industry has not developed as rapidly as had been hoped, but every effort is being made to stimulate it.

Complaints have been received about the deterioration of the quality of Carriacou cotton on account of staining and weak staple. The question of the erection of a central ginnery in Carriacou is receiving the earnest consideration of Government.

There is one modern sugar factory which produces a high class of refined muscavado sugar for internal consumption only. It is supplied principally by four large cane estates in the vicinity, but large quantities of cane are purchased by the factory from neighbouring small holders at a minimum price of 14s. per ton of cane, which is fixed by Government. A number of small primitive mills produce crude muscavado or wet sugar which is purchased only by the labouring population.

51,329 proof gallons of rum were distilled in 1937 and 31,925 gallons in 1938. Rum is not exported.

The Colony has no known mineral resources.

A table of domestic exports is given in Chapter VII.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The external trade of the Colony showed an appreciable increase in 1937 over 1936, but there was a considerable falling off in 1938. The total trade (excluding parcel post) in 1937 and 1938 was £771,746 and £608,826 respectively, as compared with £568,967 in 1936.

Imports.

Foodstuffs represent a large part of the Colony's imports, the value of these (including spirits and tobacco) in 1937 being £138,911 and, in 1938, £126,939, or about 37 per cent. and 43 per cent. respectively, of the total imports.

Flour takes first place among imported articles. The value of imports of this commodity in 1938 showed an increase over the preceding year although the quantity imported was less.

Cotton piece-goods represent the next most valuable item imported. The importation of this article from foreign countries has been regulated by quota since 1934 without causing any hardship on the public. The quantity imported from Japan in 1937 was infinitesimal and no such goods were imported from that source in 1938.

Exports.

Exports consist mainly of agricultural products. Of these cocoa represented 44 per cent. of domestic exports in 1937 and 47 per cent. in 1938, while nutmegs and mace together formed 46 per cent. and 42 per cent. in those years respectively.

The prices received for the Colony's principal products during 1937 were good and the value of exports was the highest on record for five years. These prices, however, were not maintained in 1938 and the total value showed an appreciable decline. These fluctuations are clearly reflected in the Colony's imports, but the tendency towards increased cost of most commodities as a result of unsettled world conditions was the important factor which brought the value of imports in 1937 to the highest level in the last five years.

The following table shows the value of the import, domestic export and re-export trade during the last five years:—

	1938.	*1937.*	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	294,160	370,969	282,380	276,016	246,862
Domestic Exports ...	271,727	362,075	257,743	222,649	195,273
Re-exports	42,939	38,702	28,844	28,819	23,577

The following tables show the percentage of the total imports and domestic exports supplied by and sent to the different countries:—

IMPORTS.

	1938.	*1937.*	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	42	47	51	53	43
Canada	16	15	14	11	17
Trinidad	6	5	7	7	7
British Guiana	7	4	4	2	2
Other British Possessions...	9	9	7	10	11
Total Empire Countries ...	80	80	83	83	80
United States of America...	11	11	9	9	10
Japan	2	3	3	3	4
Other foreign countries ...	7	6	5	5	6
Total foreign countries ...	20	20	17	17	20

DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

	1938.	*1937.*	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	46	50	37	47	32
Canada	23	11	23	24	24
Other British Possessions...	3	4	4	5	5
Total to Empire countries	72	65	64	76	61
United States of America...	20	26	29	22	38
Germany	2	6	6	1	—
Other foreign countries ...	6	3	1	1	1
Total to foreign countries...	28	35	36	24	39

The principal articles imported during the last two years were as follows:—

Article.	*Value.* 1937. £	1938. £	*Principal countries of destination, 1938, with values in £'000.*
Flour	45,739	39,332	Canada (25), United Kingdom (9), Australia (3), United States of America (1).
Cotton piece goods ...	30,980	19,901	United Kingdom (12), United States of America (6).
Lumber	19,902	17,682	British Guiana (7), United States of America (6), Canada (3).
Rice	12,278	13,163	British Guiana (12), India (1).
Fish, dried	11,735	10,628	Newfoundland (8), Canada (2).
Boots and shoes ...	11,603	7,596	United Kingdom (3), Czecho-Slovakia (1), Canada (1).
Hardware	9,080	6,203	United Kingdom (4).
Motor cars and trucks ...	13,228	5,973	United Kingdom (2), Canada (2).
Motor car parts and tyres	6,288	5,766	United Kingdom (2), Canada (1), United States of America (1).
Motor Spirit	5,109	5,090	Trinidad (all).
Apparel	10,762	4,409	Japan (1), United Kingdom (1).
Soap, common	5,597	4,339	United Kingdom (4).
Kerosene oil	4,187	4,004	Trinidad (3).
Artificial silk piece goods	5,044	3,366	United Kingdom (1).
Sugar, refined	4,089	3,144	United Kingdom (2).

The principal articles exported during the last two years were:—

Article.	*Value.* 1937. £	1938. £	*Principal countries of destination, 1938, with values in £'000.*
Domestic Exports—			
Cocoa, raw	160,030	126,920	United Kingdom (65), Canada (42), Belgium (7), Germany (4), United States of America (2), Holland (2).
Spices—			
Nutmegs	105,264	74,625	United States of America (44), United Kingdom (20), Canada (4), Belgium (3).
Mace	61,895	38,995	United Kingdom (26), United States of America (6), Canada (3), Germany (2).
Bananas	14,650	11,134	Canada (11).
Lime Oil	5,558	9,735	United Kingdom (8).
Cotton, raw	3,873	2,588	United Kingdom (2).
Cotton Seed	1,109	1,276	Barbados (1).
Re-exports—			
Metal Manufactures ...	20,188	20,311	Trinidad (all).
Cinematograph films...	12,750	18,400	Trinidad (all).

The following table shows the imports and exports of specie during the last five years:—

Imports.

	1938.	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£
Silver coins	—	3,167	—	—	—
Copper coins ...	—	95	—	—	—
Bank notes	—	—	5,208	—	—

Exports.

	1938.	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gold coins	—	58	177	151	342
Silver coins	500	60	187	100	2,000
Copper coins ...	—	—	—	10	105

Tourist trade.—The Colony has been enjoying an increasing measure of popularity as a port of call for liners on winter cruises to the West Indies, and as many as 12 ships brought 4,180 tourists during the last season, spending an average of nine hours in port. The Island's sea beaches are unsurpassed in the West Indies and golf and tennis may be played all the year round.

Hotels and furnished seaside bungalows are available for visitors who desire to spend longer periods in the Colony. A Tourist Committee was appointed by Government in 1938 and has proved of good service to the tourist trade. The Committee has been responsible for the publication of an attractive and informative folder for the Colony of Grenada.

VIII.—LABOUR.

A local Commission was appointed in August, 1937, to enquire into the economic condition of various classes of wage-earners in the Colony and, as a result of its report, a Labour Department was established in June, 1938, and the minimum wage for agricultural labourers was increased.

The duties of the Labour Officer, who is also the Land Settlement Officer, are summarised as follows:—

(*a*) to advise the Government generally on all matters connected with the labouring classes including the peasant and small-holder class;

(*b*) to act as a liaison officer between Labour and Labour Organizations and the Government and to advise and to assist Labour Organizations;

(*c*) to ensure that the provisions of certain labour legislation are observed:—

(1) The Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinances, 1934 and 1936, and Rules made thereunder with particular reference to Statutory Rule and Order No. 17 of 1938 fixing the existing minimum wage;

(2) The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance which was brought into force on the 1st of July, 1938, and subsidiary legislation made thereunder with particular reference to Statutory Rule and Order No. 14 of 1938 providing for the safeguarding of machinery in factories;

(*d*) to assist in the preparation of any additional labour legislation that it may be decided by Government to introduce;

(*e*) to examine and investigate the conditions under which labour is employed on estates and in factories and is housed;

(*f*) to prepare statistics dealing with wages, employment and unemployment and to assess the value of gardens and of privileges for the purpose of ascertaining the " real wage ";

(*g*) to deal with disputes between labourers and employers and with grievances of labourers and of peasants;

(*h*) to make recommendations regarding the employment of labourers otherwise than in agriculture and to endeavour to provide employment for persons unemployed;

(*i*) to supervise existing land settlements (which duty includes the making of allotments, collection of annuities, adjustment of disputes and the enforcement of the Land Settlement Regulations), to advise and help allottees in the cultivation of their lots and to investigate and report on the necessity for additional land settlements and to value properties for land settlement purposes;

(*j*) to be the official assessor of tenants compensation on the coming into operation of the proposed new Tenants Compensation Ordinance.

So soon as the Department was established the Labour Officer visited various estates throughout the island and explained personally to the labourers and to the managers the terms of the Minimum Wage Law. The Labour Officer travels extensively and, by keeping in the closest possible touch with employers and employed, he is in a position to advise Government with regard to the state of unemployment in the various districts.

The Department works in close co-operation with the Public Works Department and arranges, so far as practicable, for gangs of labout employed by Government all over the Colony

on road work and other services to be changed over each fortnight in order that the work may be distributed as evenly as possible.

The preparation of statistics in regard to employment and unemployment is only in its infancy and it is not yet possible to state accurately the number of persons employed in the various industries. In Grenada, of course, the principal industry is agriculture and, while there is as yet little total unemployment, there is considerable under-employment as estates can now only employ labourers for two or three days a week owing to the low prices obtainable for the Colony's export crops.

The supply of labour is, therefore, plentiful. There is no system of local recruiting or of contracting labour and labourers and employers are generally on the most friendly terms and disputes are rare.

The following are particulars of legislation enacted during the period under review:—

Statutory Rule and Order No. 15 of 1938 bringing the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance into force.

Statutory Rule and Order No. 17 of 1938, providing the following minimum wage for agricultural labourers:—

	Men.	*Women.*
For a working day not exceeding 8 hours ...	1s. 3d.	1s. 0d.
For a working day not exceeding 6 hours ...	1s. 0d.	10d.
For every hour or part in excess of 8 hours ...	3d.	2d.

Statutory Rule and Order No. 32 of 1938, bringing the Workmen's Compensation Law into force.

Statutory Rule and Order No. 34 of 1938, providing for Regulations under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance.

Statutory Rule and Order No. 46 of 1938, furnishing the powers of the Labour Officer.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1938, amending the law relating to the hours of opening shops and stores and of the employment of assistants therein.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Standard weekly rates of wages for the labouring classes have not changed materially during 1937 and 1938, though the minimum wage for agricultural labourers was slightly increased by an Order-in-Council which came into force in June, 1938. The existing scale of minimum wage is given in Chapter VIII.

The ruling daily rates of wages are:—

	Men.	*Women.*
Agricultural	1s. 3d.–1s. 6d.	1s. 0d.–1s. 2d.
Manual	1s. 0d.–1s. 6d.	1s. 0d.–1s. 4d.
Semi-skilled	1s. 0d.–3s. 0d.	1s. 0d.–1s. 4d.
Skilled	3s. 0d.–8s. 0d.	—

In domestic service the monthly wage, which in some cases includes board and lodging, varies from 10s. to 20s. for maids and nurses, and from 10s. to 25s. for cooks. In some cases where board and lodging is not given, the rates are increased by 6s. to 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the past two years. Board and lodging can be had for £8 to £9 per month and it is estimated that two people can live comfortably on £35 to £40 per month, or, with a more restricted range of pleasures and activities, on £20 to £30 per month.

The following are the prices of articles of food consumed by the labouring classes. The prices do not vary much.

Beef, fresh	6d. to 7d. per lb.
Beef, salt	7d. to 10d. ,,
Pork, fresh	6d. to 7d. ,,
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Fish, fresh	4d. to 7d. ,,
Fish, salt	4d. to 6d. ,,
Chicken	6d. to 8d. ,,
Sugar	2d. to 2½d. ,,
Flour	2d. to 2½d. ,,
Rice	2d. to 2½d. ,,
Butter, table	1s. to 1s. 11d. per lb.
Butter, oleo	6d. to 8d. per lb.
Bread	3d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	2d. to 3d. per bottle.
Bananas	1d. for 4 lb. to 10 lb. (Country). 1d. for 1 lb. to 6 lb. (Town).
Tanias	½d. to 1d. per lb. (Country). 1d. to 1½d. per lb. (Town).
Breadfruit	½d. to 1d. for 3 (Country). ½d. to 1d. each (Town).
Sweet Potatoes	½d. to 1d. per lb. (Country). 1d. to 1½d. per lb. (Town).
Potatoes	2½d. to 4d. per lb.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

The attendance figures in the primary schools for 1937 were 13,931 on the roll and 8,757 in average attendance. These were somewhat higher than those of the previous year which were 12,809 and 8,222 respectively. In 1938 the figures had improved further; there were 14,608 on the roll and 9,478 in average attendance.

The new Education Ordinance which received the Governor's assent on 30th November, 1936, was brought into force by Proclamation on 15th April, 1937. The new Code of Regulations for Primary and Secondary Education was passed by the Legislative Council on 17th June, 1938. This Code was specially welcomed by the teaching fraternity because it provided increases of salary for most Head and all Assistant Teachers.

Immediately after the Ordinance came into force the new undenominational Board of Education was appointed and its first meeting was held on 28th May. The Board devoted a great deal of time to the consideration of the new Code of Regulations.

During the year 1937 four schools went into new buildings, namely, the Hillsborough Government School, the Petit Martinique Roman Catholic School, the St. George's Methodist School, and the St. Paul's Government Model School. The buildings in which the Hillsborough and St. Paul's Schools are now housed have been constructed in accordance with an approved "model" plan. The Roman Catholic School at Vinciennes, in St. David's, was added to the list of grant-in-aid schools with effect from 1st January, 1938, and moved into a new building which was opened by His Excellency the Governor on 22nd May. The Holy Innocents Anglican School, in St. Andrew's, also went into a vastly improved building which was similarly opened on 1st September, 1938.

In August, 1937, the West Indian and British Guiana Union of Teachers held their third annual conference in Grenada, which was attended by over 250 visiting teachers from neighbouring Colonies.

The Annual Field Day for elementary schools of the Colony was held at the Botanic Station on 11th March, 1937, and at Queen's Park on 12th May, 1938. On this day prizes for Handwork and for Agriculture are presented.

The Coronation of His Majesty the King and of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth was celebrated with the greatest enthusiasm by the children of the schools of the Colony. Three days' holiday were given. On Coronation Day the children attended divine services in their respective churches and those in St. George's witnessed a fireworks display in the evening. Next day over 4,000 children assembled at Queen's Park from the schools in St. George's and listened to a speech by the Governor. They then marched past, saluting His Excellency and the Flag, and returned to their respective schools where treats were prepared for them. On the following day His Excellency drove round the island and addressed thousands of school children assembled at seven points along the route.

There was no Empire Day parade in 1937 due mainly to the fact that the day fell during the Whitsuntide vacation but also because the celebration of the Coronation had just taken place. In 1938 the parade was held as usual at Queen's Park where children from the schools in St. George's marched past His Excellency and saluted the Flag after singing patriotic songs. Light refreshments were served at the several schools later.

In 1937 Health Week commenced on 3rd October and lectures were delivered in schools throughout the Colony. In 1938 the Week commenced on 24th July and thousands of leaflets were distributed through the schools. Special exhibitions were held

in St. George's, Grenville and Gouyave and lectures were delivered throughout the Colony. Increased interest continues to be manifested in these annual efforts to impress the importance of measures for protecting the health of the community.

The Handwork Exhibition for Schools was opened by His Excellency the Governor on 16th December, 1937, but there was no Exhibition in 1938.

The average attendance at the Boys' Secondary School during 1937 and 1938 was 142. In 1937 the number of pupils who sat the Cambridge School Certificate examination was 14, of whom 7 passed, 2 being placed in the first division. Of the 22 pupils who sat the Junior Examination 19 passed. In 1938, 45 and 110 pupils took the two examinations, the number of passes being 18 and 52, respectively.

The manual training centres were maintained during the years 1937 and 1938 and some good work was shown at the last exhibition.

Serious attention is given to Agriculture in the schools and several schools maintained gardens under the guidance of a trained Agricultural Instructor attached to the Department.

There is no Government secondary school for girls but the St. Joseph's Convent High School and the Church of England High School for girls each receive a grant-in-aid from Government funds. A small grant is also given to a private " Model " school in St. George's.

Welfare Institutions.

There is a Home in St. George's for destitute children, opened in 1934. The number of children being cared for is 14, which is the maximum capacity of the Home.

The Home is administered by the St. George's District Board and the Board and Government pay an annual subsidy of £50 each towards its maintenance.

An Advisory Board, representing Government and the public, has been appointed to organize a scheme for the provision of a Home for 200 children. An area has been purchased near St. George's where it is proposed to establish the Home with a farm for stock raising and market gardening. It may take some years for the scheme, which is on a big scale, to come to fruition.

The following voluntary Welfare Organizations do very useful work:—

(i) The Fellowship of Service which is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions, distributes money, food and clothing.

(ii) The Maternity and Child Welfare League which receives an annual grant from Government of £120 per annum, maintains a Baby clinic in St. George's with a trained nurse where free medical examination is provided and milk distributed. There is another such Baby clinic maintained in St. David's where free milk is distributed and in the parish of St. Andrew's free milk, ointment and dressings are distributed to necessitious mothers.

(iii) The Foresters Social Workers League supplies 45 free meals to adults and 30 free meals to children daily in St. George's.

(iv) The Hamilton Almshouse maintains six distressed old ladies in St. George's and receives an annual grant of £30 from Government.

(v) The Commissioner of Carriacou administers an organization which is largely supplied by voluntary contributions for feeding school children in Hillsborough, the capital of Carriacou. An average of 127 meals are supplied daily. Government gives an annual grant of £25.

(vi) The Salvation Army, which receives an annual grant of £10 from Government, provides a night shelter with food for the poor in St. George's.

There is a Charitable Advisory Committee composed of representatives of all the District Boards, Government Officials and prominent citizens which administers the Government grants for outdoor relief and casual relief. Government also maintains in St. George's a House of Refuge with 122 beds for the destitute and ailing poor.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service by the Canadian National Steamships was established at the end of 1928, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south. These steamers call also at Boston, Massachusetts, in the U.S.A.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, via the intervening islands, calling at intervals of about 14 days. The voyage occupies 12 days southbound and nine days northbound.

There is a regular monthly service from and to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this company both from and

to London and Liverpool, especially during the crop season from December to May. During the cotton season, cargo steamers of this line also proceed direct to Liverpool.

Cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight and pay northbound calls as required.

Cargo steamers of the American Caribbean Line plying between New York and Grenada call fortnightly southbound and at three-weekly intervals northbound.

Numerous auxiliary and sailing vessels ply between Grenada and the neighbouring Colonies, chiefly Trinidad and Barbados.

A passenger service maintained by the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique between Martinique and Cayenne includes Grenada in its itinerary both north and southbound.

By Cable and Wireless.

The Cable lines of Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., connect Grenada with the outside world. The company also maintains a wireless station at St. George's, but this is not in operation normally. A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station at Carriacou communicates with Grenada via Barbados.

By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service is maintained by Government. Inclusive of Carriacou there are seven exchanges and over 6,500 miles of trunk and subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1938 was 516.

The island is well equipped with roads. All the first class roads and practically all the second and third class roads are suitable for motor traffic. A first class road, bitumen-surfaced, runs completely round the island and across it in two directions. A large proportion of the second class roads are also surface treated and all roads leading to places of interest are all-weather roads. The total mileage of roads is 461.

There are motor omnibus services between all the towns.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for all Government engineering work, including roads, bridges, buildings, water-works, land drainage, machinery, harbour, electric lighting, cold storage, telephone, etc., and conducts all surveys and controls all Crown Lands.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two assistants, one electrician, one mechanic, one assistant mechanic, and three District Road Surveyors.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st of December, 1937, was £59,600 including £21,000 expended under the Colonial Development and other loan funds. The figures for 1938 are £94,239 and £28,298 respectively.

Roads.—The Department is called upon to maintain a total of 450 miles of established roads of which there were in 1937, 129 miles surface treated with bitumen and about 321 miles metalled. The figures for 1938 are 142 miles surface treated with 300 miles metalled.

In addition £8,155 was spent from the loan for reconstruction of roads and bridges in 1937 and £6,195 in 1938. This included the reconstruction of 14 miles of banana and sugar roads in 1937, and nine miles of road in 1938.

In addition to normal maintenance of roads, there were constructed during the period under review 77 pipe culverts, two bridges of an average span of 33 feet in reinforced concrete, two single-span bridges in reinforced concrete, three piped causeways of about 12 foot span. All the steel bridges in the Colony have been scraped and painted.

In 1938 as a result of the very severe storm, previously mentioned, damage to roads and bridges estimated at £24,000 was done. By the end of 1938 no less than £10,000 had been expended in restoring the roadways and telephone communications. The main bridge over the St. John's river has been completely destroyed. It is the largest bridge in the Colony and it is not expected that a new bridge to replace it can be completed before 1940.

Buildings.—A new Revenue Office, court house and police station has been built at Victoria and St. David's.

Improvements have been made to the Police headquarters by the provision of a Band room.

An excellent annexe has been provided for the House of Refuge by the conversion of the old consumptive hospital.

Extensive repairs and alterations have been carried out at the mental hospital. Two good houses have been built for head-teachers of primary schools.

Extensive repairs and alterations, including additional accommodation for nurses, have been carried out at the Colony Hospital.

More attention has been paid to Government buildings during the last two years than for many years past.

Water Works.—A new pipe-line has been laid in the Belmont area, a suburb of St. George's, and water has been piped to a village called Calliste.

Surveys.—A small survey was carried out at Westerhall Land Settlement and the Spout Lands have been surveyed for a site for the proposed new boys' secondary school.

Swamp Drainage.—The work of drainage of an extensive swamp at Belmont is being carried on each year. In 1937, 3 acres were treated. In 1938, 1,094 feet of concrete drain were built to carry off surface water and low-lying areas adjacent to the drains were filled in.

An insanitary open drain through the Villa and Tanteen Lands in St. George's was graded and concreted.

A wall 144 feet long and 9 feet high has been built in the river passing through the town of Gouyave to prevent bank erosion and subsequent flooding of the town.

Electric Light and Power.—A new power unit of 187·5 KVA designed by Bellis and Morcom was erected during 1938.

Power and light was extended to the Woodlands Sugar Factory in 1937, a distance of 1½ miles, and extensions of the service have been carried along the Grand Anse area.

Harbour Works.—The largest and most important works ever undertaken by the Public Works Department were commenced in 1937 by the construction of a wood deep-water pier, 850 feet in length, to berth two ocean-going steamers. The work has been delayed for various causes, principally failure in the maintenance of a constant supply of Greenheart timber from British Guiana, but it is expected that the pier will be completed before the latter end of 1939.

New Secondary Boys' School.—The work of preparation of a site for a new boys' school in St. George's was commenced in 1937. The top of a hill which forms a promontory in the inner harbour is being levelled off and the excavated material used for the reclamation of a shallow bay which will be used for a playing field. The work of levelling and reclamation of the site is expected to be finished by the middle of 1939.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, the following courts are established, viz., the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two magisterial districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that district. In each of the districts in Grenada the Magistrate sits in each of the three parishes comprised in his district.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court and the practice and procedure therein are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance and codes of criminal and civil procedure, with provision for recourse to the Practice, Orders and Rules of the High Court of Justice in England, where no express provision is contained in the local Civil Procedure Code. This Court

is also vested with appellate jurisdiction in practically all cases both civil and criminal decided in the Magistrates' Courts. Criminal proceedings for offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are instituted in his discretion by the Attorney-General, and are conducted by him on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases, when counsel is retained.

The number of persons convicted in all Courts was 2,290 in 1937 and 2,823 in 1938, as compared with 2,288 in 1936.

Convictions for praedial larceny in 1937 were the lowest for five years, being 175 as compared with 214 in the previous year and 167 in 1932. The number in 1938, however, increased to 258, and this might, in some measure, be attributable to adverse economic conditions.

Increases were also recorded in nearly all other offences in 1938, with the exception of homicide. There was one case of murder of concubine in 1937, the accused being convicted and hanged, but cases of serious crime are rare in Grenada.

Convictions in the Supreme Court numbered 15 in 1937 and 17 in 1938, as compared with 35 in 1936.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate building and at a different time from ordinary cases.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Courts.

Police.

The strength of the Force is one Officer in Command, one Inspector, and 102 non-commissioned officers and constables, the number having been increased by nine during 1938. In addition there are 234 rural constables on the roll.

In addition to ordinary police duties the Force assist in the protection of revenue, carries out inspections of shops and weights and measures, enquires into repatriation cases, provides special guards at the Colony Hospital and relief warders for the prison, and maintains a visual signalling station at Fort George for communication with naval vessels in port. Relief operators for the Government wireless station at Carriacou are also provided, and, in the event of a breakdown of the station, a substituted service by heliograph is maintained by the Force.

Prisons.

A prison for males, with an adjacent separate building for females, is situated at Richmond Hill on the outskirts of St. George's. There are 76 ordinary cells in the male section and six in the female section which also has two association

cells. There is an infirmary with six beds in the male section and one with three beds in the female. There is no special provision for dealing with juveniles.

During the year 1937, 128 persons were committed to the male section and 28 to the female section. The corresponding figures for 1938 were 164 and 38 respectively.

The daily average number in prison was 44 in 1937, and 48 in 1938.

With a population estimated at over 89,000 these low averages reflect great credit on the community.

On the whole the general health of the institution during the years 1937 and 1938 was satisfactory and no deaths from natural causes occurred. Two prisoners were transferred to the Mental Hospital in 1937 and during that year one male prisoner was executed.

The female section of the prison was without prisoners for 101 days in 1937 and for 11 days in 1938.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

In the years 1937 and 1938 22 and 18 Ordinances respectively were passed of which the following call for special notice:—

1937.

No. 7. *The Agricultural Loans Ordinance,* 1937, which amends and consolidates the law relating to the making of loans for agricultural purposes.

No. 8. *The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1937, which seeks to improve the health of the Colony by allowing the Sanitary Authority free access to unhealthy areas together with the right of doing sanitary work in such areas without hindrance from the occupier.

No. 12. *The Probate (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1937, which provides (*inter alia*) for the granting of probates and letters of administration, in the case of small estates, at a nominal fee.

No. 20. *The Carriacou Water Supply (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1937, removed a long-standing grievance in that Dependency by abolishing water rates and substituting therefor a system of supplying water by the gallon at a small price which might be waived altogether so far as indigent persons were concerned.

No. 22. *The Evidence (Amendment) Ordinance,* 1937, brought the Evidence Ordinance into line with modern legislation on the subject. Perhaps its most important

feature was the concession of a limited right to non-commissioned members of the Police Force to give evidence of confessions and statements made to them by prisoners charged with crimes.

1938.

No. 2. *The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance,* 1938, repeals the existing provisions of the law relating to motor vehicles and road traffic and replaces them by this Ordinance on the lines of the Trinidad Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance, 1934 to 1937.

No. 2. *The Maintenance Ordinance,* 1938, replaces the law relating to maintenance and incorporates much modern maintenance legislation by applying the provisions of the Money Payments (Justices Procedure) Act, 1935, so as to prevent the imprisonment of a defaulter without an enquiry as to his means. The Ordinance also allows an order to be varied and provides for the appointment of a Collecting Officer for the Court.

No. 4. *The Shops (Hours) Ordinance,* 1938, replaces the laws relating to hours of assistants and clerks in shops and stores and the closing hours thereof by one enactment which attempts to introduce greater uniformity in practice. The Ordinance prescribes uniform hours for the closing of all classes of shops throughout the Colony, but there is provision that shops may be kept open for one hour after the closing hour provided that no assistant is employed therein.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's, with agencies in Grenville.

A Co-operative Bank, with paid-up share capital of $27,576·00, was established in 1932. There is no agricultural bank in the Colony.

English coinage is in use and five-dollar notes, issued by the two banks, are in circulation. Trinidad Government $1 and $2 currency notes are legal tender in the Colony.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £169,633 in 1937, and to £165,435 in 1938, exclusive of receipts from the Colonial Development Fund totalling £7,709 and £4,365 respectively.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1938:—

Head.	*1934.* £	*1935.* £	*1936.* £	*1937.* £	*1938.* £
Customs	66,956	71,815	70,093	81,543	71,818
Harbour and Cargo Dues	2,883	3,153	3,298	3,554	3,423
Licences, Excise, etc. ...	26,718	27,600	31,080	33,138	32,018
Estate Duties	899	988	514	1,187	1,239
Income Tax	4,163	4,353	4,866	6,761	8,182
Fees of office, etc. ...	5,684	6,385	5,923	6,725	6,792
Post Office	4,675	5,715	6,669	14,635	9,843
Telephones and Electric Light.	8,659	8,573	9,298	9,927	10,006
Water Supplies	3,933	4,273	4,815	4,826	5,126
Revenue from Government Property.	4,357	1,274	1,279	1,568	2,994
Interest and Sinking Funds, etc.	4,994	5,309	3,036	5,431	5,296
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	241	197	207	263	716
Land Sales	172	215	526	75	55
Colonial Development Schemes.	9,164	11,340	8,631	7,709	4,365
Repayment of Loans and Advances.	—	—	—	—	7,927
	£143,498	£151,190	£150,235	£177,342	£169,800

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year 1937 was £177,900, being £558 more than the revenue, and for the year 1938 it was £171,957, being more than the revenue by £2,157.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years:—

	£
1938	171,957
1937	177,900
1936	143,396
1935	146,662
1934	153,778

The expenditure for the years 1937 and 1938 includes £8,447 and £4,844 respectively expended on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Outstanding loans from Colony's surplus funds to public bodies amounting to £15,662 and the value of unallocated stores in stock at 31st December, 1937, were treated as expenditure in 1937.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by Sinking Funds and repayments at the end of 1937 and 1938 was £371,536 and £365,907 respectively.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows:—

	1937. £	1938. £
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917.	52,000	47,590
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan, 1927	40,713	40,713
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market, 1928...	6,905	6,905
St. Andrew's Water Supply Extension Loan, 1928 ...	3,599	3,599
Colonial Development Loans	56,227	57,619
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System.	2,899	2,718
Road Loan	29,308	29,308
Sundry Public Works Loan, 1934	24,886	24,886
Public Works Loan, 1936	166,600	166,600
Total loans...	383,137	379,938
Sinking Funds accumulated towards redemption of above.	11,601	14,031
Net indebtedness	£371,536	£365,907

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £3,790 were redeemed during 1937 and £4,410 during 1938.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1937, was £88,728 and at the end of 1938, £84,690. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve Fund) at 31st December, 1937, was £85,265 and at 31st December, 1938, £81,087, the balance being made up as follows:—

	1937. £	1938. £
Overdraft by St. George's District Board	48	—
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board	114	86
Other advances	3,301	3,517
	£3,463	£3,603

Taxation.

The first schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected.

Generally the rates of *ad valorem* duties are 15 per cent. British preferential tariff and 22½ per cent. general tariff. The important exceptions are as follows:—

	British Preferential.	General.
Apparel :—		
Shirts	12½ per cent.	3s. per dozen.*
Men's underwear ...	12½ ,, ,,	1s. ,, ,, *
Neckties	12½ ,, ,,	7d. ,, ,, *
Other kinds	12½ ,, ,,	25 per cent.
Boots and shoes :—		
Wholly or partly of rubber.	15 per cent.	22½ per cent. and 1s. per pair.
Other kinds	15 ,, ,,	25 per cent.
Motor cars and trucks and parts thereof.	15 ,, ,,	35 ,, ,,
Hardware and metal manufactures.	12½ ,, ,,	22½ ,, ,,

* or 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is higher.

The following are the specific rates of import duty on spirits and tobacco in force:—

		British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
Brandy ...	Overproof	20s. od. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	15s. od' per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Gin ...	Overproof	17s. 6d. per proof gallon.	20s. od. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. od. per gallon.
Rum ...	Overproof	13s. 6d. per proof gallon.	15s. od. per proof gallon.
	Underproof	13s. 6d. per gallon.	15s. od. per gallon.
Whisky ...	Overproof	20s. od. per proof gallon.	22s. 6d. per proof gallon
	Underproof	15s. od. per gallon.	16s. 6d. per gallon.
Cordials and liqueurs ...		17s. 6d. per gallon.	20s. od. per gallon.
Tobacco, unmanufactured.		1s. od. per pound.	1s. 6d. per pound.
Tobacco, manufactured :			
Cigars and cigarettes...		10s. od. per lb.	14s. od. per lb.
Other		7s. od. per lb.	9s. od. per lb.

Export duty is levied on the following products:—

Cocoa	6d. per cwt.
Cotton	1s. per cwt.
Cotton seed	3d. per cwt.
Nutmegs	6d. per cwt.
Mace	1s. per cwt.
Lime juice (concentrated) ...	1s. per 100 gallons.
Lime juice (raw)	3d. per 100 gallons.
Lime oil	6d. per lb.
Copra	3d. per cwt.

Excise duty on rum made in the Colony is collected at the rate of 5s. per proof gallon. The total proof gallonage delivered for consumption in 1937 and 1938 was 36,138 and 39,287, in respect of which duty amounting to £9,815 and £9,018 respectively, was collected.

Trade duty at 2s. 6d. per proof gallon is collected on all imported spirits, and 2s. 1d. per proof gallon on local rum, delivered for consumption; the total amount collected in 1937 was £4,771 and in 1938, £4,278.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre and tax on houses varies according to the rental value from 5s. to 42s. per house. Houses assessed at a rental value exceeding £30 per annum pay 8 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by trading companies at 3s. on every £, and by life insurance companies at 1s. 0½d. on every £.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

(*a*) Crown Land.

Land in possession of the Crown is small in area and consists principally of forest reserves and catchment areas in the mountains which are unsuitable for cultivation. Crown Lands, other than the forest lands, are situated mainly in urban areas and are rented on a yearly tenancy for house plots or gardens. They are administered by the Public Works Department.

(*b*) Land Settlement.

An outstanding feature in Grenada is the comparatively large number of small-holdings. The following table shows the distribution of land:—

	Number.	*Acreage.*
Under 10 acres	18,004	24,977
11 to 50 acres	352	7,187
51 to 100 acres	58	4,257
101 to 1,000 acres	130	37,575
Over 1,000 acres	1	1,202
	18,545	75,199

Government land settlement was first started in the dependency of Carriacou in 1903 and in Grenada in 1909. There are 19 land settlements in Grenada and Carriacou of a total area of 3,868 acres. In Carriacou, which is extensively settled, the majority of the allottees live on their holdings which produce cotton and food crops. In Grenada, the majority proceed to their holdings after work on neighbouring estates and cultivate usually ground provisions or canes and in a few cases, permanent crops.

All classes of land are made available for land settlement and the type of settler is the agricultural labourer. No one who possesses land in excess of 10 acres is permitted to become an allottee, and priority is always given to the deserving landless. The purchase is arranged on a 15 year amortization plan.

(*c*) General.

There was an appreciable rise in the prices of the Colony's staple crops in 1937 which enabled planters to improve their cultivations, and in some cases to contribute towards the repayment of their mortgages and the Colony prospered generally. The good prices were not maintained, however, throughout the year, and in 1938 a slump occurred which has not yet lifted.

The most important event of the year 1937 was the Coronation of Their Majesties King George the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth which was celebrated in Grenada with fervent enthusiasm by all classes of the community.

In August, 1937, a local Commission was appointed to enquire into the economic condition of the various classes of wage earners in Grenada. The Commission held meetings all over the Colony, including Carriacou, and examined no less than 170 witnessess. Having brought to fruition a task of no mean difficulty they submitted a most valuable report which has laid the foundations of a policy based on essentially firm ground and sure premises.

The year 1938 was marked by the announcement of the appointment of a Royal Commission to the British West Indies to investigate social and economic conditions and matters connected therewith, and to make recommendations.

In October, 1938, a rain storm of unprecedented violence occurred resulting in the loss of five lives, widespread damage to cultivations, roads, bridges and telephone lines over the whole of the southern portion of Grenada. The main bridge over the St. John's River which leads to the town of St. George's was completely destroyed and during the week-end following the storm there was no communication between St. George's and the rest of the island by road or by telephone. Abnormal rains continued for the remainder of the year and damage was extensive all over the Colony. In repairs to storm damage during the period November to December, the Public Works Department expended nearly £10,000.

Appendix.

List of Publications relating to GRENADA.

The Grenada Blue Book, 1938.

The Grenada Handbook, 1927.

Report on a Malaria Survey by the Rockefeller Foundation, 1929.

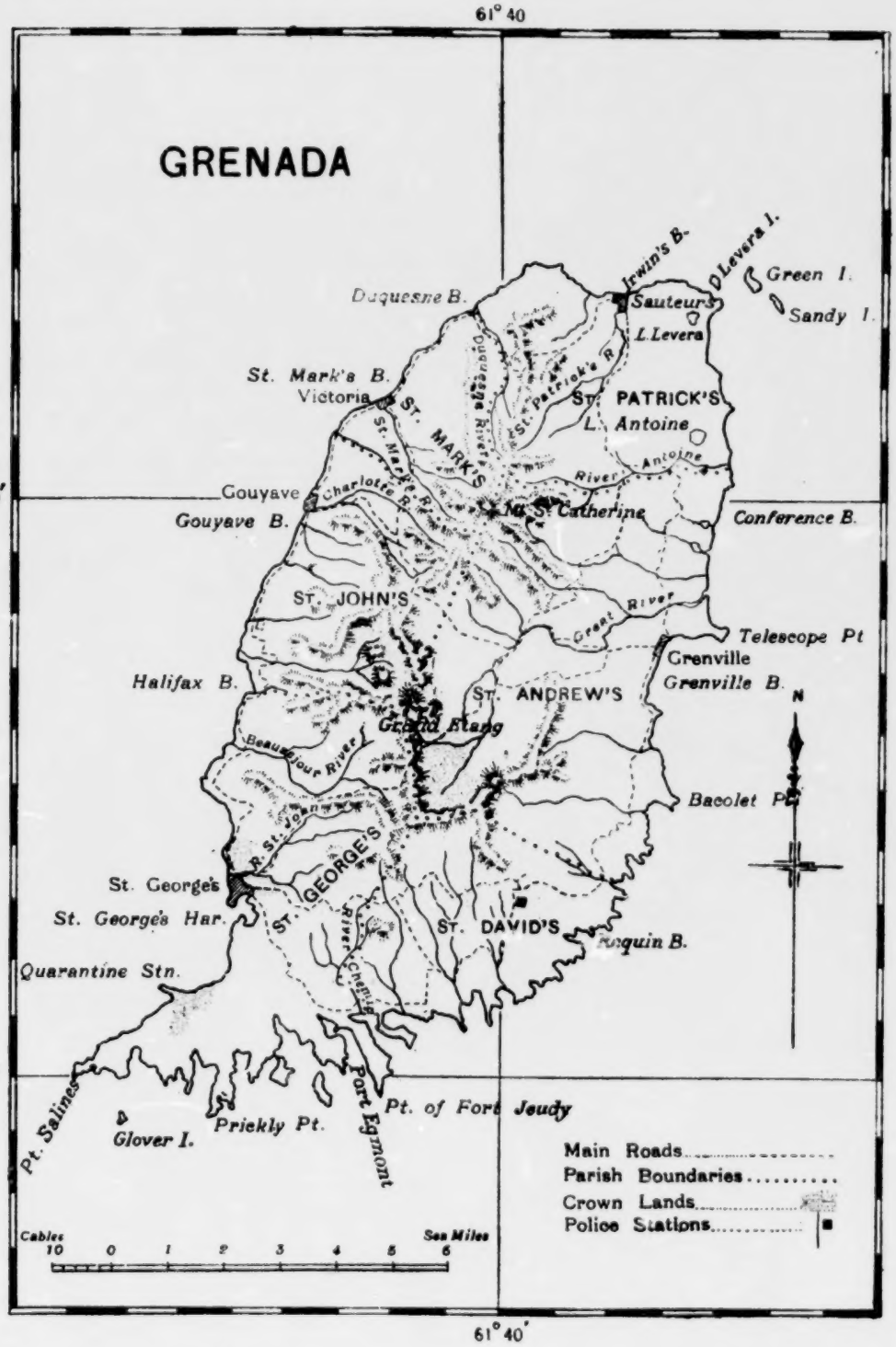
Report on a Geological Survey of Grenada and the Grenadines by Dr. K. W. Earle, 1932.

Report on Forestry in Grenada by Capt. R. C. Marshall, 1932.

Report on Forestry Problems of the Windward and Leeward Islands by Mr. A. Wimbush, 1936.

Report on Nutmeg Industry by the Imperial Institute, 1932.

Report on Geological Survey of Carriacou by Dr. E. H. Lehner, 1935.



(19883—48) Wt. 2380—4357 625 12/39 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

RHODESIA-NYASALAND ROYAL COMMISSION
Report [Cmd. 5949] 7s. 6d. (7s. 11d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE WEST INDIES
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Cmd. 6070] 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES
Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

COLONIAL STUDENTS
Report of the Colonial Students Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1938 [Colonial No. 161] 9d. (10d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List	[Colonial No. 157] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Audit Service List	[Colonial No. 162] 4d. (5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 163] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 172] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Police Service List	[Colonial No. 168] 1s. (1s. 2d.)
Colonial Veterinary Service List	[Colonial No. 160] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2 : York House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2 : 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1 : 26, York Street
CARDIFF : 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST : 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

ADEN
BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1923

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1929

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. LUCIA, 1938

(For Reports for 1936 and 1937 see Nos. 1816 (Price 1s. 3d.) and 1864 (Price 9d.) respectively.)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1940

Price 9*d*. net

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1938-39

Statement to accompany the Estimates for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services, 1939 [Cmd. 6023] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

NUTRITION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Economic Advisory Council. Report of Committee.

1st Report—Part I. [Cmd. 6050] 3s. (3s. 4d.)

1st Report—Part II. Summary of Information regarding Nutrition in the Colonial Empire [Cmd. 6051] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1936 [Colonial No. 149] £1 7s. 6d. (£1 8s. 2d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1938, to 31st March, 1939 [Cmd. 6062] 9d. (10d.)

LOCAL LEGISLATURES IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Return showing the composition, etc. [H. of C. 169, 1937/38] 6d. (7d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN MALAYA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, June, 1939 [Colonial No. 173] 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

EAST AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, AMANI

Eleventh Annual Report [Colonial No. 167] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: York House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SAINT LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1938

CONTENTS

Chapter.		Page.
I.	Geography, Climate, and History	2
II.	Government	5
III.	Population	5
IV.	Health	6
V.	Housing	6
VI.	Natural Resources	7
VII.	Commerce	11
VIII.	Labour	13
IX.	Wages and Cost of Living	16
X.	Education and Welfare Institutions	17
XI.	Communications and Transport	18
XII.	Public Works	20
XIII.	Justice, Police, and Prisons	20
XIV.	Legislation	22
XV.	Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	23
XVI.	Public Finance and Taxation	24
XVII.	Miscellaneous	27
	Appendix—Bibliography	28
	Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island. Castries and district have an estimated population of 21,124.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries. The town and district contain an estimated population of 7,309. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as " The Pitons ", rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet

in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situated at Ventine, two and a half miles south-east of the town.

Climate.

The climate and general health of the island compare favourable with any of the other West Indian islands.

The mean noon temperature recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1938 was 80·9°F. in the shade. The maximum was 91° F. and the minimum 61°F., a range of 30°F. The hot season extended from May to October and the cool season from December to March. The hurricane season was bare of incident, periodical revolving storms in the Caribbean area having no serious local effect other than high winds and rain.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Station, Castries, for the year 1938 was 128·90 inches ; this was 66·12 inches above that of the previous year and 37·97 inches above the average rainfall for 49 years (1890–1938), the average now being 90·93 inches. This was a record rainfall year registering 7·07 inches in excess of the next highest annual rainfall—that of 1933, and it is of interesting contrast to 1937 which was the driest year on record.

The maximum precipitation for Castries occurred on November 10th when a total of 5·42 inches was recorded. The highest maximum precipitation for the Colony in general was 9·61 inches recorded on November 10th at the Barre-de-l'Isle nursery. Rainfall distribution was again irregular and very abnormal, culminating in November in the worst storms, floods and landslides within living memory with the tragic loss of many lives. The abnormal rainfall occasioned a large number of landslides particularly in the centre and southern parts of the island and much flooding. The worst landslides occurred on the 21st and 22nd of November in the vicinity of the public high road between Castries and Dennery at points known as L'Abbaye, Ravine Poisson, Ravine Chicole and Ravine Ecrivisse. The number of persons known to have been killed by the landslides totalled 96. The roads in all parts of the Colony became impassable owing to the floods, landslides and subsidences ; roads were swept away by water and bridges were destroyed. A vast number of plantations, particularly of bananas and cane, and ground provision plots were destroyed by the rain and landslides. The total loss to the Colony has been conservatively estimated at £55,000. Generous grants of money, clothing, foodstuffs and other useful articles made by the Imperial Government and others have enabled adequate relief to be afforded to the sufferers from floods and landslides and to persons who it was considered desirable should be evacuated from the dangerous areas and have enabled works of reconstruction to be proceeded with. The actual causes of the landslides are somewhat obscure but it would appear that heavy accretions of rain water on the summit of the watershed percolated through and entered faults in the strata of the hills thus causing what is believed to be a burst in the hillside.

History.

At the period of its discovery St. Lucia was inhabited by the Caribs and continued in their possession until 1635, when it was granted by the King of France to MM. de L'Olive and Duplessis. In 1639 the English formed their first settlement, but in the following year the colonists were all murdered by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who in 1650 sold it for £1,600 to MM. Honel and Du Parquet. After repeated attempts by the Caribs to expel the French, the latter concluded a Treaty of Peace with them in 1660.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia. The English continued in possession until the Peace of Breda in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was reannexed to the Crown of France, and made a dependency of Martinique.

After the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, the rival pretensions of England and France to the possession of St. Lucia resulted in open hostility. In 1718 the Regent, D'Orleans, made a grant of the island to Marshal d'Estrees, and in 1722 the King of England made a grant of it to the Duke of Montague. In the following year, however, a body of troops, despatched to St. Lucia by the Governor of Martinique, compelled the English settlers to evacuate the island and it was declared neutral.

In 1744 the French took advantage of the declaration of war to resume possession of St. Lucia, which they retained until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748 when it was again declared neutral. In 1756, on the renewal of hostilities, the French put the island in a state of defence ; but in 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton. In the following year, by the Treaty of Paris, it was assigned to France.

St. Lucia continued in the peaceable possession of the French until 1778, when effective measures were taken by the British for its conquest. In the early part of 1782 Rodney took up his station in Gros Islet Bay in St. Lucia with a fleet of 36 sail of the line, and it was from thence that he pursued Count de Grasse when he gained the memorable battle of 12th April in that year. This event was followed by the Peace of Versailles, and St. Lucia was once more restored to France.

In 1793, on the declaration of war against revolutionary France, the West Indies became the scene of a series of naval and military operations which resulted in the surrender of St. Lucia to the British arms on 4th April, 1794.

In 1796 the British Government despatched to the relief of their West Indian possessions a body of troops 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, supported by a squadron under Admiral Sir Hugh Christian. On 26th April these forces appeared

off St. Lucia and after an obstinate and sanguinary contest, which lasted till 26th May, the Republican party, which had been aided by insurgent slaves under Victor Hughes, laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war.

The British retained possession of St. Lucia till 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens ; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on 22nd June, 1803, since when it has continued under British rule.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is administered by an Administrator (who is subordinate to the Governor of the Windward Islands) assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. The Executive Council consists of the Administrator, the Attorney General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. The officers at present holding the posts of Senior Medical Officer and Labour Commissioner and two unofficial members have been appointed to the Executive Council. Every member who is not an *ex officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment. A new Legislative Council for the Colony of Saint Lucia was constituted by an Order of His Majesty in Privy Council dated the 27th of October, 1936, which came into operation on the 18th of December, 1936. Under the new constitution the Legislative Council consists of the Governor, as President, three *ex officio* members (the Administrator, the Attorney General and the Treasurer), three Nominated Members and five Elected Members (one for each of three electoral districts and two members for a fourth district).

The Governor possesses reserve powers for ensuring the passage of legislation which he considers expedient in the interests of public faith or of good government, or in order to secure detailed control of the finances of the island in certain circumstances.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census, taken in 1921, showed the population to be 51,505.

On 31st December, 1937, the resident population of the Colony was computed at 67,404—males 32,288, females 35,116. By 31st December, 1938, the figure had increased to 69,084—males 33,470, females 35,614. The natural increase during 1938 was 1,097. The number of persons arriving in the Colony exceeded the number of persons leaving the Colony by 583. The net increase in population was therefore 1,680.

The number of inhabitants of the Colony per square mile was 296.

The births totalled 2,120—males 1,060, females 1,060. The birth-rate was 30·7 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 2·2 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths numbered 1,023*—males 489, females 534. The death rate was 14·8 per thousand of the total population—an increase of ·4 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The principal causes of death were*:—Heart diseases, 138; malaria, 106; senility, 103; venereal diseases, 96; ill-defined causes, 92; diarrhoea and enteritis, 48; pneumonia, 44, and nephritis, 39.

IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory throughout 1938.

There were 26 cases of enteric fever notified as compared with 37 in 1937. Malaria fever remained the chief public health problem in the rural areas. In the Castries district, in which the principal town is situated, malaria has been brought under control.

The death rate for 1938 was 14·8 and the infant mortality rate 98·6.

The medical staff consists of the Senior Medical Officer who is the administrative and executive head of the Medical and Sanitary Departments; the Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, five District Medical Officers and one Supernumerary Medical Officer. The Medical Officer of District I is also Port Health Officer. The Sanitary Department is carried on by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and five Sanitary Inspectors.

The Medical institutions comprise the Victoria Hospital, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries; small casualty hospitals at Soufriere, Vieux-Fort and Dennery; a mental home at La Toc, near Castries; a leper asylum at Malgretoute, near Soufriere; and a pauper asylum near Soufriere. The staff of the Victoria Hospital consists of the Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, a Steward-Dispenser, an Assistant Dispenser, and nurses recruited locally. At this hospital there are six rooms available for private paying patients.

There is a Quarantine Station at Rat Island, a short distance from the mainland.

V.—HOUSING.

Progress in housing especially in the working class areas has been very slow. Average rental charges in the larger towns have remained constant. The two larger sugar factories are continuing with their scheme for the housing of labourers on modern lines.

---

* Exclusive of 96 deaths in the November disaster.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

The Colony, from the point of view of natural resources, is entirely an agricultural one, the staple crops being sugar, limes, coconuts, cacao, and bananas, together with miscellaneous minor products. The estimated area under the various crops during 1938 is shown in the following table :—

	Acres.
Sugar	4,600
Limes	1,500
Other citrus	400
Coconuts	5,000
Cacao	4,250
Bananas	850
Coffee	150
Miscellaneous...	7,000
Forest	12,000
Pasture	12,000
Estimated total ...	47,650

Sugar.—The cultivation of sugar cane for the manufacture of sugar is carried on in three of the large coastal valleys, and also in an area of more level land at the southern end of the island. Four factories are in operation, and these grow the bulk of the cane that is handled by them ; a small proportion of the cane is supplied by peasants, either as " metayers " or as " contributors."

In the metayer system the metayer is given as much land as he cares to cultivate ; this area may vary from a quarter of an acre to as much as five acres. The metayer is provided with cane plants free of cost and is financed during the production of the crop ; no interest is charged for the advances so made. When the crop is ready for harvesting the factory claims one-third of the canes and purchases the remaining two-thirds at the current market rate which is approximately 5 per cent. of the market price for sugar.

The contributor system is a variant of the metayer system. In this system the cultivator uses his own land frequently of considerable area, and sells the whole of his cane to the factory at current rates. Advances for cultivation are made by the factory usually free of interest, but the cultivator is not under the same obligation to sell his canes to the factory as is the metayer.

Of the sugar produced in St. Lucia about 750 tons is retained for the local market while the balance is exported to Great Britain and Canada.

The crop production for 1938 was 8,611·3 tons of sugar, of which 7,806 tons were exported. Production increased to a record figure, although the extraction ratio was somewhat higher owing to rainy periods immediately prior to and during the reaping season. The

production of molasses (not syrup) also showed a slight increase, 254,190 gallons being made against 237,484 in 1937. A proportion of the molasses was utilized for the manufacture of rum for local use.

As a result of serious flooding and storm damage consequent upon the unprecedented rains of November a considerable reduction in crop is anticipated in 1939.

The average price of sugar unfortunately dropped from £9 5s. 0d. in 1937 to £8 4s. 0d.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

SUGAR (VACUUM PAN).

Year.	*Quantity.* *Tons.*	*Value* *£*
1934	4,730	39,396
1935	6,080	48,377
1936	7,707	60,358
1937	7,225	62,313
1938	7,806	64,711

MOLASSES AND SYRUP.

Year.	*Quantity.* *Tons.*	*Value.* *£*
1934	23,080	1,431
1935	168,903	2,401
1936	107,128	1,132
1937	144,016	3,201
1938	150,278	3,086

Limes.—The lime industry is an estate one, a very small proportion being produced by peasants. The whole of the crop is exported in the form of green limes and other products (concentrated lime juice, raw lime juice, distilled and hand-pressed oils).

The exported lime crop of the Colony from January to December, 1938, estimated in barrels of limes, amounted to 28,294 barrels valued at £14,429 as compared with 32,048 barrels valued at £18,243 in 1937.

A further decline in exports of lime products is recorded, the total export value being the lowest since 1932. Weather conditions were favourable for the crop in general, though much fruit was lost and considerable damage caused to cultivation by the excessive rains experienced during November. Apart from this the continued effects of Citrus Weevil and root troubles in general, together with less favourable marketing conditions, have adversely affected the industry.

The exported crops for the last five years, calculated as barrels of limes, are :—

Years.	*Quantity. Barrels.*
1934	45,000
1935	38,189
1936	22,569
1937	32,048
1938	28,294

Bananas.—This industry, which is almost entirely in the hands of peasant proprietors, has made rapid strides during the past few years ; and further satisfactory progress is recorded during the year under review, which would undoubtedly have exceeded the estimate of 150,000 stems had it not been for the excessive rains accompanied by landslides during November, as a result of which cultivation throughout the Colony suffered extensive damage. The industry is still handicapped by the inadequate transport conditions particularly during the period of peak production. Export production for the last five years is as follows :—

Years.	*Quantity. Bunches.*	*Value. £*
1934	18,377	1,499
1935	60,439	5,209
1936	108,633	8,910
1937	110,966	11,814
1938	100,726	13,568

Coconuts.—Almost entirely an estate industry, the whole of the crop being exported either as nuts or copra. The value of the industry decreased considerably during the year on account of poor prices offering for copra, and, generally, unfavourable markets. Exports for the last five years are as follows :—

COCONUTS.

Years.	*Quantity. No.*	*Value. £*
1934	2,616,175	7,298
1935	2,814,965	7,632
1936	3,409,621	9,608
1937	2,993,422	10,476
1938	2,674,148	8,278

COPRA.

Years.	*Quantity. Tons*	*Value. £*
1934	302	2,592
1935	215	1,871
1936	306	3,561
1937	404	5,335
1938	306	2,906

Cocoa.—In addition to unfavourable weather conditions during the latter part of the year, the prices offering for this product were

far from encouraging, resulting in further neglect of cultivation and loss of interest in the crop. The exported crop of the year amounted to 6,198 cwt. valued at £8,332 as compared with 5,585 cwt. valued at £13,357 in 1937.

Exports for the last five years are shown as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1934	6,349	6,032
1935	5,605	6,042
1936	6,538	9,627
1937	5,585	13,357
1938	6,198	8,332

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.—The cultivation of vegetables such as tomatoes, beans, cabbage, lettuce, carrots, cucumbers, and to a lesser extent cauliflower and spinach continues to be produced chiefly for local supply, and there has been little or no export trade in these commodities.

The fresh fruit trade has declined somewhat mainly due to the unfavourable market conditions for citrus fruit, especially grapefruit. Mangoes, oranges and pineapples show a welcome increase in quantity and value. The export of avocado pears has remained more or less stationary.

The total value of exports under this head amounted to £17,449 as compared with £16,238 in 1937 and is shown in detail below :—

Article.	*Quantity exported to*					*Total.*	*Value.*	
	Canada.	*Bermuda.*	*U.K.*	*U.S.A.*	*Other places.*		*1937.* £	*1938.* £
Grapefruit... Cts.	95	165	10	—	28	298	121	89
Oranges ... ,,	8	88	—	—	173	269	24	53
Mangoes ... ,,	126	3,802	386	—	6,077	10,391	2,032	1,900
Avocado Pears ,,	—	3,584	—	—	20	3,604	623	509
Pineapples ,,	—	78	—	—	20	98	7	31
Bananas ... Bchs.	95,541	—	—	—	5,185	100,726	11,814	13,568
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,617	1,299
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,238	17,449

A total of 15,754 packages of fruit, excluding bunches of bananas, was inspected for export by the Fruit Inspectors under the Fruit Ordinance, as compared with 15,037 in 1937.

The grant of £9,219 and a loan of £9,219 at 3½ per cent. per annum for 15 years commencing from the sixth year from the Colonial Development Fund, approved in August, 1933, for the Murray Road and Land Settlement Scheme, was approved during 1937 and considerable progress has been made with the construction of the main access road, the concrete bridge across the Troumassee

River having been completed. The modified scheme for settlement was approved early in the year but escheat of the settlement area was not completed until early July. Survey for sub-division of the area suitable for settlement purposes will commence early in 1939.

Farm Stock.—Considerable use continues to be made of the bulls and boars maintained for service at the Government Stock Farm and a more general demand is noticeable for improved stock of all kinds. The services of the Jack donkey for mares and asses and the pure-bred Sussex bull have been in demand also. There is, however, a good deal of room for improvement before an increased meat and milk supply for local consumption can be met, apart from the possibilities which exist for supplying the Barbados market with slaughter cattle.

VII.—COMMERCE.

An important feature of the Colony's trade is the supplying of coal to ships and exceptional facilities exist for quick despatch to steamers calling for bunkers. In 1938, the value of coal imported was £20,652 and 186 steamers took 21,699 tons as compared with 40,591 tons taken by 177 steamers in 1937. The principal export is sugar and in 1938 it amounted to over 47 per cent. of the total domestic export trade.

The following tables reflect the state of the trade of the Colony for the years 1934–8 :—

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	169,439	196,128	192,310	244,851	189,303
Exports	91,679	103,232	120,358	137,286	126,640
Re-exports	42,307	51,561	65,416	76,794	43,267

Direction of Trade.

IMPORTS.

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
British Empire ...	83·76	85·31	83·01	65·07	68·99
Foreign Countries ...	16·24	14·69	16·99	34·93	31·01

PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES.

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom ...	54·92	61·36	56·82	40·22	37·63
Canada	17·14	14·03	13·58	15·09	17·36
Rest of Empire ...	11·70	9·92	12·62	9·76	14·00
United States of America	6·91	12·68	7·74	25·06	18·83
Other Foreign Countries	9·33	2·01	9·24	9·87	12·18
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Domestic Exports.

	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.	1938. Per cent.
British Empire ...	76·12	82·79	88·28	86·70	94·12
Foreign Countries ...	23·88	17·21	11·72	13·30	5·88

PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.

	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.	1938. Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	32·71	20·48	42·96	52·68	29·78
Canada	32·60	52·77	33·34	21·45	48·80
Rest of Empire ...	10·81	9·54	11·98	12·57	15·54
United States of America	20·23	14·60	9·72	11·67	5·05
Other Foreign Countries	3·65	2·61	2·00	1·63	0·83
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Article.	1937. Quantity.	1937. Value. £	1938. Quantity.	1938. Value. £	Principal countries of origin with values in £'000 (1938 figures).
Class I.					
Flour, wheat	1,358 tons.	23,192	1,490 tons.	20,912	Canada (18) United Kingdom (2).
Class II.					
Coal ...	47,228 tons.	66,064	17,137 tons.	20,652	United States of America (20).
Class III.					
Cotton piece goods ...	820 965 yds.	16,075	767,007 yds.	15,699	United Kingdom (10), United States of America (5).
Poots and Shoes ...	5,250 doz. pairs.	6,188	3,687 doz. pairs.	5,372	Czechoslovakia (2), United Kingdom (1), India (1).

PRINCIPAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

Article.	1937. Quantity.	1937. Value. £	1938. Quantity.	1938. Value. £	Principal countries to which exported and values in £'000 (1938 figures).
Class I.					
Sugar, Vacuum Pan	7,225	62,313	7,806	64,711	Canada (37), United Kingdom (27).
Bananas ...	110,966 bunches.	11,814	110,726 bunches.	13,568	Canada (13).
Cocoa, raw	279 tons.	13,357	310 tons.	8,332	United Kingdom (4), Canada (3).
Coconuts	2,993,442	10,476	2,674,148	8,278	Canada (4), United Kingdom (2).
Class III.					
Lime Oil, distilled.	1,330 gal.	10,187	1,105 gal.	8,352	United States of America (4), Canada (3).

PRINCIPAL RE-EXPORTS

Article.	1937. Quantity.	1937. Value.	1938. Quantity.	1938. Value.
Class 11.		£		£
Coal, including Ships' Bunkers.	41,678 tons.	67,446	23,005 tons.	35,882

EXPORTS OF COIN AND NOTES.

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bullion—Gold ...	155	180	1,894	337	119
Coins—					
Silver	5,965	2,150	8,195	2,820	2,200
Bronze	204	—	45	95	—
Total ...	6,324	2,330	10,134	3,252	2,319

VIII.—LABOUR.

Principal industries.—Sugar, limes, coconuts, cocoa, bananas, coaling.

Sugar.—This is the most important industry, and employs about 6,000 labourers, but these are not continually employed. During crop about 4,000 labourers are employed, and out of crop about 2,500.

Limes.—The lime cultivation and industry employs about 1,000 labourers. The figure is fairly constant throughout the year, but in view of poor prices the employment of labourers is dropping.

Coconuts.—This industry employs about 1,400 labourers and is constant throughout the year.

Cocoa.—This industry employs about 600 persons throughout the year.

Bananas.—About 1,100 persons are employed in this industry.

SUMMARY.

Sugar	3,000	throughout the year.
Limes	800	,, ,, ,,
Coconuts	1,400	,, ,, ,,
Cocoa	600	,, ,, ,,
Bananas	1,000	,, ,, ,,
Coaling	500	,, ,, ,,

Labour supply is about 30 to 40 per cent. more than the demand.

Labourers are drawn from surrounding villages; on the larger estates a limited number live in barracks on the estates.

There is no contract labour.

The Labour Laws in force in the Colony on 31st December, 1938 were :—

(1) The Child Labour Protection Ordinance No. 44 of 1916 Revision.

(2) The Daily Labourer's Wages Payment Ordinance No. 13 of 1924.

(3) The Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance No. 5 of 1935 as amended by No. 3 of 1937.

(4) Trade Unions Ordinance No. 26 of 1933.

(5) The Labour Ordinance No. 14 of 1938 which came into force on the 2nd July, 1938.

(6) The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance No. 22 of 1934, which Ordinance came into force on the 1st January, 1938.

(7) Employers and Servants Ordinance No. 29 of 1938, which came into force on the 17th December, 1938.

The Child Labour Ordinance provides that every person who causes a child under the age of twelve years to carry a load or perform any manual labour whatsoever which such child is unfit to carry or perform, or the carrying or performing of which is likely to injure such child, shall be, on conviction, liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds.

Under the Daily Labourer's Wages Payment Ordinance provision is made that daily labourers employed by the day at a fixed wage in money, or any persons employed by the day to do task or job work at a fixed sum of money in respect of such work, are to be paid in current coin of the realm or Government currency notes, or other legal tender, or by notes issued by any licensed bank within the Colony. It also provides that no employer shall impose as a condition, in or for the employment of any workman, any terms as to the place at which, or manner in which, any wage or portion thereof is to be expended, and that no employer shall dismiss any workman for or on account of the place at which any wage or portion thereof is expended or fails to be expended. In any action by a daily labourer for the recovery of wages as a daily labourer, the employer shall not be entitled to any set off or counter claim in respect of any goods (other than medicine, agricultural implements or local ground provisions) supplied to any such labourer.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance provides for the fixing of Minimum Wages whenever the Governor-in-Council is satisfied that the wages paid in respect of any occupation are unreasonably low and that such a course is expedient in the public interests. Power is also given for the Governor-in-Council to appoint Inspectors, who have the right to enter into and upon the lands and premises of any employer, and require the production of wages sheets and other records of wages paid.

The following orders have been made under the provisions of the last mentioned Ordinance—

(*a*) *Coaling Industry* (*Minimum Wage*) *Order, 1937*. The rates of pay are :—

Coaling ships by day, 5 baskets for 4d. or 5d. according to distance.

Coaling ships by night, or Sundays and whole holidays and discharging colliers, 1d. per basket.

Trimmers, 1s. per hour by day and 1s. 3d. by night or Sundays and whole holidays.

Helpers, 6d. per hour by day and 8d. by night or Sundays and whole holidays.

Builders, 7d. per hour.

(*b*) *The Agricultural Labourer's (Minimum Wage) Order, No. 10 of 1938*, which came into force on the 1st July, 1938 and which superseded Order No. 40 of 1937, fixes the minimum rate of wage to be paid to agricultural labourers employed on time work at not less than 1s. 3d. per day to an able-bodied man and not less than 1s. per day to an able-bodied woman for a day of nine hours of work. Piece work is fixed at similar rates per day provided that the piece-rate would yield the above rates for nine hours of work. No privilege shall be reckoned as part payment of wages in lieu of wages, or shall otherwise be taken into account in the payment of any minimum wage fixed by this order. An agricultural labourer may, if he so desires and if his employer consents, work for a greater or less period than nine hours, in which case the agricultural labourer shall be paid therefor proportionately.

(*c*) Shop Assistants (Minimum Wage) Order No. 17 of 1938 fixes minimum monthly rates for shop assistants. These vary from 27s. to 34s. in the case of male shop assistants and from 22s. 6d. to 28s. in the case of female shop assistants according to the locality and the hours worked.

There were no registered Trade Unions at the 31st December, 1938.

The Labour Ordinance No. 14 of 1938 provides for the appointment of a Secretary for Labour. His duties are to safeguard and promote the general welfare of the labourers of the Colony; to supervise and review the conditions of the various forms of employment of labourers, to ensure the due enforcement of statutes relating to labour matters, and to bring to the notice of the Governor, the alleged breach of any statute, which is likely to be prejudicial to the welfare of any class of labourers, or which is causing or likely to cause disagreement between any such labourers and their employers.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance No. 22 of 1934, embodies three conventions which were adopted at Washington on the twenty-eighth day of November, 1919 by the International Labour Organisation of the League of Nations, as well as a convention decided at Genoa on the ninth day of July, 1920. This law places restrictions on the employment of women, young persons and children in industrial undertakings as well as the employment of children in ships.

The Employers and Servants Ordinance No. 29 of 1938 replaces the Masters and Servants Ordinance No. 43 of 1916 Revision as

amended by Ordinance No. 5 of 1920. This law defines generally the condition of contracts of service of labourers, herdsmen, clerks, artisans, domestic servants, sailors, boatmen, porters, messengers or persons in any employment of a like nature. The penal clauses which had been enacted under Ordinance No. 43 of 1916 are now repealed.

There is no legislation providing for the establishment of conciliation machinery for the purposes of settling amicably disputes between employers and their employees, but in the Labour Ordinance there is the provision that where a Minimum rate of wage is fixed, if the parties consent, the Secretary for Labour may enquire informally into any complaint by employer or employee, to bring about a fair and reasonable settlement of such complaint without recourse being had to legal proceedings.

The duties of the Labour Department are in the hands of a Secretary for Labour who is also Labour Commissioner. This office was established on the 1st of July, 1938. The duties performed in 1938 consisted mainly of visiting Estates to see that the Orders under the Minimum Wage Ordinance were carried out and that the tasks given to labourers complied with the law as well as endeavouring to find suitable employment for the unemployed.

There is no law in force with regard to Workmen's Compensation, or to provision for sickness or old age pensions.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for agricultural labourers are regulated by rules made under the authority of Ordinance No. 5 of 1935. As a result of this minimum wage ordinance estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are :—

	For Men.	*For Women.*
Agricultural	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	1s.
Manual	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	1s.
Semi-skilled	1s. 3d. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	3s. to 5s.	2s. to 3s.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh ...	7d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	8d. ,,
Pork, fresh...	8d. ,,
Chicken ...	6d. ,,
Fish, fresh ...	5d. ,,
Eggs ...	1s. per doz.
Milk ...	2d. per bottle.
Potatoes ...	2d. per lb.
Rice ...	2d. ,,
Butter ...	2s. ,,
Sugar ...	2d. ,,
Bread ...	2d. ,,
Flour ...	2½d. ,,

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary Education.

Primary education is free. The school going age extends from 4 to 16 years. The management of the schools is directly under the control of the clergy of the various denominations. There are no Government Schools. The Government contribution is made up of payment of salaries to teachers, and of pensions to retired Head Teachers.

An Inspector of Schools in the Civil Establishment exercises general supervision over the schools.

On the 31st December, 1938, there were 45 Primary Schools, of these 3 were Anglican, 3 Methodist, and 39 Roman Catholic.

The following are the main figures of Primary Education in this Colony :—

	1936.	*1937.*	*1938.*
Number of Schools	46	45	45
Enrolment on 31st December ...	9,953	10,159	10,210
Average Attendance	6,861	6,995	7,158
Percentage in average attendance	69	69	70
Total Government Expenditure	£6,776	£6,748	£7,566

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £473 15s. 10d. in 1938. School buildings are the property of the local Church Vestry who estimated the rental values for 1938 at a total of £1,442 7s. 0d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the children of school going age and the enforcement of compulsory attendance laws would mean serious overcrowding in the schools.

Secondary Schools.

Government grants are paid to two secondary schools, St. Mary's College for boys, under the direction of the Cure of Castries, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee to which the Government nominates three of the six members ; and St. Joseph's Convent for girls, managed and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.

In 1938 St. Mary's College received £450, and St. Joseph's Convent £175. In addition, up to 30s. per annum is allowed as a book grant to each scholar.

The syllabus in each case is that of a normal secondary school, the London Matriculation and Cambridge University Local Examinations being taken by the pupils.

Up to 12 scholarships at St. Mary's College are awarded by the Government to boys from the primary schools, and five for the girls of St. Joseph's Convent.

The Government offers a scholarship, of the annual value of £175 and tenable at a British University, in every alternate year. This is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination (First Division).

Government scholarships at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad are also available, but owing to the lack of facilities for the study of science in the secondary schools, these scholarships are seldom sought.

Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Association carried on its useful work with Mrs. Wright as President, and Mrs. F. Floissac, M.B.E., as Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by a number of ladies.

The Association has the services of a fully trained nurse who acts as a Health Visitor.

The Government supplies medicines and accommodation free of charge, and Government Medical Officers supervise the Clinics.

A grant was made to the Association from public funds, for supplementing the nutrition of necessitous children.

Various.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are established in St. Lucia ; there are troops of both of these organizations in Castries and in the other towns and villages of the Colony.

Football, cricket and net ball are the favourite games.

There are several social clubs in the Colony and in this respect the community is well provided.

There is a cinema in Castries which is equipped with talking pictures. The cinema building is built in concrete and is very commodious. There is a stage fitted, and the hall is occasionally used for amateur theatricals and also by itinerant entertainers.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Shipping.

The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,060 of a total tonnage of 1,588,782. Of this number, 672 were steamships and 388 sailing vessels.

Mail communication is maintained by the following means :—

(1) A regular fortnightly service to and from Canada, the United States of America, and the British West Indian Colonies, by the Canadian National Steamships.

(2) A regular fortnightly service via Martinique to and from Europe and via Barbados and Trinidad to and from the Guianas, Venezuela, Colombia and Colon, by the steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

(3) A fortnightly service to and from the United States of America and some of the West Indian islands by the steamers of the Furness West Indian Line.

(4) Communication with Canada, the United States of America and most of the West Indian islands by the steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line and the American Caribbean Line, respectively.

(5) The above lines of steamers are also extensively used to connect with opportunities to New York, England and Europe via Barbados and Trinidad by the frequent sailings from those ports of the Furness Prince Line, Hamburg-American Line, Horn Line, Munson Line, and the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company.

(6) A four-weekly service direct to London by steamers of the Harrison Line and by the Booker Line respectively.

(7) The former seaplane service to and from North and South America, touching at various British and foreign ports *en route*, by the planes of Pan-American Airways Incorporated was discontinued in November, 1935, but by making use of the various opportunities to and from Antigua and Trinidad letter, air mails are accepted and forwarded to destination via those ports with little inconvenience or delay.

Post Office.

In addition to the General Post Office there are 13 sub-post offices, four of which are also money order offices. Overseas mails are sent by all steamers of the lines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs. Inland mail communication is maintained by one of the regular motor-boat services mentioned below, while a daily (except Sundays and Wednesdays) motor-bus service operates on the eastern coast. The inland mail services are both subsidised by the Government.

Roads.

This island has a system of roads and tracks classified as follows :—

Main roads	62·50 miles.
Second class roads	88·00 ,,
Unclassified roads	230·00 ,,

The main and second-class roads are suitable for motor transport.

The unclassified roads for the most part cannot be used by motor vehicles.

Motor-Boat Service.

There are three regular motor-boat services operating on the western or leeward coast of the island, daily (except Sundays and Wednesdays). These services are operated by private concerns.

Telegraphs.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited.

Telephones.

The telephone system is maintained entirely by the Government and consists of nine exchanges situated in towns and villages. One hundred and sixteen miles of trunk lines connect these exchanges and 434 miles of branch lines serve subscribers.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for all engineering works including the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, public buildings, wharves and jetties, the dredging of the harbour, the telephone system and the control of Crown Lands. The Department runs its own workshop, and maintains its road rollers, lorries, dredging plant and other machinery.

The expenditure for the year was :—

	£
Personal emoluments and other charges	4,775
Annually recurrent	10,762
Extraordinary	1,555

Construction of the Murray road was continued, financed by a loan from Colonial Development Funds. This will open up fresh lands for banana cultivation in the Quilesse area which commences seven miles inland from the main Dennery—Micoud Coast road. The estimated cost was £14,785. Four and a half miles has been completed with one 30-foot and one 60-foot bridge.

The annual extension of the Western Wharf in ferro-concrete continued.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice presides over the Royal Court which has an original, civil and criminal jurisdiction. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

In criminal cases tried in the Royal Court facts are decided upon by a jury of nine except in the case of a trial for a capital offence when the jury consists of twelve.

For magisterial cases the island is divided into three judicial districts. The Chief Justice is also the Magistrate and Coroner of the First District and presides over the Castries Court.

The Magistrate and Coroner of the Second and Third Districts presides over Courts at Soufriere, Choiseul, Vieux-Fort, Micoud, and Anse-la-Raye.

The Registrar of the Royal Court is also Assistant Magistrate and Additional Coroner for the whole Island and presides over the Dennery Court.

The Chief Justice hears appeals from the Magistrate of the Second and Third Districts. A Commissioner for Appeals, who is also Assistant Magistrate, hears appeals from the First District Court and conducts preliminary inquiries into indictable cases that arise in this District.

A code of Civil Law, the authors of which were Sir G. W. Des Voeux, G.C.M.G., and Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., became law in October, 1879. This code was framed upon the principles of the ancient law of the island, with such modifications as are required by existing circumstances. The Statute Law (Ordinances and Revised Rules and Orders) of the Colony was consolidated to 1916 by Mr. F. H. Coller, Chief Justice, with the assistance of Mr. J. Louis Devaux of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Mr. Devaux assisted in compiling the Ordinances and edited the Revised Rules and Orders, 1916. Mr. Coller also edited the Commercial Code, 1916.

The revising and editing of the Criminal Law and Procedure of the Colony by Mr. J. E. M. Salmon was completed during 1920 and proclaimed as the Criminal Code, 1920. It came into force on 1st January, 1921.

An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of the Courts and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary police duties, this force assists in the administration of poor relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery, which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoe-making.

The total number of cases heard and of persons convicted of various crimes in the Colony over a period of five years is as follows :—

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Magistrates' Courts—					
Cases heard	1,755	1,551	1,861	1,844	1,794
Convictions	1,239	1,154	1,322	1,325	1,288
Royal Court—Convictions ...	13	6	6	6	16

The following table shows the number of offences dealt with by the Magistrates in 1938 as compared with 1937 :—

	1937.	1938.
Offences against the person, including homicide ...	443	460
Praedial larceny	145	189
Offences against property other than praedial	237	229
Other offences	1,019	916
Total number of offences reported... ...	1,844	1,794

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council passed twenty-nine Ordinances, including one Appropriation Ordinance. The more important Ordinances were as follows :—

The Education Ordinance, 1938, consolidating and amending the laws relating to Education. The Ordinance is to be brought into force on a day to be fixed by the Governor by proclamation.

The Seditious Publications (Amendment) Ordinance, 1938, amending the Seditious Publications Ordinance, 1920, with respect to penalties and effecting other minor amendments.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) Amendment Ordinance, 1938, enabling to be employed at reduced rates those labourers who, by reason of old age, infirmity, or other incapacity, may not be able to perform services commensurate with the minimum wages fixed under the Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, 1935, and who may consequently be thrown out of employment.

The Sugar Control Ordinance, 1938, controlling the manufacture, export and sale for local consumption of sugar in order to provide the means of carrying out the terms of (*a*) the International Agreement between the various sugar-producing countries, and (*b*) an agreement with reference to the production of fancy molasses in Barbados, St. Vincent and this Colony.

The Labour Ordinance, 1938, providing for the appointment of a Secretary for Labour and for purposes incidental thereto.

The Commercial Code (Patents, Designs and Trade Marks) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1938, conferring upon the proprietors of designs registered in the United Kingdom the same privileges and rights locally as though the certificate of registration in the United Kingdom had been issued with an extension to this Colony.

The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1938, replacing the existing Ordinances regulating traffic in dangerous drugs so as to bring the law into conformity with the recommendations of the Hague and Geneva International Conventions on the subject. The Ordinance is to be brought into force on a day to be fixed by the Governor by proclamation.

The Opticians (Registration) Ordinance, 1938, providing for the examination by a Medical Board of those persons desirous of practising sight-testing or carrying on business as opticians, and the registration of those persons certified by the said Board as being qualified to carry on the said practice or business.

The Commercial Code (Registration of Companies) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1938, imposing the same restrictions on the names by which companies can be registered in this Colony as exist in the United Kingdom.

The Employers and Servants Ordinance, 1938, repealing the "penal sanctions" in legislation dealing with masters and servants and providing for the contractual obligations between employer and servant to be governed by the ordinary law of contract.

There were thirty-six Statutory Rules and Orders enacted dealing chiefly with administrative routine and the carrying out of the details of the provisions of various statutes including, *inter alia*, the Agricultural Labourers (Minimum Wage) Order, 1938, and the Shop Assistants (Minimum Wage) Order, 1938, fixing the minimum wages for agricultural labourers and shop assistants respectively.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

A branch of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is maintained in the Colony. It conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank. There is also a Government Savings Bank with branches in the out-districts.

A Co-operative Bank was established as from 1st January, 1938. It also conducts all classes of banking business, including savings bank.

Currency.

British sterling is the currency of the island. Barclays Bank, referred to above, issues currency notes which are covered by deposits with Government. Currency notes of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago of one and two dollar denominations became legal tender under Ordinance No. 4 of 1936 from 1st May, 1936.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in St. Lucia, but land quantities are frequently expressed in a local unit of measurement known as a carre, equal to about three acres, 32 perches.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1933–38 were as follows :—

Year.	*Local Revenue.*	*Total Revenue including Imperial Grants.*	*Local Expenditure.*	*Total Expenditure including Development Schemes.*
	£	£	£	£
1933 ...	72,569	92,816	81,002	94,732
1934 ...	75,229	85,079	84,532	90,953
1935 ...	79,872	96,146	86,000	87,959
1936 ...	100,018	101,018	87,433	91,150
1937 ...	99,045	99,045	95,796	100,009
1938 ...	88,511	88,511	99,313	105,205

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £102,276 5s. 2d. at the close of the year while the accumulated sinking fund towards its redemption amounted to £22,430 9s. 8d.

The Imperial grants received have been as follows :—

Year.	*In aid of Administration.*	*For Colonial Development.*	*Reparation Receipt.*
	£	£	£
1933 ...	2,500	17,747	—
1934 ...	8,000	1,850	—
1935 ...	14,000	2,274	—
1936 ...	1,000	3,717	—
1937 ...	—	4,131	—
1938 ...	—	5,974	—

The Assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1938, amounting to £65,143 5s. 11d. were made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash—						
In hands of Treasurer	278	18	6			
,, ,, Sub-Accountants	342	10	7			
At Barclays Bank (Current Account) ...	486	4	6			
,, ,, ,, (Savings Account) ...	4,374	14	0			
	5,482	7	7			
Overdraft Crown Agents (Current Account)	19	17	3			
				5,462	10	4
Investments—						
On account of Savings Bank	22,389	2	4			
,, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,112	8	9			
,, Baron Trust Fund	112	19	2			
,, Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund	108	19	10			
,, Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund	155	2	2			
,, Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund	937	9	7			
,, Castries Town Board Building Fund	1,166	16	5			
,, Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund ...	330	15	9			
				26,313	14	0

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Loans—		
Castries Town Board for New Cemetery ...	13 14 5	
Village of Dennery for Waterworks ...	64 0 0	
Village of Canaries for River-wall	30 0 0	
Town of Vieux-Fort for Sea-wall	110 0 0	
		217 14 5
Advances—		
Vieux-Fort Town Fund	19 12 10	
Micoud Village Fund	107 2 6	
Anse-la-Raye Village Fund	92 12 2	
Choiseul Village Fund	27 1 0	
Post Office Account	476 2 1	
Other Advances	19,836 5 0	
Castries Electric Light Fund	774 6 11	
Castries Town Board Street Construction	1,800 0 0	
		23,133 2 6
St. Vincent. Intercolonial Account		16 4 8
Joint Colonial Fund		10,000 0 0
Total Assets...		£65,143 5 11

The Liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1938, amounting to £56,667 13s. 3d. were as follows :—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits—		
Savings Bank(*a*)	26,789 19 7	
Interest, Baron Trust Money Account ...	145 8 5	
Sundry Deposits Account	18,559 9 11	
Castries Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	1,722 11 5	
Soufriere Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	147 19 3	
Dennery Waterworks Reserve Fund ...	169 3 0	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	1,186 8 4	
Distressed Emigrants' Fund	151 3 6	
Model Cottages Fund	604 7 1	
Castries Town Board Building Fund ...	1,166 16 5	
Castries Town Board Electric Light Reserve Fund	330 15 9	
Castries Town Board Street Construction	1,800 0 0	

(*a*) There is also a further contingent liability amounting to £685 15s. 7d. in respect of Savings Bank Deposits.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Colonial Development Fund :			
Scheme No. 395, Road Construction	1,037 14 1		
Scheme No. 396, Land Settlement	69 3 6		
Scheme No. 459, Castries Water Supply ...	17 10 0		
		1,124 7 7	53,898 10 3
Special Funds—			
Towns and Villages		1,020 11 6	
Castries Fire Relief Loan Account ...		593 9 4	
Castries Town Fund		581 13 2	
			2,195 14 0
Grenada Intercolonial Account			548 15 5
Drafts and Remittances Account			24 13 7
Total Liabilities			£56,667 13 3

Taxation in St. Lucia is both direct and indirect. The main source of the former is income tax. Incomes under £100 per annum are free of tax, while the first £100 of incomes exceeding £100 is free from taxation; the remainder being taxed according to the following schedule :—

	s.	d.
For every pound of the first £100		4
,, ,, ,, next £200		6
,, ,, ,, ,, £300	1	0
,, ,, ,, ,, £400	1	6
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	2	3
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3	0
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	3	9
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	4	6
,, ,, ,, ,, £500	5	6
,, ,, ,, rest of the chargeable income	5	6

The surcharge for this year was reduced from 12½ per cent. in the previous year to 10 per cent.

Another source of direct taxation is a House Tax. This tax in the towns and villages is assessed and collected for the benefit of the particular town or village fund. In the rural districts the tax is assessed and collected by Government for the benefit of general revenue. In the case of the Rural House Tax, houses of a rental value of £5 and under are exempt; the remainder are taxed as follows :—

Of an annual rental of :—

	s.	d.
Over £5 and not over £7 10s.	7	6
,, £7 10s. and not over £10	10	0
,, £10 and not over £12 10s.	15	0
,, £12 10s. and not over £15	20	0
,, £15 and not over £20	28	0
,, £20—£7 per cent. of the assessed rental value.		

In the case of towns and villages it is provided by Ordinance that the House Tax shall not exceed 8 per cent. of the assessed annual value of the house.

The principal source of indirect taxation is import duty. There is a preferential tariff on goods of Empire origin amounting to 50 per cent. Household goods to the value of £250 which have been in the possession of the importer for at least one year and which are imported for his personal use are admitted free. There are certain other specific exemptions, and the Governor in Council may exempt anything from duty upon good cause being shown.

There is an excise duty on rum, and a Stamp Duty Ordinance which provides for the stamping of the usual documents, etc.

There is an export duty on certain agricultural products, graded according to the f.o.b. value of the several commodities.

The yield from taxation in the years 1937 and 1938 was as follows :—

	1937.	1938.
	£	£
Import duties	47,621	45,130
Export duties	1,506	1,068
Port, harbour, etc., dues	3,235	1,582
Spirit licences	890	876
Distillery licences	163	163
Animals, vehicles and guns	971	985
Petroleum, cocoa, boats, etc.	728	676
Excise duty on rum	7,506	7,114
Trade duty on spirits	3,549	3,344
Stamp duty	882	882
Income tax	4,434	5,439
Succession duty...	360	430
Rural house tax...	717	725

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir Henry Bradshaw Popham, K.C.M.G., M.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, was in residence in the Colony from 5th March to 3rd April ; on 24th and 25th November, when he paid a special visit by plane in consequence of the landslide disasters which occurred on 21st and 22nd November ; and from 17th to 25th December. His Excellency landed for the day in St. Lucia on 17th September while proceeding to Antigua, and again on his return to Grenada on 2nd October.

His Honour Edward W. Baynes, C.B.E., Administrator, who had proceeded to the United Kingdom on vacation leave on the 31st October, 1937, retired from the Colonial Service whilst on leave on grounds of health with effect from the 1st July, 1938. From the date of Mr. Baynes' absence on leave and until the arrival on 9th July, 1938, of His Honour Arthur Alban Wright, C.M.G., who succeeded Mr. Baynes as Administrator of St. Lucia, the Honourable G. H. Frith, O.B.E., Treasurer, acted as Administrator.

His Honour Arthur Alban Wright, C.M.G. Administrator of St. Lucia, was appointed Governor's Deputy during the period of His Excellency's absence from the Windward Islands, from 17th to 19th September, and from 1st to 2nd October. During the period of His Excellency's absence on short leave from 19th September to 1st October, His Honour Arthur Alban Wright, C.M.G., administered the Government of the Windward Islands, and the Honourable G. H. Frith, O.B.E., Treasurer, acted as Administrator.

The Royal Commission which was appointed to investigate social and economic conditions in the British West Indies, British Honduras and British Guiana visited St. Lucia from 18th to 27th December, 1938.

The following British ships of war visited this island during the year :—

H.M.S. *York* in February.
H.M.S. *Apollo* in March.
H.M.S. *Challenger* in April.
H.M.S. *Dundee* in December.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

(a) *Official or Semi-Official Publications.*

Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia Gazette ...	—	St. Lucia Government Printing Office.	Weekly	12s. per annum, 6d. per copy.
St. Lucia Blue Book ...	—	Do.	Annually	10s.
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia. (Cmd. 3996.)	—	His Majesty's Stationery Office.	1932	2s.
West India Sugar Commission Report, 1929. (Cmd. 3517.)	—	Do.	1930	2s.
Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands. Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Primary Education. (Colonial No. 79.)	—	Do.	1933	2s.
Year Book of the West Indies.	—	Thomas Skinner & Co., London.	Annually	7s. 6d.
The West India Committee Circular.	—	The West India Committee, London.	Fortnightly.	2 guineas per annum.
Government of the West Indies.	Hume Wrong	Clarendon Press ...	1923	—
Historical Geography of the British Colonies, Vol. II, West Indies.	Sir C. P. Lucas.	Do.	1905	7s. 6d.
History, Resources, and Progress of British West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Pitman	1912	7s. 6d.
Pocket Guide to the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Sifton Praed & Co. Ltd.	1931	10s. 6d.
Handbook of the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1929	5s. 6d.

(b) *Descriptive Publications.*

English in the West Indies.	J. A. Froude	Longman, Green & Co.	1888	18s. 6d.
Cradle of the Deep ...	Sir Frederick Treves.	Smith, Elder & Co.	1908	12s.
A Wayfarer in the West Indies.	Sir A. Aspinall.	West India Committee.	1928	8s.

(c) *Historical Publications.*

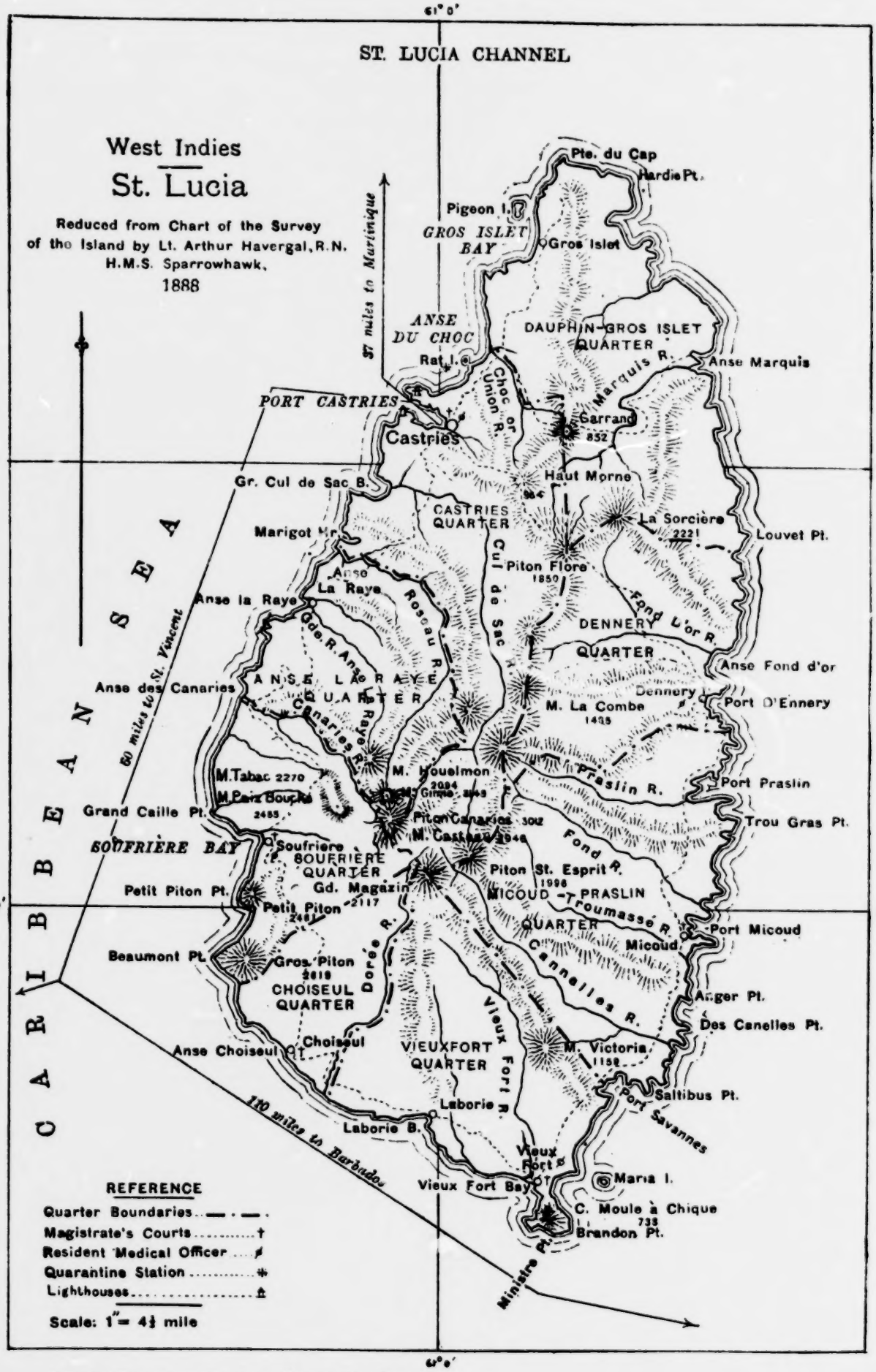
Name.	*Author.*	*Publisher.*	*Date.*	*Price.*
St. Lucia: Historical Statistical and Descriptive.	Henry H. Breen.	Longman, Green, London.	—	—
Campaign in the West Indies in the year 1794.	Willyams ...	T. Bensley, London	1796	—
Chronological History of the West Indies.	Captain Thomas Southey.	Longman Rees; Orme Brown & Green.	1827	—
History of British Colonies in the West Indies.	Bryan Edwards.	John Stockdale ...	1793	—
History of Caribee Islands.	De Rochefort (translated by J. Davis).	—	1666	—
Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique.	J. B. Labat	Husson and others, La Haye.	1742	—
Pere Labat (1693–1705), Memoirs of.	(Translated by John Eaden.)	Constable & Co. ...	1931	7s. 6d.
The West Indies in 1837	Sturges and Harvey.	Hamilton	1838	8s. 6d
West Indian Tales of Old.	Sir A. Aspinall.	Duckworth ...	1912	8s.

(d) *Scientific Publication.*

Obeah	H. J. Bell ...	Sampson Low ...	1889	2s. 6d.

(e) *Fiction.*

A West Indian Pepper-Pot.	Sir Reginald St. Johnston, K.C.M.G.	Philip Alan Co. ...	1928	10s. 6d.



(21506) Wt. 4497—4383 625 1/40 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

RHODESIA-NYASALAND ROYAL COMMISSION
Report [Cmd. 5949] 7s. 6d. (7s. 11d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE WEST INDIES
Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Cmd. 6070] 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES
Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE
Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS
Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

COLONIAL STUDENTS
Report of the Colonial Students Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1938 [Colonial No. 161] 9d. (10d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List	[Colonial No. 157] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Audit Service List	[Colonial No. 162] 4d. (5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 163] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 172] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Police Service List	[Colonial No. 168] 1s. (1s. 2d.)
Colonial Veterinary Service List	[Colonial No. 160] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2 : York House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2 : 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1 : 26, York Street
CARDIFF : 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST : 80, Chichester Street
or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

ADEN
BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE
SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

S.O. Code No. 58-1929

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1933

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ST. VINCENT, 1938

Reports for 1936 and 1937 see Nos. 1821 and 1859 respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

Crown Copyright Reserved

LONDON
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;
26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1940

Price 1s. 0d. net

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, 1938-39

Statement to accompany the Estimates for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services, 1939 [Cmd. 6023] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

NUTRITION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Economic Advisory Council. Report of Committee.

1st Report—Part I. [Cmd. 6050] 3s. (3s. 4d.)

1st Report—Part II. Summary of Information regarding Nutrition in the Colonial Empire [Cmd. 6051] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1936 [Colonial No. 149] £1 7s. 6d. (£1 8s. 2d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1938, to 31st March, 1939 [Cmd. 6062] 9d. (10d.)

LOCAL LEGISLATURES IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Return showing the composition, etc. [H. of C. 169, 1937/38] 6d. (7d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies [Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN MALAYA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, June, 1939 [Colonial No. 173] 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936 [Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey [Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

EAST AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION, AMANI

Eleventh Annual Report [Colonial No. 167] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: York House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT FOR THE YEAR 1938

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I.—Geography, Climate, History and Language	2
II.—Government	3
III.—Population	5
IV.—Health	5
V.—Housing	6
VI.—Natural Resources	7
VII.—Commerce	11
VIII.—Labour	13
IX.—Wages and Cost of Living	18
X.—Education and Welfare Institutions	18
XI.—Communications and Transport	20
XII.—Public Works	23
XIII.—Justice, Police and Prisons	23
XIV.—Legislation	27
XV.—Banking, Currency, and Weights and Measures	29
XVI.—Public Finance and Taxation	29
XVII.—Miscellaneous	33
Appendix.—List of Publications	35
Map.	

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, HISTORY AND LANGUAGE.

Geography.

The island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

History.

At the time of its discovery St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in undisputed possession of it until 1627, when this Island was included in a patent which was granted to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I. In 1660 the English and French Sovereigns agreed to an act of neutrality regarding the possession of the Island, and in 1672 a commission was granted to Lord Willoughby constituting him Governor of St. Vincent together with some other West Indian Colonies.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities between the British and the French broke out and the Island was eventually taken, in 1762, by the British under General Monckton. By the Treaty of Paris in the following year St. Vincent was ceded to Great Britain, and General Robert Melville was appointed Governor of the Island.

In 1773 an extensive portion of the Island was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the French landed on the Island and took possession of it, but by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The temperature varies from 67° F. to 89° F. The coolest months are from December to April. The highest temperature during 1938 was recorded in October and the lowest in February.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experiment Station, 80 ft. above sea level, was 104·38 ins. for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 3·9 ins. on 29th June.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867, the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony and the

PRINTED & PUBLISHED IN GREAT BRITAIN.

House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created, composed of twelve members, three *ex officio*, three nominated by the Crown, and six elected by the people.

This Constitution in turn was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex officio* members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial member, and three elected members. The Island was divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. It was provided that an election should take place every three years, and elections under this Constitution took place in 1925, 1928 and 1931.

The Council elected in 1931 was retained in office by Imperial Orders in Council for three further periods of one year beyond the normal term, and was finally dissolved on the 17th of December, 1936.

A new Legislative Council for the Colony of Saint Vincent was constituted by Order of His Majesty in Privy Council, dated the 27th October, 1936. The unofficial representation was increased from three elected and one nominated, to five elected and three nominated members, while the official membership was reduced to two in number. The Colony was divided into five electoral districts, the Grenadines for the first time being constituted a district. The opening session of the new Legislative Council, at which His Excellency the Governor, Sir Selwyn Grier, presided, was held on the 6th of April, 1937.

There is an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator, the Attorney-General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by an Instrument under the Public Seal. One official and three unofficial members have been so appointed. Every member who is not an *ex officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

The municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board, which consists of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

III.—POPULATION.

The latest census taken in the Colony of St. Vincent was on the 26th of April, 1931, the population on that day being 47,961, an increase of 3,514, on the census of 1921. The distribution of race then recorded was as follows:—

Negroes	33,257
Coloured	11,292
White (including Europeans)	2,173
Other	1,239
	47,961

The following comparative table gives statistics for the years 1937 and 1938:—

	1937.	1938.
Estimated population	57,526	58,381
Births, excluding still births ...	2,317	2,215
Birth rate per 1,000	40·27	37·94
Still births	89	106
Percentage of still births... ...	3·69	4·56
Death rate per 1,000	15·26	17·80
Deaths of children under one year (excluding still births) ...	273	293
Marriages per 1,000	6·46	6·44
Emigration	3,313	4,234
Immigration	2,889	3,913

IV.—HEALTH.

The state of public health in 1938 continued to be well maintained throughout the Colony, although the general death rate, 17·80 per thousand of the population, was higher than that for the previous year (15·26). The birth rate was 37·94 per thousand compared with 40·27 in 1937. The deaths of infants under one year numbered 293, which is equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 132·27, as compared with 117·82 in 1937.

Admissions to hospitals and attendances at dispensaries for 1937 and 1938 are compared below:—

	1937.	1938.
Colonial Hospital—		
Inpatients treated	1,566	1,529
Outpatient casualties ...	683	577
Other outpatient attendances...	6,867	10,434
Casualty Hospitals (3)—		
Inpatients treated	263	234
Attendances at Dispensaries ...	62,781	58,591
Pauper, Lunatic and Leper Asylums—		
Inpatients treated	193	191
Tuberculosis Home—		
Inpatients treated	13	10
	72,366	71,566

The following table indicates nine of the principal causes of death during the years 1936, 1937 and 1938 and the percentage of those to the total deaths:—

Causes of death.	*No. of deaths from each cause.*			*Percentages of total deaths.*		
	1936	1937	1938	1936	1937	1938
Pulmonary tuberculosis ...	27	26	35	2·92	2·96	3·36
Syphilis	49	23	44	5·30	2·62	4·24
Ascariasis	81	54	73	8·77	6·15	7·02
Acute bronchitis	25	22	32	2·70	2·50	3·08
Broncho-pneumonia ...	29	27	58	3·14	3·07	5·58
Diarrhoea and enteritis ...	37	74	78	4·00	8·42	7·51
Congenital debility... ...	51	97	96	5·52	11·04	9·24
Senility	96	99	132	10·38	11·27	12·70
Marasmus	31	33	84.	3·35	3·75	8·08

V.—HOUSING.

As an item of major importance in the programme of public health improvement, the problem of the proper housing of the poorer classes gives place in the measure of its urgency only to the need for providing pure and sufficient supplies of drinking water to certain districts in the Colony.

The accumulated errors of the past when villages simply grew up, the absence of any system of town planning, the reluctance of land-owners to sell land, the increasing cost of imported building materials and the limited forest resources of the Colony make the problem unusually difficult.

With the exception of the 100 labourers' cottages erected in 1931 from Colonial Development Funds, no large scale housing of wage-earners has been attempted or carried out in recent years.

Government is now engaged in carrying out experiments with a view to finding a type of peasant's cottage which is at once relatively cheap, durable and sanitary.

What is known as a "tapia" house has been erected as a first experiment.

The walls are made of clay daubed on a wooden framework with a trellis of sticks which are interlaced with rope-like lengths of grass mixed with the same clay.

Both surfaces are plastered with a mortar of lime and sand strengthened with cement. The inner surface is left smooth and the outer surface marked off in squares or rectangles giving an appearance of concrete blocks. The roof is covered with shingles, the woodwork painted and the walls cement-washed. The whole structure presents a pleasing appearance.

At the end of October a Health Week on an unprecedentedly large scale was held in Kingstown. The housing section of the Health Exhibition consisted of two models of settlements—one showing a higgledy-piggledy village with common sanitary defects and the other a modern settlement with well laid-out lots, proper streets, water, lights, a scavenging service, and a variety of suitable dwelling houses with sanitary conveniences. This novel innovation arrested the attention of the thousands of persons who visited the Exhibition. The desired effect was produced and as a piece of propaganda, the housing section more than fulfilled expectations.

Under the " Dwelling House Regulations " which apply to all parts of the Colony outside Kingstown, which is controlled by its Town Board, approval was given for the erection of 97 new houses.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Minerals.

There is no record of minerals having been found in the Colony.

Agriculture.

The island of St. Vincent is roughly elliptical in shape with its long axis approximately North-South. A back-bone of thickly wooded mountains, extending along the main axis, divides the island into the Windward and Leeward districts. The topography of the island is very broken and numerous spurs run down in irregular ridges from the axial range to the sea. In the Leeward district or Western side the spurs are steep and sharp crested with deep narrow gorges while on the Windward they are more gently sloping with wider and flatter valleys occasionally merging into fairly extensive coastal plains. The rivers are short and straight.

The greater part of the central mountain range and of the main spurs constitute Crown Lands with an area of roughly 37,000 acres. Of this about 15,000 acres, consisting chiefly of very steep precipitous highlands above 1,000 ft. are maintained as Forest Reserves. The remainder of the Crown Lands consist generally of forests and secondary bush with cleared areas rented to peasants for the cultivation of food crops or " ground provisions " which require humid conditions. The chief trees in the forests are Gommier (*Dacryodes hexandra*), Locust (*Hymenae coubaril*), Fiddle Wood (*Citharexylon sp.*), Dobarubois (*Sterculia cariabea*), and Trumpet Wood (*Cecropia peltata*), the last named being found chiefly in secondary bush in abandoned clearings. With the exception of Gommier and Sterculia,

which occur in practically pure stands in the forests at the northern end of the island, the other trees occur as more or less isolated and scattered specimens.

The agricultural lands are located principally on a coastal fringe extending back to the ridges and lower levels of the higher mountains to a height of about 500 ft.

The crops chiefly grown are arrowroot, cotton, coconuts, sugar-cane (sugar, rum, and syrup), bananas, sweet potatoes, cassava, peas and beans, and miscellaneous vegetables. The estimated production and values of agricultural commodities for the year 1938 are given in the table below:—

Crop.	*Estimated production.*	*Estimated percentage produced by*		*Estimated percentage.*		*Estimated value.*
		Plantations.	*Peasants.*	*Used Locally.*	*Exported.*	
						£
1. Cotton—Sea Island. lb.	692,000	40	60	—	100	60,000
2. Cotton — Marie Galante. ,,	65,649	25	75	—	100	1,094
3. Cacao ... ... ,,	95,000	75	25	25	75	1,000
4. Arrowroot ... ,,	8,850,076	67	33	2	98	98,000
5. Cassava ... ,,	600,000	40	60	20	80	3,500
6. Sugar ... ... tons	1,600	100	—	80	20	14,000
7. Syrup ... ... gal.	206,000	95	5	5	95	12,000
8. Copra ... ... lb.	1,665,304	98	2	—	100	8,300
9. Sweet potatoes ,,	5,000,000	20	80	80	20	10,000
10. Plantains ... stems	50,000	10	90	80	20	2,000
11. Tannias ... lb.	500,000	10	90	80	20	1,500
12. Bananas ... stems	90,000	60	40	10	90	8,000
13. Coconuts ... No.	2,000,000	90	10	10	90	6,000
14. Peas and beans lb.	200,000	65	35	75	25	900
15. Nutmeg ... ,,	45,000	40	60	1	99	700
16. Mace ... ... ,,	9,000	40	60	1	99	550

Arrowroot.—The estimated acreage in 1938 was 3,850 acres. Of the total production, 8,850,076 lb., estates produced 6,362,297 lb. and peasants 2,487,778 lb., estates in general producing a slightly higher grade product. All arrowroot produced in the Colony is purchased, graded, packed, and marketed, by the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, cash advances being made to the growers.

Cotton.—Sea Island cotton is grown in St. Vincent and Marie Galante cotton in the Grenadines. In 1937-8 4,900 acres were under Sea Island cotton, of which 2,675 acres were cultivated and 286,970 lb. lint produced by peasants, and the remainder

by estates. Estates market their cotton independently under their own marks, but peasants' cotton is chiefly purchased on the co-operative system by the Government Cotton Ginnery which gins, bales, and markets the cotton. Cash advances are made at the time of purchase, and when sold, 5 per cent. commission and all expenses are deducted, the remainder being distributed *pro rata*.

Sugar and Syrup.—There is one relatively small but quite modern sugar factory with a rum distillery attached. A total acreage of 1,380 acres were grown in sugar-cane in 1938, of which about 650 acres were for the production of sugar and the remainder for syrup.

A high grade edible fancy molasses is produced by open tayche and aspinall pan factories. Early in 1938 the St. Vincent Export Molasses Co., Ltd., was formed, its object being the export of a high quality blended product. About 75 per cent. of the 1938 crop was marketed through this organization.

Estates are responsible for practically the whole of the prodution of sugar and syrup, and whatever sugar-cane is grown by peasants is delivered to estates for grinding on a share basis.

Rum.—There is a modern rum distillery in the Colony which is operated in conjunction with the sugar factory at the Mount Bentinck Estate. In 1938 40,345·8 proof gallons of rum valued at approximately £5,453 were distilled: 13,488 proof gallons were exported, and 26,858 gallons were consumed locally during the year.

Coconuts. Estimated area approximately 5,300 acres, all of which are under estate cultivation. Produce is shipped either as whole nuts or copra, according to market demand and prices. The tendency in recent years is to export the major part of the output in the form of whole nuts because of favourable prices. St. Vincent nuts are of very high quality and under normal conditions are much in demand.

Bananas.—These are chiefly the Gros Michel variety and are grown under contract for sale to the Canadian Banana Company. All Gros Michel bananas exported are handled by a Co-operative Association.

Production which previously was largely confined to estates, shows a tendency to pass into the hands of peasants, as many estates have been disheartened by heavy losses from high winds and disease.

Land Tenure.—Large estates and small peasant holdings characterize the land tenure, but the bulk of the land is held by

estates of from 101 to 1,000 acres. The table below sh the distribution in 1938.

Under 10 acres.	*11 to 50 acres.*	*51 to 100 acres.*	*101 to 1,000 acres.*	*Over 1,000 acre*
12,960	4,681	2,083	31,414	5,709

Previous to 1897 practically all the cultivable land was ow by a small number of frequently absentee proprietors, but si then many estates, amounting to some 9,000 acres, have b acquired by Government and divided for land settlement p poses. In addition, other estates are now in possession o larger number of resident proprietors who manage their o properties. Land ownership is not always equivalent to la utilization, for although probably all the peasant-owned la are fully cultivated, a large proportion of estate land is un forest or bush, being too steep, especially on the leeward si to be profitably worked. Many planters, however, prov their labourers with " provision grounds " or " gardens " such land.

Live-stock.

The following table shows the number of animals in the isl as they appeared in the agricultural census of 1931. Inclu in the table are the estimated values of the various classes live-stock, the number of beasts owned by plantations peasants respectively, the number exported during 1938 and value thereof.

Animals.	*Number.*	*Estimated percentage owned by*		*Computed value.*	*Exported in 1938.*	*Valu expo*
		Planta-tions.	*Peasants.*			
				£		£
Swine ...	6,182	50	50	9,273	2,805	5,4
Cattle ...	6,070	40	60	24,280	52	2
Goats ...	2,813	15	85	844	3,411	1,4
Asses ...	2,365	15	85	1,184	144	2
Sheep ...	2,205	90	10	1,212	1,000	5
Horses ...	357	40	60	3,213	9	1
Mules ...	169	95	5	1,690	11	1

There is one modern dairy farm in the Colony which posse pure-bred Jersey and other cattle. A Government stud farm longer exists, but several planters import pedigree and half-b animals from the Government stock farm in Trinidad for br ing and improving their ordinary stock.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony, but a considerable amount of fishing is carried on and the fish caught is consumed locally. A small whaling station is situated in Bequia. In 1938 177 gallons of whale oil valued at £23 and 541 lb. of turtle shells valued at £115 were exported. Practically all the fishing is done by persons of the peasant class.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade for the year amounted to £409,428 as against a total of £390,390 in 1937, an increase of £19,038.

The main articles of food were imported, including 3,644,430 lb. of wheaten flour valued at £21,513 mainly from Canada and the United Kingdom; 670,138 lb. of dried salted and pickled fish valued at £6,571 mainly from Newfoundland and Canada; 41,316 lb. of salted and pickled meat valued at £1,181 mainly from the Argentine Republic. Imports of cotton piece goods totalled 828,665 yards valued at £16,205 mainly from the United Kingdom and the United States of America; and practically all the Colony's requirements of lumber amounting to 478,927 ft. valued at £6,237 were imported mainly from the United States of America and Canada. Arrowroot continued to be the staple crop of the Colony and exports during 1938 were valued at £91,638 or approximately 44·45 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports. The volume of exports of this commodity exceeded the volume of similar exports in all previous years, amounting to 8,179,209 lb. or 106,092 lb. in excess of exports in 1937. Exports of Sea Island cotton amounted to 688,224 lb. valued at £60,260 or approximately 29·23 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports for the year. Weather conditions were generally favourable, although some areas suffered from drought and there were no exceptional price fluctuations. There was no marked industrial unrest.

Tourist Traffic.

One tourist boat from the United Kingdom visited the Colony in 1938 and the usual cruises from Canada and the United States of America by the Canadian National Steamship Company and the Furness West Indies Lines of steamers were maintained.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Domestic Exports.*	*Re-exports.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1934	163,035	129,833	5,396	135,229
1935	171,392	132,004	2,918	134,922
1936	174,861	152,980	3,066	156,046
1937	203,304	184,544	2,542	187,086
1938	198,786	206,160	4,482	210,642

Imports.

The percentage of total imports provided by the principal countries during the past five years is shown hereunder:—

	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.	1938. Per cent.
(*a*) British Empire ...	78·62	80·14	80·73	77·89	78·20
Foreign Countries	21·38	19·86	19·27	22·11	21·79
(*b*) United Kingdom...	43·62	46·14	46·22	42·54	42·72
Canada	15·95	18·31	18·27	17·99	17·10
British Guiana ...	3·07	2·82	4·04	5·95	5·73
British West Indies	6·70	5·53	5·93	5·09	5·61
United States of America	16·35	13·79	12·75	14·79	13·46

The following table shows the values and quantities of the principal imports other than Bullion and Specie for the years 1937 and 1938 and the principal sources of supply.

Articles.	1937. *Quantity.*	1937. *Values.*	1938. *Quantity.*	1938. *Values.*	*Principal sources of supply.*
		£		£	
Fish, all kinds lb.	553,564	6,733	679,982	6,939	Canada.
Flour wheaten lb.	3,304,931	22,270	3,644,430	21,513	Canada and United Kingdom.
Rice ... lb.	1,776,540	7,688	2,033,985	9,134	British Guiana.
Manures ... tons	809	6,161	597¼	4,976	United Kingdom.
Metals ...	—	8,931	—	7,822	,, ,,
Machinery	—	7,534	—	4,793	,, ,,
Cotton piece goods yds.	879,109	16,749	828,665	16,205	United Kingdom and U.S.A.
Apparel	—	5,937	—	5,835	United Kingdom and Japan.
Timber, lumber, ft.	829,116	10,479	478,927	6,237	Canada and U.S.A.
Boots and shoes, doz.	5,889	6,411	4,122	6,040	United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Czecho-Slovakia.

Exports.

The percentage of domestic exports sent to the principal countries is shown hereunder:—

	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.	1938. Per cent.
(*a*) British Empire ...	59·13	52·36	57·90	58·43	61·58
Foreign Countries	40·87	47·64	42·10	41·57	38·42
(*b*) United Kingdom ...	28·82	28·62	33·60	34·29	40·53
Canada	10·08	8·28	12·11	9·95	7·65
British West Indies	18·92	15·47	12·15	14·14	13·15
United States of America	36·75	43·60	36·60	35·87	36·03

The quantities and values of the principal domestic exports and re-exports other than Bullion and Specie for 1937 and 1938 are set out hereunder:—

Principal Domestic Exports, etc.		1937. *Quantity.*	1937. *Value.*	1938. *Quantity.*	1938. *Value.*
			£		£
Arrowroot	lb.	8,073,117	90,311	8,179,209	91,638
Cocoa	,,	50,156	843	66,573	751
Syrup and molasses ...	gal.	242,690	10,523	214,040	12,317
Sugar	tons	500	5,250	300	2,663
Cotton, Marie Galante ...	lb.	52,633	1,483	65,649	1,094
Cotton, Sea Island ...	,,	418,607	34,059	688,224	60,260
Coconuts	No.	1,671,470	5,332	1,557,510	4,437
Copra	lb.	1,845,331	13,518	1,665,304	8,302
Bananas ...	No. of bunches	65,177	4,971	58,258	3,759
Re-exports (not including bullion and specie) ...		—	2,115	—	2,149

Imports and Exports of Coin and Notes.

The following table shows briefly the imports and exports of coin and notes for the last five years.

	1934. Coin.	1935. Coin.	1936. Coin.	1937. Notes.	1937. Coin.	1938. Coin.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Imports ...	Nil	Nil	1,200	15,620	50	4
Exports ...	4,000	1,128	2,017	Nil	427	2,333

VIII.—LABOUR.

The occupational analysis of the 1931 census gives the following classification:—

Agriculture	8,669
Commerce	812

It is estimated that some 300 persons are more or less regularly employed by Government Departments, chiefly the Public Works Department.

The demand for agricultural labour is seasonal. Two of the chief crops, arrowroot and cotton, are responsible for the employment of a large number of labourers during the period December to May, but very little labour is required by estates growing these crops from June to July. The demand for labour, chiefly for cotton planting, increases in August and September, and the supply may be actually short when the cotton industry is flourishing because many of the labourers cultivate cotton on their own lands. From the end of September to early December, i.e., till the digging of the arrowroot crop commences, there is again little demand for labour.

The employment of labour in the sugar and syrup industries is more regular, but in recent years these industries have been in a depressed condition because of low prices, and only about 1,000 persons are employed in these industries with any reasonable degree of regularity.

The greatest demand for labour is in the Windward district, and it is estimated that there are some 6,000 adult persons of the labourer and peasant class in this area, of whom about half are seasonally employed during the year. Many of those who are so employed, and the majority of those who do not work as labourers have land, owned or rented, on which they grow food and other crops. Comparatively few, however, can be classed as prosperous. Of a total of approximately 3,200 adult persons in the Leeward district, not more than about 1,500 obtain seasonal employment during the year. It is estimated that less than half of the adult labouring and peasant class on the Leeward coast own or rent portions of lands on which food supplies and other crops can be grown, and those who own no land or make only a partial living from their land or by working as labourers, support themselves by fishing and by obtaining casual employment in Kingstown, or in some cases on the Windward coast.

In the Grenadines, with a potential labour supply of about 700, there is a large amount of peasant cultivation, chiefly on the share system. The agricultural labour is performed chiefly by women, the chief occupation of the men being fishing or boat building. There is sometimes a shortage of labour in the Grenadines during the planting season.

There is no recruiting of labour for work within the Colony, but the Lago Oil and Transport Company, Limited, of Aruba, N.W.I., employs a local agent to recruit labourers for their services. The average cost per head for obtaining labour for Aruba is between £5 and £6, including transport to Aruba. A written contract is employed in each such case. No time is stated, but an assurance was given by the Aruba company early in the year 1938, that the recruited labour would be employed for the whole of 1938, and probably for the next three years. The contract is approved by the Government of the Colony in each case, and Government has in preparation the draft of a Recruitment of Workers Ordinance, based on a model draft furnished by the Colonial Office.

The cultivation performed by persons of non-European descent (peasants) on their own lands or rented land is similar to that performed on plantations; most peasants work or have worked on plantations, and consequently follow in most respects the lead of the plantations. The total number of peasants owning or renting lands is estimated at approximately 5,000,

of whom 4,800 cultivate areas from 1-10 acres and 200 from 11-50 acres. About 2,500 peasants actually own holdings under 10 acres in size, about 500 cultivate lands on the share system, and the remainder (2,000) rent their lands chiefly from the Crown.

The general labour position is therefore that the supply of agricultural labour is much in excess of the demand, and very few persons have regular employment. The great majority of the labouring class in the Colony probably have less than six months' employment in the year, and on the Leeward coast the majority of those who are employed at all do not obtain more than three or four months' employment in the year. The Government has fixed a minimum wage for day labour of 1s. 2d. for men and 10d. for women, and thus a man even when in full employment of six days a week earns only seven shillings a week, and a woman five shillings. The population is steadily growing at the estimated rate of 1,000 persons per annum, a rate which it is beyond the capacity of the Colony's staple industries to absorb. Wages and food supplies grown on their own land can be supplemented in many cases by breadfruit and other fruit obtainable from the "bush", by bush vegetables such as wild yams, and by fish. The system of poor relief reaches those who are completely destitute, but there is in practically all districts a very large proportion of the population for whom existence is a struggle.

The Government has for many years pursued a policy of gradually acquiring and sub-dividing lands and selling or renting these to persons of the labouring and peasant class. Good land, however, in St. Vincent fetches artificially high prices, and it has been difficult for the Government, with its very limited resources, to find the funds to purchase land of good quality. The peasants generally are inefficient cultivators, and Government is now endeavouring to teach them better methods by the appointment of a number of agricultural instructors who will specialize in this work. The soil of St. Vincent is particularly friable and subject to erosion, and the manner in which the peasants cultivate their holdings is therefore a matter of first importance to the whole community.

The Government, by means of public works and by doing all in its power to promote existing and introduce additional industries, endeavours to increase employment. While, however, the population grows larger, almost all the cultivable land available in the Colony has already been taken up, and the lack of regular employment, the low wages paid, the growth of the population, the poor housing, the difficulty of making a good living from the land, and the poverty of a large section of the people, have combined to produce an economic and social problem of considerable magnitude.

The reorganization of the Colony's agricultural industries on the model of the Fiji sugar industry would probably provide the ideal solution but this is hardly likely to be attained now, and the most practicable solution of the problem appears to be the gradual purchase of estates and the establishment thereon of land settlements for the people under strict Government control and supervision The funds necessary to carry out this policy could not, however, be found from revenue or from the Colony's small reserves, and the obstacles in the way of large-scale land settlement schemes are therefore considerable.

The recent appointment of a Labour Commissioner has led to some improvement in the labour situation, and has ensured the full ventilation of the grievances of labourers; and it has enabled the Government to obtain complete and detailed information as to labour conditions and as to the remedies for the existing situation which are needed and practicable and possible of application.

Notes on New Ordinances and other Legislation applicable to the Colony in 1938.

1. Ordinance No. 7 of 1938 amends the form in the schedule to the Emigrants Protection Ordinance, No. 11 of 1937.

2. Ordinance No. 20 of 1938 amends the Employers and Servants Ordinance, No. 16 of 1937, in a small measure.

3. Ordinance No. 24 of 1938 amends the Land and House Tax Ordinance, Cap. 194 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of this Colony, 1926, and *inter alia,* exempts from taxation all houses of an annual rental value of a sum less than £3, which sum is much higher than the annual rental value of the house of an agricultural worker under the present Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance.

Summary of existing legislation for the protection of the Working Population in their everyday employment, and the degree to which such legislation is operative.

1. Ordinance No. 76 of the Revised Laws of this Colony, being No. 7 of 1886, cited as the Labourer's Occupancy of Land Regulation Ordinance, is fully operative although little or no advantage is taken of it by labourers.

2. Ordinance No. 75 of the above Revised Laws, being No. 7 of 1884, cited as the Compensation for Injuries Ordinance. A new Workmen's Compensation Bill on modern lines provides for compensation in cases of negligence on the part of the employer, and has been read the first time in the Legislative Council of this Colony.

3. Ordinance No. 14 of 1934, cited as the Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, 1934, has been amended by No. 26 of 1935, and further amended by No. 27 of 1937, the latter of which provides for the appointment, etc., of a Labour Commissioner. Order in Council dated the 31st December, 1937, fixing rates of pay for agricultural workers and made pursuant to the Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, 1934, became effective as from the 1st day of January, 1938.

4. Ordinance No. 20 of 1935, cited as the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance, 1935, carries out certain international conventions relating to the employment of women, young persons and children. Order in Council, dated the 7th of June, fixing the 1st day of July, 1938, as the date for the coming into operation of this ordinance in respect of all the provisions therein contained.

5. Ordinance No. 16 of 1937, cited as the Employers and Servants Ordinance, 1937, as amended by No. 20 of 1938, makes provisions for payment of wages of daily labourers.

6. Ordinance No. 11 of 1937, cited as the Emigrants Protection Ordinance, 1937, amended by No. 7 of 1938.

7. Ordinance No. 22 of 1933, cited as the Trade Unions Ordinance, 1933, has so far not been taken advantage of.

8. Ordinance No. 9 of 1927, cited as the Public Health Ordinance, 1927, the provisions of which are carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Authority, provides, *inter alia*, for the sanitation and housing of labourers.

9. Ordinance Chapter 174 of the Revised Laws of this Colony, being No. 8 of 1921, cited as the Shop Hours Ordinance. The police are responsible for enforcing the observance of this ordinance dealing with employment in shops. Except where otherwise stated all these ordinances are fully operative.

It may here be mentioned that periodically skilled workers can find little or no employment.

There has been no factory legislation other than some provisions of the aforesaid Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Ordinance, No. 20 of 1935.

The Labour Commissioner in the course of his duties inspects factories. Legislation regarding compensation for accidents is limited to an Ordinance No. 7 of 1884 now No. 75 of the Revised Laws of this Colony, 1926, as above mentioned. There have been no legislative provisions for sickness, old age, etc., during the year. All these matters, including legislation for the establishment of conciliation machinery for employers and their work-people are, however, under consideration; and on the

publication of the Report of the West India Royal Commission, it is hoped that some progress will be made.

There are about 1,000 unemployed persons who exist by begging or by relying on their relations and friends, and about 400 persons receive grants from the Poor Relief Funds of the Colony of whom only ten are in the Grenadines.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Under the Labour (Minimum Wage) Ordinance, 1934, the wages to be paid to agricultural labourers were fixed from 1st January, 1938, as follows:—

Male—Not less than 1s. 2d. per day of 8 hours.
Female—Not less than 10d. per day of 8 hours.

Agricultural labourers are paid chiefly by the task, a task being estimated as the equivalent of a normal day's work of 8 hours and paid for accordingly. Such labourers as these are often provided by their employers with house-sites and with small portions of land for cultivation free or at small rentals; pasturage for a limited number of stock is given on the same terms. There is little change in the conditions of employment from year to year.

It is difficult to put a value on the staple foodstuffs of labourers. Such crops as sweet potatoes, corn, peas, yams, cassava, eddoes, etc., are grown on their own land and where land is available for their use. An estate owner sometimes allows his labourers to have the fruit of mango, breadfruit and avocado pear trees, and also other produce grown on the estate. In many cases a charge is made for the use of these fruits or produce. Fish are plentiful in the sea, but on the Windward coast fishing is difficult because of the rough seas.

The cost of living for officials varies very much according to the status of their office and the size of their families. Meat is slightly less expensive than in England. Fish, though not always procurable, is cheaper. Local vegetables and fruit are cheap. Groceries and hardware and all dutiable imported goods are dearer. Rents of houses are usually cheaper than would be charged for houses providing similar accommodation in England, but there are not many available for renting.

Servants' wages are from a half to a third lower than the wages of English servants, but local servants are less efficient. On the whole the cost of living is lower than in England.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary education is free but not compulsory. The school-going age extends from 5 to 15 years, but provision has been made for the retention to the age of 16 years of pupils attending schools recognized as senior schools.

On the 31st December, 1938, there were 37 primary schools. Of these 14 belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance, and the remaining 23 to the religious denominations. Of the denominational schools, nine are Anglican, twelve Methodist and two Roman Catholic. The salaries of all teachers, most of the equipment of both Government and denominational schools, and part of the cost of upkeep of the denominational school buildings are provided from the general revenue of the Colony.

The following comparative table gives the main figures of primary education in the Colony:—

	1936.	1937.	1938.
Number of schools	38	37	37
Enrolment on 31st December ...	10,411	10,457	10,453
Enrolment per 1,000 of population	184	182	179
Average attendance	5,720	5,972	6,108
Percentage in average attendance	54·9	57·1	58·4
Total Government expenditure ...	£8,873	£9,424	£9,556
Cost per child in average attendance	£1 11s. 0d.	£1 11s. 6d.	£1 11s. 3½d.

Other expenditure from funds contributed by the religious denominations amounted to £547 9s. 0d.

The present school accommodation is inadequate for the number of children of school-going age but it is being steadily increased.

The Government maintains two secondary schools—the Grammar School for boys and the Girls' High School. The fees charged at each school are at the rate of two guineas per term. Part of the fees is remitted when there are two or more pupils from the same family. On 31st December, 1938, the number in attendance at the Grammar School was 80 and at the Girls' High School 68.

In the 1938 Cambridge Local Examination there were 32 entries for the School Certificate, and 40 for the Cambridge Junior Examination. Six boys and three girls passed the School Certificate Examination, and fourteen boys and nine girls passed the Cambridge Junior Examination.

The entry of primary school pupils into the secondary schools is assisted by the annual award, on the results of a competitive examination, of four free places, three of them provided by the Government and one by the municipality of Kingstown. Free places, available at biennial or longer intervals, are also maintained by the Anglican Church, the Methodist Church, the Reeves Memorial Scholarship Committee, and the Workingmen's Association.

On 31st December, 1938, 20 boys and 15 girls were receiving free secondary education, the percentage of free places being 25 in the Boys' School and 22 in the Girls' High School.

There is a scholarship for University education of the annual value of £250. It is awarded triennially on the results of the London Matriculation Examination, and is tenable for a maximum period of five years at an approved university. The cost of passages to and from the institution selected is also provided.

Another scholarship which will be awarded triennially from 1938 is the Agricultural Scholarship of an annual value of £150 and three years' free tuition at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad.

There are no technical schools but instruction in handicrafts and agriculture is receiving attention in the primary schools.

The Glen Community School, situated five miles from Kingstown, is under the supervision of the Methodist Church; the estate comprises 38 acres. The aim of the school is to assist in developing all-round boys and girls, and to fit them to make the most of circumstances and environment in which they are placed. The boys are instructed in agricultural methods, carpentry, basket-work and mat-weaving, the girls in gardening, needlework, cooking and laundry work.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides organizations are well established. There are 15 troops of the former, 10 Girl Guide Companies, 2 Ranger Companies and 6 Brownie Packs.

A number of Friendly Societies, established under the Friendly Society Ordinance of 1843, provide maintenance for their members in the event of accident or ill health.

The St. Vincent Workingmen's Co-operative Association, and the Employers and Employees' Association provide sick and funeral benefits for their members.

The Thompson Home is an institution maintained by private subscriptions, supplemented by a grant from Government in which ladies in reduced circumstances are cared for.

The Carnegie Public Library is maintained partly by the Kingstown Board and partly by a grant from the revenue of the Colony. The reading room is free, but for the use of the modern novels in the circulating library a monthly subscription of 6d. per book borrowed is charged.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The roads throughout the Colony are divided into three main groups, viz., Leeward, Windward and the Grenadines.

The highways and byways have been improved and maintained as well as possible from the funds provided for the purpose. The work of reconstructing and oiling the Windward highway was recommenced in February and was discontinued in November, at which time the sum allocated for expenditure was exhausted. During this period a distance of $1\frac{5}{8}$ miles was

reconstructed and oiled, and $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles reconstructed but not oiled. The total oiled mileage in the Windward District is now $20\frac{1}{8}$. As may be seen from the table appended hereto, the oiled mileage in the Leeward District is four.

In the Leeward District there is a Government subsidized motor launch service from Kingstown to Chateaubelair, and privately-owned canoes also ply between other ports and Kingstown. Motor vehicles also run daily as far as Barrouallie, a distance of 12 miles; and occasionally as far as Chateaubelair, a distance of 21 miles, during the dry months of the year. In the Windward District motor vehicles run regular daily services. The Windward side of the Island is exposed to the direct action of the Trade Winds which cause the adjoining seas to be so rough as to make transport by sea a matter of considerable risk to lives and property. On account of this there is very little transport by sea on this side of the Island.

Between the Grenadines and the mainland regular public service for the transport of goods and passengers are maintained by sailing boats, the Government subsidized Schooner *Enterprise S* and the Revenue Cruiser *Carib*, both of which are fitted with auxiliary engines. There are also many private craft plying between Bequia and St. Vincent.

The following table shows the mileage, etc., of the Highways and Byeways on the mainland, and in the Grenadines:—

Roads.	*Mileage Total.*	*Oiled Mileage.*	*Macadamized Mileage.*	*Earth Mileage.*	*Means of Transport.*
Main.					
Leeward Highway...	$27\frac{1}{2}$	4	6	$17\frac{1}{2}$	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Windward Highway	25	$20\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{7}{8}$	--	do.
Vigie Road... ...	11	--	9	2	do.
Roads, Kingstown District.	4	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	—	do.
Byways					
Leeward	$64\frac{3}{8}$	—	3	$61\frac{3}{8}$	Carts and animals.
Windward	$113\frac{1}{2}$	—	$15\frac{1}{2}$	98	Motor vehicles, carts and animals.
Roads in Grenadines.					
Bequia	$7\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	$7\frac{1}{2}$	Carts and animals.
Union Island ...	12	—	—	12	Foot passengers only.
Crown Land Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	$53\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	$53\frac{1}{2}$	Carts and animals.
Land Settlement Roads.					
Leeward and Windward.	78	—	—	78	do.
Total	$396\frac{3}{8}$	$25\frac{5}{8}$	$40\frac{7}{8}$	$329\frac{7}{8}$	

Postal.

The General Post Office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 22 district post offices, of which ten transact all classes of postal business, including the issue and payment of money orders and postal orders, while the others perform the usual postal delivery and also the sale of stamps.

Mails are conveyed to the offices of the Windward district by motor bus and to the Leeward district by motor launch under contract. Mails are conveyed under contract between St. Vincent, the Grenadines and Grenada by the auxiliary Schooner *Enterprise S* and to Bequia by sailing boat. Mails to Bequia and the St. Vincent Grenadines are also conveyed by the Government auxiliary sloop *Carib*.

The telegraph service is operated by Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited. There is no wireless telegraph station.

Telephones.

A telephone service maintained by the Government links up Kingstown with three exchanges in the Windward district and one in the Leeward district.

Ample call facilities are given from the various post offices throughout the island on payment of a small fee. Sixteen of these call stations exist, linking together all but the most inaccessible districts of the island.

Shipping.

The Colony is served by a regular weekly mail, passenger and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships, the vessels proceeding north and south calling in alternate weeks.

There is a fortnightly call at St. Vincent by the vessels of this line proceeding south, i.e., from Halifax in the winter and Montreal in the summer and calling at the following places:—Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, to the southern terminal point, Georgetown, British Guiana.

There is also a fortnightly call by vessels of the same line proceeding in the reverse direction from British Guiana to Canada. The vessels of the Canadian National Steamships calling at St. Vincent are of approximately 5,000 tons.

There are therefore regular and comfortable means of communication between St. Vincent and Canada and between St. Vincent and most of the other West Indian islands and British Guiana.

Passenger steamers of the Harrison Line of approximately 4,000 tons frequently call at St. Vincent on their journey to and from London to Georgetown, British Guiana. These steamers call at the Northern Islands, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana.

It is therefore frequently possible for passengers to proceed between London and St. Vincent by the Harrison Line without transhipment.

In addition, the calls of the Canadian National and the Harrison Steamers at Barbados and Trinidad, from which two colonies there are frequent direct passenger liners to England, provide numerous further opportunities for passengers wishing to travel between this Colony and the United Kingdom.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained with the United States of America by combined cargo and passenger boats of the Furness West Indies Line, which call on their northbound voyages from Trinidad to New York via the West Indian islands, and a regular cargo service from the United States of America is also maintained by the American Caribbean Line.

A fortnightly cargo service from Canada via Bermuda and the other West Indian islands is maintained by means of chartered tramp boats of the Ocean Dominion Steamship Corporation.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal works undertaken during the year 1938 were as follows:—

Completion of the Mental Hospital building.

Completion of Hayward X-Ray Room and Simmons Bequest Ward, Colonial Hospital, Kingstown.

Extension of the Records Vault at the Registry.

Renovation of the Kingstown Jetty.

Improvements to Leeward Highway at Rillan Hill, Jameson Corner, and Coulls Hill.

Installation and improvement of water supply at the Colonial Hospital, Georgetown Primary School, Bequia, Richmond Hill, etc.

Erection of a public latrine at Sandy Bay, and lavatories at certain Government buildings.

Reconstruction and oiling of $1\frac{5}{8}$ miles, also reconstruction of $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles of the Windward Highway.

Construction of culvert at Union Island.

Structural alterations at Pauper Asylum.

Construction of model " tapia " cottage at Belair.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

1. A Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who is also Magistrate of the Kingstown District.

2. One Magistrate of the Second District (outside Kingstown) which is composed of the following:—Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair (on the Leeward Coast), Calliaqua, Mesopotamia, Colonarie and Georgetown (on the Windward Coast).

3. One Magistrate of the Third District, which is composed of the St. Vincent Grenadines—Bequia, Union Island, Mayreau and Canouan, all of which are dependencies of St. Vincent.

Statistics of Criminal Prosecutions and Convictions. (First and Second Districts).

First District.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	44	56	410	510
Malicious injury to property.	5	6	7	18
Praedial larceny	3	2	13	18
Offences against property	3	2	1	6
*Offences against the Master and Servants Act.	1	—	—	1
Offences against the Employers and Servants Ordinance.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	57	21	365	443
Other offences	42	35	166	243
	155	122	962	1,239

* Repealed by Ordinance No. 16 of 1937.

First District.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	**Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against the Employers and Servants Ordinance.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	291	7	5	1	—	—	351	57	712
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	92	—	5	—	—	—	13	46	156
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	22	32
Whipping ...	8	—	2	—	—	—	—	38	48
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	14
	410	7	13	1	—	—	365	166	962

* Repealed by Ordinance No. 16 of 1937.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Prosecutions.

Nature of Offence.	*Number of persons discharged for want of prosecution.*	*Number of persons discharged on merits of the case.*	*Number convicted.*	*Total.*
Offences against the person	41	15	219	275
Malicious injury to property	2	3	21	26
Praedial larceny	12	18	389	419
Offences against property	20	12	108	140
*Offences against the Master and Servants Act, 1839.	—	—	—	—
Offences against the Employers and Servants Ordinance.	—	—	—	—
Offences against revenue and municipal laws.	5	3	571	579
Other offences	190	55	696	941
	270	106	2,004	2,380

* Repealed by Ordinance No. 16 of 1937.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Convictions.

Result of Convictions.	*Offences against the person.*	*Injury to property.*	*Praedial larceny.*	*Offences against property.*	**Offences against the Master and Servants Act.*	*Offences against the Employers and Servants Ordinance.*	*Offences against revenue, etc.*	*Other offences.*	*Total.*
Fine	160	14	219	71	—	—	560	529	1,553
Imprisonment in lieu of fine.	36	2	40	19	—	—	4	87	188
Peremptory imprisonment without fine.	8	2	14	13	—	—	—	19	56
Whipping	9	3	99	2	—	—	1	35	149
Bound over and other trivial punishment.	6	—	17	3	—	—	6	26	58
	219	21	389	108	—	—	571	696	2,004

* Repealed by Ordinance No. 16 of 1937.

Police.

Organization of the Police Force.

Personnel.—During the year the Police Force consisted of two officers and 61 non-commissioned officers and men. Two officers and 40 other ranks were at Headquarters in Kingstown, the remainder being distributed among the ten outstations.

The Chief of Police is *ex officio* Commandant of the Local Forces, Superintendent of Prisons, Superintendent of the Kingstown Fire Brigade, Chief Relieving Officer, and Inspector of Weights and Measures.

During the year proceedings were instituted against 2,908 persons. Convictions were obtained in 2,502 cases.

All outstations are in telephonic communication with Headquarters with the exception of the two situated at Bequia and Union Island in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Communication with Bequia by sloop is regular except on Sundays or in very bad weather. Communication with Union Island can only be relied on weekly.

Being under semi-military organization, the constables at Headquarters receive training throughout the year in drill, musketry, section-leading, etc.

Enlistment is for three years, after which period a constable is deemed to remain enrolled for successive three-year periods unless he signifies his intention to resign before the end of a period.

Besides ordinary police duties the members of the Force are called upon to perform the following functions:—Water police, crew of the Administrator's boat when required, firemen, process servers outside the Kingstown District, District Relieving Officers and duties in connection with immigration laws and control. All the clerical work within the department is carried out by the uniformed staff.

Prisons.

Description of the Prisons.

Male Prison.—The buildings in the male prison comprise:—

(1) The record office, warders' mess room, and, on the first floor, quarters consisting of three rooms, gallery and bathroom for the Chief Warder and his family.

(2) A building containing two punishment cells and five ordinary cells on the ground floor, the upper storey being occupied by the prison chapel and the warders' dormitory.

(3) The main block of cells, the ground floor consisting of four associated wards (average floor space 220 square feet) and the upper storey containing 16 single cells.

(4) A single associated ward.

In addition to the above main structures there are a covered work-shed, a covered stone-breaking shed, a bakery, a store-room, and a weighing room.

Female Prison.—The female prison has only one building, the ground floor of which is divided into three associated wards and the upper floor having a room available for any sick prisoners and quarters for the matron.

Provision for Juvenile Offenders.

Juvenile affenders are very rarely sentenced to prison. When they are received in prison, they are kept working by themselves at polishing, cleaning, and other light tasks. The same practice is followed with regard to youthful offenders who are not technically juveniles, especially those sentenced for their first offence.

Health.

The health of the majority of prisoners on arrival is fair. In nearly all cases those who serve sentences of over a month or six weeks leave prison in better health than at their admission.

Instruction by Schoolmaster.

The instruction commenced in August, 1933, has been continued during the year under review. The result continues to be encouraging.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the more important Ordinances enacted during the year under review:—

No. *Short Title and Objects.*

2. *Local Savings Banks (Amendment).*—The object of this Ordinance is to amend the principal Ordinance (No. 15 of 1936) by repealing the conditions therein set out, governing the operations of local savings banks, and leaving the control of them by licence issued at the uncontrolled discretion of the Governor in Council.

3. *Seventh-Day Adventist Church Incorporation.*—The object of this Ordinance is to incorporate certain persons as trustees of the above-named Church in the Colony.

4. *Summary Conviction Offences (Procedure) (Amendment).*—The object of this Ordinance is to provide for the reduction in a term of imprisonment imposed by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to the extent of the proportionate part of the alternative fine paid and to empower such Court to revoke orders for the periodical payments of money and to remit sums due thereunder.

9. *Jury.*—The old Ordinance had been in existence since 1882 and was one of the most antiquated Ordinances in the Statute Book. The object of the new Ordinance is to bring the law relating to Juries in line with modern conditions.

14. *Infanticide.*—The object of this Ordinance is to amend the Infanticide Ordinance, 1935, under which, where a woman by any wilful act or omission causes the death of her newly-born child, but at the time had not fully recovered from the effects of childbirth so that her mind was then disturbed, she is guilty of infanticide, though but for the Ordinance the offence would have been murder.

2. The words "newly-born" have been held by the Courts to be inapplicable to a child who is more than one month old. Medical science has, however, established that the effects of childbirth, including the effect of the lactation period, are in many cases far more lasting on the mother than for a period of a few weeks. This Ordinance seeks to fix the period at a year, as has been done in England.

19. *Customs Duties (Amendment No. 4).*—The object of this Ordinance is to raise additional revenue by increasing the import duty on cigars, cigarettes, and certain machinery, and to effect the tariff changes consequent on the Trade Agreement between the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

21. *Exportation of Fruit.*—The object of this Ordinance is to repeal and replace the Exportation of Fruit Ordinance, 1932, with such modifications as have become necessary due to (*a*) the closing down of the Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau, and (*b*) the introduction of legislation in Trinidad and British Guiana, prohibiting the importation of fruit and vegetables from this Colony unless accompanied by a certificate issued by a Government plant inspector certifying that the produce is free from unnecessary foliage, trash and soil.

22. *Registration of Documents (Amendment).*—The object of this Ordinance is to amend the Registration of Documents Ordinance, 1937, so as to—

(*a*) guard against fraud;

(*b*) enable the registration of deeds prepared outside the Colony and deeds accompanied by a statutory declaration by one or more of the parties to the effect that such deeds were prepared by themselves or by some other person without consideration.

24. *Land and House Tax (Amendment).*—The object of this Ordinance is to amend the Land and House Tax Ordinance, Cap. 194, (1) by exempting certain houses from taxation and fixing the rates on certain other houses, (2) by permitting the collection of taxes in instalments, (3) by reducing the fine in respect of unpaid taxes, and (4) by reducing the rates of taxation in certain Islands in the St. Vincent Grenadines.

A Bill for an Ordinance entitled "The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance" was introduced and read a first time. There has been no legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., during the year.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) had a note circulation in 1938 of £15,456. It is estimated that the value of coin in circulation during 1938 amounted to between £4,000 and £6,000. There is a Savings Branch, paying interest at 1½ per cent. per annum.

The St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, the object of which is to advance money to peasants on crops, has a Savings Department paying interest at 3 per cent. per annum. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1938, was £5,809 15s. 7d.

The Government Savings Bank. The amount to the credit of depositors at 31st December, 1938, was £18,502 10s. 10d. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum is paid on deposits.

Currency.

All the gold, silver, and bronze coins of the United Kingdom are taken at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount. The value of the dollar for local purposes is 4s. 2d. of British money.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years excluding assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, were:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1938	101,588	96,083
1937	94,380	97,072
1936	81,892	80,893
1935	77,758	77,559
1934	77,819	73,761